

Alma Matters



The Class of 1999 Newsletter

Spring 2002

Class News

New England

At the end of January, **Erin Rewalt** hit the East Coast on a whirlwind tour in search of talent. Along the way she met up with several fellow Dartmouth grads. The trip commenced in Hanover, where she witnessed Liz Martin '00, slicing and dicing her way to the top of her Dartmouth Medical School class. Next, in the booming metropolis of Medway, MA, she visited **Kelly Johnson**, who is sitting at the helm of a major food distribution corporation. The trip continued through Fairfield, CT where **Nicci Rinaldi** is developing an illustrious PR career. In addition, Nicci spends her time training with Sparkles, a local professional dance troupe. The next stop was NYC where **Megan Phillips** is competing as a member of the U.S. Equestrian Team, while studying in the art therapy masters program at NYU. Unfortunately, Megan was not in the city due to a prior engagement at the Super Bowl. Erin's next stop was Philadelphia, where **Rosanna Taormina** is studying at U Penn Law School. Rosanna recently finished exploring various cultures in Abu Dhabi, as a Whitfenbergh Fellow. Rosanna spends her spare time teaching inner-city kids about her international experiences. The final stop on Erin's East Coast Tour was Washington D.C., where Courtney Banghart '00 is teaching and coaching her way to a high school championship. To conclude the trip, the Dartmouth D.C. contingency, including **Libby Reder**, **Kendra Kosko**, **Brian "Bradley" Mackinnon** and Mike Lewis '00, gathered to spread good will and cheer at a quaint Murphy-esque pub.

Allison Sands is the administrative backbone of a program that sends eighty low-income students in Dorchester to a tuition-free private school.

Kate Botham sent in a report on a number of classmates: **Nader Akhorkh** will be leaving his computer programming job in San Francisco to embark on

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Spotlight:

Matthew Delaney, Published Writer

By Michelle Sweetsner



Photo: Michael Sandy Forstadt

While many of us were probably happy to put major writing projects behind us when we finished our last big term papers at Dartmouth, classmate Matthew Delaney has turned to a career in writing. Matthew's first novel, "Jinn," is due out in January 2003, from St. Martin's Press, as part of a two-book deal, and Touchstone Pictures has bought the rights for a film. Matthew is currently living in Somerville, Mass. and works weekends at a nightclub in the Boston area. I recently spoke with Matthew about his experience.

Can you tell us a little about the novel?

Basically it starts out like a World War II thriller (think Michael Crichton) and is set on an island in the South Pacific. The rest of the plot is set in present-day Boston, where there are a series of murders in the city; the murders link back to something on the island, but that's unclear, and in the resolution, you find out how they all link.

So why that title "Jinn"?

"Jinn" has two meanings, one meaning is that of an old

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Class of 1999 Executive Committee

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Editors Note:

It's June again, and the Class of 2002, just 'shmen when we were grand old seniors, is graduating. In a few months, the class of 2006 will join us as members of the Dartmouth family. Feelin' old yet?

I'm amazed at all that we have managed to accomplish in the three years that have flown by since graduation. We now have full-fledged lawyers and published writers among our classmates. Some of us have married, some have even have had kids! Most of us have moved, switched jobs, and perhaps even switched jobs a second time.

If you're feeling a bit out of the Dartmouth loop, there are many ways to get involved. Check out your local Dartmouth club online at <http://www.dartmouth.org/about/clubs/undergrad/index.html> (some of their coming events are listed below). If there's not a club in your area, consider volunteering to help with class activities; contact class president James Gallo if you are interested. Or consider interviewing prospective students in your area for the Admissions Office.

What have you been up to over the past three years? The information contained in these pages is only as good as the news (or should I say gossip?) that we get. I know this issue is particularly text heavy. But what can I say - I need your pictures! Please keep us up-to-date; brag about yourself and your friends a bit. Take a minute to e-mail or send in the enclosed Green Card. As members of the Dartmouth family, let's keep in touch!



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Michelle Sweetser
Editor

Landis Fryer, Catherine Maxson,
& Jeffrey Fine, *Columnists*
Brian Salazar, *Graphic Artist*

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via email at
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Dartmouth Events

June 21 — Ivy Singles Social Club event in **DC**. Ortanique, 730 11th Street, N.W. \$20 in advance, \$25 at door. 6-8:30 p.m. For more information, contact Catherine Tall (catherinetall@erols.com).

June 24 — Dartmouth Town Hall Meeting with the Committee on Alumni Governance and Alumni Trustee Nominations. **NYC**. Dartmouth Club at the Yale Club, 50 Vanderbilt Ave. 6-8 p.m.

