# Alma Matters



## The Class of 1999 Newsletter

Fall 2001

#### **Bedknobs & Broomsticks**

by Landis Fryer

OK, so the title and the content of this article have almost nothing to do with each other, and I hope that's OK. Not that this has to make sense, because many things that have happened at Dartmouth over the past few months have not made much sense either. There have been three BIG things that have happened, and that have received the most attention from students and others: The LARGE Class of 2005; temporary housing going up for the displaced 04's; and the decision to lock all doors on campus.

Let's start with the Class of 2005, since I have an insider's perspective on that situation. Admissions wanted a class of 1,075 and got a class of 1,127. Now my math isn't the best (those of you who remember me as a Engineering Major should recall), but that means that about 50 more kids than we thought would come are coming (the total number does not include the 05s who will defer). That's good news for us in Admissions -- THEY LOVE DARTMOUTH! I do at this point want to thank all of you who did interviews for us, and encourage you who haven't interviewed and want to, to contact me. (This message brought to you by the Admissions Office and the letter I, who encourage you to "Interview, Interview, Interview!"). That's really BAD news for the Class of 2004, who get to . . . Continued on page 3

### **Inside This Issue**

Editors' Note	Page 2
People, Places, and Things	Page 2
'99 Executive Comm. at Work	Page 3
Alma Matters Spotlight	Page 4
Letter To The Class of 1999	Page 5
Weddings & Engagements	Page 7
Important Dates	Page 8

## "Toto, we aren't in Hanover anymore..."

by Adrienne Wilson

Well, then where are we? Where are those Dartmouth '99's worshipped and adored by so many during their brief four year stint at the best institution in the Ivy League?

#### California:

Well, Southern California boasts many '99s. The talented **Erica Rivinoja** moved to Los Angeles about a year ago where she spent some time writing for the *MTV Movie Awards*. She has changed gears, however, and is now writing for *South Park*. Also in Los Angeles are **Jennifer Blankenship** who works for UCLA in Development, her roommate **Laura Heinichen**, **Kevin Demoff**, and Kevin's roommate, Chi Gam Brother **Noel Paladin-Trip**. **Gabe Levy** is in grad school at University of California at Santa Barbara. **Nathaniel Fick** is currently living in San Diego and working with Navy SEAL Team Three as a Marine Infantry Platoon Commander. He travels continuously all over the world, counting East Timor, the Persian Gulf, and East Africa in his list of destinations this year. "Long hours," he admits, "but at least it keeps me in shape."

**Andy Cohen** has recently moved out to San Francisco after two years in New York. **Ross Wilken** started a Ph.D. program in religious studies at Stanford this fall.

#### **UVA**, Charlottesville, Virginia:

A small army of Dartmouth grads has taken over the University of Virginia. This fall **Katie Kirwan** joins other '99s in Charlottesville as a member of the Law School Class of 2004. **Leigh Eisenman** and **Sheryl Koval**, both second year law students at UVA, have decided to room together. Leigh spent the summer in NYC working at a law firm.

Since graduating, **Suzanne Eastman** has moved from the East Coast to the West Coast (Stanford) and back to the East again all while coaching soccer and playing a

#### **Class of 1999 Executive Committee**

President James Gallo

Vice President Kendra Kosko

Treasurer Jeffrey Fine

Newsletter Editor Michelle Sweetser

> Secretary Seth Kelly

Mini-Reunion Chairs Catherine Maxson Brian Salazar Rahsaan Sales

Head Agents Scot Berg Jonah Sonnenborn

Alumni Councilor Shauna Brown

#### **Editors' Note:**

How is it possible that over two years have gone by since the Class of 1999 walked across the stage on the Green and received their diplomas? If you're like us, you've been amazed by how quickly time flies and how difficult it can be to keep up with everyone from our days at Dartmouth. In these pages you will get a glimpse of what a small percentage of your fellow classmates have since done with their lives. While this issue has been a long while in the making, we plan to make it a regular arrival in your mailbox, and we would like to make mention of as many classmates as possible in our pages. You can help by sending updates about what you (and all of your friends) are doing and by letting us know what you would like to see in future issues of *Alma Matters*.

While the events of the past week have certainly changed the world as we knew it, and we are still accounting for all of our classmates, the outpouring of concern posted over the past week on our ClassTalk bulletin board attests to the deep bonds that we built with one another during our time at Dartmouth. Our hearts go out to our classmates and fellow alumni in New York and DC and to the families and friends of the victims. If we can take anything at all from last week's tragedy, perhaps it is that we should not put off until tomorrow the maintenance of those friendships we developed at Dartmouth. It is too easy to put off that phone call, email, or letter (gasp) to a classmate, but tomorrow can never be guaranteed. Carpe diem, be in touch, and take advantage of the available opportunities for meeting up with your classmates — at your local Dartmouth club, the events sponsored by our class, or at gatherings in Hanover. Homecoming is October 19-21, we hope to see you there!

## Michelle

## Alma Matters

The Class of 1999 Newsletter

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Jeffrey Fine & Michelle Sweetser Issue Editors

Landis Fryer & Adrienne Wilson, Columnists Brian Salazar, Graphic Artist

The editors can be reached via email at Jeffrey.B.Fine@alum.Dartmouth.org Michelle.Sweetser@alum.Dartmouth.org

#### People, Places, and Things...

- \* **Jen Parkinson** won the Dartmouth rocker for submitting the winning entry "Alma Matters" to the newsletter name competition. Congratulations Jen!
- \* www.alum.dartmouth.org/classes/99 The class website contains Dartmouth news, an archive of class notes, Executive Committee info and more! Yes, cyber-space is a place =)
- Green Cards! Fill them out and send them in. Do it NOW, before you forget. Let us know where you are, whom you have seen, and what you are doing. We look forward to hearing from you.

#### **'99 Executive Committee at Work**

by James Gallo, Class of 1999 President

Role of the Executive Committee: The Executive Committee serves as a bridge. We strive to connect the Class of 1999 to the past, present, and future of Dartmouth. Accordingly, we are working on many projects to achieve this goal.

We just had two exciting events. 99s and 00s from the NYC area watched the Yankees take on the Mariners on August 19th. The Yankees were spanked by the Mariners 10-2. On September 5th, 99s watched the Red Sox beat the Cleveland Indians 10-7 at Fenway Park.

We are currently working on a discussion series which will bring together young alumni and prominent alumni in many fields. Jake Tapper '91, the author of Down & Dirty: The Plot to Steal the Presidency, will be the first speaker. Tapper will speak to young alums in the Washington, DC area sometime in October. For more information about this event, contact Kendra Kosko. We are in the process of contacting prospective speakers for events around the country

The committee is also working with the Tucker Foundation to help support the Summer Enrichment at Dartmouth Program (SEAD). The SEAD Program is a joint venture of the Tucker Foundation, the Education Department, and the Class of 2003. The SEAD Program brings ten ninth-graders from Philadelphia high schools, Dorchester High in Boston, and Mascoma Valley High School in New Hampshire for intensive instruction and recreation at Dartmouth. The committee is exploring ways to meaningfully support the program.

Finally, the committee is working with the Class of 2004 to create a mentoring program similar to the Older and Wiser program. 99s would mentor a member of the Class of 2004 for the next three years. Hopefully, the bond created would be life-long.

If you are interested in any of the projects the committee is working on, please contact me.

The Class of 1999 Executive Committee can always use a helping hand. There are a number of ways you can get involved. The newsletter is always looking for contributors and graphic designers. Helping us maintain our website is another way to get involved. Finally, you can help plan a mini-reunion in your city. If any of these opportunities interest you, please contact James Gallo, via email at James.Gallo@Alum.Dartmouth.org.

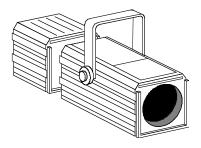
## News from the College Continued from page 1

live in temporary housing. About 60 of the 04s, who want to be here in the Fall (who can blame them, really?) will live in these "two story, Colonial style" prefab residence halls (brought to you by Lego, Lincoln Logs and the letter B, who encourage you to "Build Buildings with our Building Blocks"). Now these are going to be up for three years, and a couple of locations are approved: Maynard Street (across the street from Moore and Sudikoff), Tuck Mall by Butterfield, and near the River Apartments. No one really knows how these "dorms" will function or what they will look like. They should at least have doors, right? Who knows with these houses you build from a kit. What if the door isn't in the box??? They better double check the package, since . . .

All doors are going to be locked come Winter 2002. Sad news for some of you (no shame in kicking it to an 05, is it G?), but it should deter sickos and perverts from peeping into women's showers (a double whammy, huh, G?). The Office of Residential Life and S&S will monitor this new system, where all students, staff and faculty will have "proximity cards," designed to unlock the doors within a specific distance from the door (and no, G, you CANNOT borrow my card). There'll also be telephones outside every door for delivery people and strangers who use other people's names.

So I guess this article really did what it said—it had nothing to do with the title. But I hope it gave you some little insight into what things are happening here. And if you picked up on it, nothing much at all. (Brought to you by the letter W, who asks, "Why did I read this? Why, why, why?"). Bye!

Landis Fryer is an Assistant Director of Admissions at Dartmouth and a member of the class executive committee. Landis can be reached via email at Landis.Fryer@Dartmouth.edu.



# Alma Matters Spotlight



by Michelle Sweetser

While our class has spread out across the globe, some classmates, such as **Nancy Bloomfield**, have chosen to remain in the Hanover area after graduation. Nancy currently lives in Canaan, NH, and has worked for the past two years with the community organization COVER. I took a few minutes to catch up with Nancy and to find out more about her work.



#### What is COVER and how did you become involved with the organization?

COVER (Corps of Volunteers Effecting Repair) was formally established in February 1998 as the result of the success of informal efforts. Simon [Dennis] had always wanted to do something like this, working with friends, and I had spent some time

in high school working on roofing projects in Kentucky. We had a similar vision for an organization, and it grew out of our work with the Tucker program, Operation Insulation (OI). There were many urgently needed projects here in the Upper Valley, and after we worked together for a while, we found we were able to tackle bigger projects beyond the weatherization projects of OI, and COVER was born. After our senior year, I became COVER's second full-time employee [Simon was the first], sponsored by the Lombard and Dartmouth general fellowships.

#### What is COVER's mission?

Our mission is to build community and hopefulness through job site cooperation between clients, volunteers, and staff. Our work is greater than simply fulfilling the home repair need. Physical work seems to really lend itself to community building. To the extent possible, we ask that the homeowner work alongside us, whether that is painting boards, working on the roof, or cooking meals. It is important for everyone involved in the service exchange to be involved and to make a personal connection.

#### What does a typical workday at COVER look like?

We spend two days as week (Saturday and Sunday) at the job site. I show up at about 9, unload our van and set up the tools for the day. Our volunteers (6-7) show up shortly thereafter and Simon and I review the project with them, discussing what we'll be doing for the day, what's already happened on the site, and the like. We'll also have a discussion about safety and about what we're working towards at the site. Then we'll get going and work until 5 or 6 p.m. During the summer we do a lot of roof work, building pitched roofs over flat mobile homes. We build a lot of wheelchair ramps, do floor replacements and window and door replacements. Basically, we'll do any type of urgently needed repair.

#### How is COVER funded?

COVER does not receive any funds from federal or state monies; we are entirely funded by grants from private organizations. We were recently designated as a United Way agency, making us eligible to receive funds from their campaigns. Because we are grant-funded, I spend the months of February, March and April writing grants. We find that we have the most success when we ask for a specific item rather than a lump sum. In the past we've had grants to underwrite the purchase of a vehicle, a trailer, a storage building in White River Junction, safety equipment and extra tools.

#### How do you keep the costs to clients low?

We use as many salvaged and donated materials as possible. We can use salvaged windows, doors, lumber, insulation, kitchen cabinets, and roofing materials. Now that we have secured a storage building, we are able to accept more salvagable materials, even if people need to get rid of them quickly. And volunteer labor helps - we recruit our volunteers through the Tucker Foundation and have also been able to get high school volunteers through the Youthin-Action program. Community members have heard about our program by word-of-mouth and have become involved that way too.

## To the Class of 1999

by Shauna Brown, Alumni Councilor

Hello Classmates,

I hope the real world is treating you well. It's hard for me to believe that in just over two years it will be our turn to reconvene on the Hanover plain to renegotiate our relationships with our alma mater and get reacquainted. I hope that many of you are planning to attend. I've been back as our class representative to the Alumni Council and have really enjoyed gaining perspectives on Dartmouth from the other side of the green. I'm writing to you with the hopes that you will take a few minutes to share your thoughts and concerns about the College and its issues with me so that I am able to represent our class honestly.

The Alumni Council exists to provide a medium for focused Alumni involvement, to facilitate communication between the College and the Alumni body, and to undertake projects on behalf of the Alumni body to enhance Dartmouth. I'd like to know from you what your concerns and/or interests as young alumni are? What would you like to learn more about? What would you like to see Dartmouth improve? How can your Dartmouth connection provide resources to enhance your life after Dartmouth? What sorts of projects are you willing to undertake to serve Dartmouth? What are the limitations of your involvement?

I serve on three committees of the council, the Alumni Continuing Education Committee, the Young Alumni Committee and the College Relations Group. The committees are working on providing internet-based continuing education for the Alumni body, facilitating meaningful opportunities for Young Alumni (1992 – 2001) to connect to the vast network of Dartmouth Alumni, and communicating with the Board of Trustees around issues such as the SLI and other major Alumni concerns, respectively. More information about the Alumni Council and its committees can be found on the Alumni Council website off of the Dartmouth web page.

As I think of our years in Hanover, characterized by rallies and celebrations in various locations and everything in between, I am reminded of the strong feelings that members of our class had for Dartmouth, both good and bad, and the myriad of ways that we expressed that passion. Without a doubt, the class of 1999 was integrally involved in the life of the College. Although we have been fairly quiet in the past couple of years, I have no doubt that the passion is still there.

Unfortunately, my tenure as a Councilor ends in the spring of 2002. Our class will need to elect a new representative. If you would like to be more involved in our class leadership and contribute to Dartmouth in a meaningful way, stay at the Hanover Inn, eat some good food and meet some really fabulous Dartmouth alumni with a passion and commitment to Dartmouth, I'd highly recommend it.

If you have any feedback, issues, thoughts, or questions, please feel free to contact me via my alumni account, shauna.brown@alum.dartmouth.org . I look forward to hearing from you. In the meantime, I wish you success, peace and joy.

#### What do you enjoy most about your work with COVER?

The people are definitely the best part. The program is really about forming relationships and bringing people together. I really appreciate knowing that I am involved in bringing others together, and I come into contact with a lot of people who are doing other things with their lives. I enjoy working with my hands, and the work makes me feel

useful. The variety of tasks is also appealing – over the course of the week, I spend some time pounding in nails, writing, talking on the phone, and organizing materials.

For additional information about COVER, Nancy Bloomfield can be reached via email at Nancy. Bloomfield @alum.dartmouth.org.

#### More Class News...

#### **Continued from page 1**

brief stint of professional soccer for the Atlanta Beat. Currently she is the Assistant Women's Soccer Coach at the University of Virginia. She has spent her summers traveling around the US recruiting 16 and 17 year olds and trying to get a jump on the evaluation process.

#### Chicago:

Chicago would be the hub of this Class of '99 newsletter as **Jeff Fine** has been working diligently there to produce it (along with **Michelle Sweetser** who's working from Hanover). Jeff finished his Masters in Engineering at Northwestern in December and is now working on his Ph.D. there as well. He took the summer off from research and spent some time hanging out in Connecticut. Now, he's back for classes this fall and is actually teaching a class, Intro to Computer Programming.

Monica Wilkins currently resides in Chicago, where Erica Rivinoja visited with her Santa Monica (ha!) earlier this year.

David Lysy spent this summer serving as a hospital chaplain at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (a major teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School) as part of his degree requirements. David is currently working towards a M. Div. from the University of Chicago Divinity School, as well as an A.M. from the University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration in social services management and policy analysis.

#### **Boston and New England:**

New England and particularly Boston seem to house the centers of academia for many Dartmouth '99's. Suzanne Eastman reports that **Bill Tsiaras** and **Sarah Valenburgh** are both in Providence, RI. She says, "Both are brilliant and still going to Brown for Ph.D./MD and Harvard for MD, respectively. I am counting on

them to be my sugar daddy and mama because coaching isn't the most lucrative job ever. Just kidding Sarah and Bill!"

Rich Parent who has been in Boston doing diabetes research since graduation was accepted for medical school this fall. He's moving to Burlington, Vermont to attend the University of Vermont, College of Medicine. Amy Antman is starting at Harvard Medical School in September.

Becky Prestel is working in psychology research at the National Center for PTSD in Boston & "hanging out around the city with Dee Hysmith, Mary Ellen Swanson '00, Danielle Unger, Phatiwe Cohen, and Jen Lawinski." Also "hanging out" in Boston this summer from Chicago, David Lysy enjoyed getting to see Meg Cashion, Imani Payne, and Chris Hanson. And taking a break from teaching high school English in Fort Worth, Texas, Adrienne Wilson hung out in Boston this summer as well. "My main priority for the summer was to see as much as possible of my old roommates, friends from class council, Decibelle alums, and Dave Wagner! One weekend Dave, Jon Lee, Doug Lee and I all went hiking at Moosilauke AND another weekend we ran into Leigh Eisenman on campus—Dartmouth, gotta love it!"

While he was hanging out in Connecticut this summer, Jeff Fine met up with Adam Silberfein, who works for TopCoder, a programming tournament site. Jeff also recounts that he "went to see Hyannis Sound, a local a cappella group of college students and 'recent' grads, who tour around New England all summer. Singing with Hyannis Sound was none other than our very own Matt Wrobel."

#### **New York:**

New York is staffed with many future Dartmouth Doctors. **Farrah Russell** is currently at SUNY Upstate Medical University dissecting her way through her second year of medical

school. She attended this year's Dartmouth graduation and hung out with Landis Fryer and Kyle Roderick for "drama as usual." Nicole Eftychiou writes to say that she has moved down to Piscataway, New Jersey to attend Robert Wood Johnson School of Medicine. Victoria Soto is finishing up an MS degree in Animals and Public Policy at Tufts University Medical School of Veterinary Medicine. She has recently moved to New York for a job with Wildlife Trust as the Conservation Medicine Program Assistant.

But "The City" isn't all med students and bankers, there are (surprisingly) actors, too. According to Erica Rivinoja, **Skye Gurney** is doing theater at a conservatory in New York City.

#### **SOUTH and WEST:**

Dartmouth alums DO wander below the Mason-Dixon line (at least occasionally). **B.J. Williams** started medical school this fall at Tulane University, in New Orleans. He says, "If there are any '99's hanging out in 'the big easy,' I'd love to get in touch."

Some intense Dartmouth soccer competition surged through Atlanta recently. Suzanne Eastman, Melissa Roth, Abby Gillard '00, Jess Post '00, Kristen Luckenhill '00 all tried out for the Carolina Courage and Melissa McBean '97 was playing with the New York Power. Suzanne exclaims, "It was great to be playing with and against my teammates again! The last one standing is Lucky and she is now the starting keeper for the Courage!

Venturing to the West after teaching math at Holderness School for the last two years, **Brooks Foster** just completed a move to Portland, Oregon where he'll attend law school at the Northwestern School of Law of Lewis and Clark College.

Congratulations to **Alethea Smith** who recently moved to Reno, Nevada from Boston to begin a Ph.D. program in Clinical Psychology at the University of Nevada at Reno.

#### 'Round the Girdled Earth...

If you know a student going on a trip with Putney Student Travel to Australia and New Zealand, that student might have **Leslie Kinsey** or **Schuyler Hedstrom** as a trip leader.

Hai Gi Lee writes of his yearlong transfer to the JP Morgan office in Hong Kong starting in September. And B.J. Williams mentioned the Risana Zitha is now living in South Africa.

In his own words, Mark Fulenwider-Musashi informs us, "In a recent Wushu tournament in Tokyo, I managed to place fifth in the country. On top of that I have been spending some time during my summer vacation (from his real life as a junior high English teacher), doing a bit of stunt work for a Japanese movie. When my current teaching contract ends in March, I plan to become a full time stuntman."

Amelia Arsenault spent her summer working as the Film Programmer for the Zimbabwe International Film Festival in Harare Zimbabwe. ZIFF 2001 took place between August 30<sup>th</sup> and September 14<sup>th</sup>. This is her second year running the festival. She writes, "It's a great job and a fantastic country. CNN definitely does not give an accurate assessment of what's going on over here."

Jennifer Anderson is starting a one-year masters program in Polar Studies at the University of Cambridge this fall. In the fall of 2002 she'll begin a one-year masters program in Environment and Development at LSE.

And **Brad Davis** will be starting his career as a Naval Intelligence Officer. By now, he should know where he's headed this fall.

Gordon Fu relates a "small world" incident: "I was walking to the Pantheon in Rome a month ago with some friends when I ran into Allison Lee who I haven't talked to since Frosh year at Dartmouth. Just a reminder that you should always be ready to do the Salty Dog anywhere you go!"

#### Tying the Knot

August 4th, 2001

Meggan Ditzler married Russell Young '97 in Orwell, Vermont. Michelle Ott and the bride's sister were attendants. Adam Young '01 and Brian Young were the groom's attendants. Jill Papsdorf reports "It was a simple morning ceremony followed by an outdoor reception and an after-reception party at the Youngs' camp with swimming, skiing and general fun before everyone headed home." There was a large Dartmouth contingent including Megan Duluhery, Brian Hughes, Sarah Iversen, Jill Papsdorf, Josh Papsdorf '98, Jen Gagne, Michelle Sweetser and Michelle Ouellette. Megan Duluhery predicts, "Meggan will be teaching Vermontster youth soon enough."

August 12th, 2000

Alyssa Mocharnuk married Gabe Macchia ('97 from Emory). Bridesmaids included Becky Prestel (far right), Shayna Rich (far left), and Alyssa's sister. Becky reminisces, "The wedding was beautiful—the weather cleared up just long enough for an outdoor ceremony." Also in attendance were

**Annette Gaynes** and **Michael Bruno**. After their honeymoon in Hawaii, the happy couple is now living in Providence, RI where Alyssa is studying for her Ph.D. in Physics at Brown and Gabe works for Raytheon in software.

#### **Engagements**

We hear that in the very near future, like October, **Michelle Ott** '99, Thayer '00 will marry Bob Batt, Thayer '00 and '01. Megan Deluhery writes, "They just committed to mortgage payments in, yep, good 'ol Hanover. The house sounds beautiful."

**Jill Sorrentino** is engaged to marry Dr. John Connors next May. Jill will graduate from U Penn Law School in 2002 and link up for life just a few days after graduation with John who is currently a surgery resident at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. They plan to move to Boston after the wedding where John will begin his Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery fellowship at Harvard Medical Center.

Ann Sharfstein and Dan Mielcarz have already set a date for their special day in August of next year! She starts her masters at the Harvard Graduate School of Education this fall. Dan is still doing immunology research at Children's Hospital.

Last Spring on a trip to Paris, **Ramsey Donnell** got down on bended knee in front of **Sarah Anderson**. Sarah has now started law school at Northwestern, and Ramsey spent this summer working for a law firm in Chicago and is entering his third year of law school at Virginia. Congrats to them and we hope to hear about their legal matrimony in August of next year, as well.



## **Important Dates**

September 24 Fall term classes begin

October 19-21 Homecoming Weekend

October 19 7:30 pm: Dartmouth Night Parade 8:00 pm: Dartmouth Night Ceremonies
October 20 12:30 pm Football vs. Columbia 1:00 pm: Young Alumni Tent (Alumni Gym)

October 27 Dartmouth-Harvard Football Game (at Harvard -- 1:00 pm)

**November 10 Young Alumniversity** – Boston -- 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

November 30 Fall term classes End

February 8-10 Winter Carnival

May 17-19 Green Key Weekend

June 9 Commencement