July 11 — Baseball - Orioles v. Oakland A's at **Camden Yard**. Sponsored by Dartmouth Clubs of DC and Baltimore. \$15/ person. 7 p.m. Contact David Millane '67 (dmmillane@aol.com) about tickets (available on a first-come basis).

Watch for details of class
mini-reunions coming this summer!

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an epic trip in Africa - from South Africa to Tanzania to Egypt. In college, **Dave Sussman** worked with refugees in East Africa, and now he welcomes them to Boston. Kate reports that Dave will attend the Fletcher School at Tufts this fall.

Further educational pursuits have attracted a number of classmates. **Leslie Kinsey** has been teaching high school English to boys who apparently swoon past her classroom at Belmont Hill. Leslie will be starting her PhD in English this fall in sunny California.

Robin O'Sullivan is in a master's program for American and New England studies at the University of Southern Maine in Portland, while **Seth Mensa** is finishing his last year of med school at Albany Medical College, and is considering specializations in general surgery, med/ped (internal med and pediatrics combo), and internal medicine. If anyone should happen to be in the Albany area, feel free to contact Seth.

Speaking of medical school, **Liz Dziadik** is currently living with **Emily Schopick**, and both are in medical school at UConn; Liz is a second-year student, Emily is a third year, and has decided to go into internal medicine. Liz spent last summer in Beijing, doing research on post-partum depression in Chinese women, and had the opportunity to meet up with **Jing Wang** and **Willy Wong** while in China. The three traveled to Shanghai and Inner Mongolia together. Liz sums up the experience saying, "It was a fabulous summer!"

When **deRaismes Combes** wrote in mid-February she was on medical leave from Dartmouth, shy just 6 credits, and was planning to reapply for spring quarter. If all goes well, she will graduate in the fall. While living in Hanover, deRaismes is studying Russian and Vietnamese history in her spare time, and keeps in touch with other classmates. She reports that **Erin Moodie** is currently at a post-bac program at UPenn for classical studies. **Dan Sheldon** finally quit his job in Boston and is looking forward to chilling for a while playing volleyball and hanging out with **Alex Ghesquiere**, **James Chalfant**, **Jeff Brown**, and **Anthony Accurso**. DeRaismes reports that **Pat DeLeon** is in San Francisco with a bunch of 99s and is planning a trip to Hawaii with **Sally Dickenson**.

Mike Novello and **Meg Funke** are now engaged and live in Troy, New York, where Mike is studying at Rensselaer.

New York

Allison Weiner writes that she just moved back to New York City from San Francisco and is studying at NYU for her masters in educational psychology, with the intention of going on for her PhD in clinical psychology at some point in the near future. She is also doing research on the effects of cancer on family dynamics and quality of life. She attended a mini-reunion of '99s in NYC in February, celebrating the engagement of **Kristin Lucas** and Jason Robillard. In attendance were **Weze Shorts**, **Sarah Carlson**, **Heather McNulty**, and **Jen Holden**. Allison ran the Boston Marathon on April 15 with Weze and Sarah.

Lydia Garcia visited **Monica Wilkins** and **Jen Coup** in Chicago a few months ago and the group had a blast at a local martini bar. Lydia is excited to be moving from New York to Chicago in the fall, when she will start at Northwestern Medical School and hopes to see more of Monica and Jen, provided Monica will be able to take time out of her busy schedule as a producer at YandR Chicago. Currently, Lydia is working at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

Congrats to **Sarah Iverson** on her upcoming marriage on July 20 to John Ito, MIT '93 (and current Columbia PhD student).

Don't see your name in these pages? You too can be famous, just take a moment and fill out the enclosed Green Card and send it in! Give us all the gossip about what you and your Dartmouth friends have been up to.

South

Jeff Bradford wrote from sunny Jacksonville that he and **David Hawkins** are currently in their third-year at Duke Law School and received their JD's on May 11. After taking the Virginia bar in July, David will go to work for Vinson & Elkins in DC, the firm currently being sued by Enron. After taking the Florida bar in July, Jeff will begin a two-year judicial clerkship with Steven D. Merryday, federal district judge for the middle district of Florida in Tampa. If you would like a copy of Jeff's band's CD, drop him an e-mail.

Emily Copeland and Joe Scott '00 finally moved into military housing in El Paso, Texas. Emily

Continued from cover

Arabic demon, a precursor to the genie. The other definition involves someone who gives you something but expects more in return. I was doing background research for the novel and also on some topics that were semi-related and hit on the idea of Jinn. At the time I had thought that it was interesting and felt that if it worked, I could bring it into the wider scope of the book.

Where do you find inspiration for your writing?

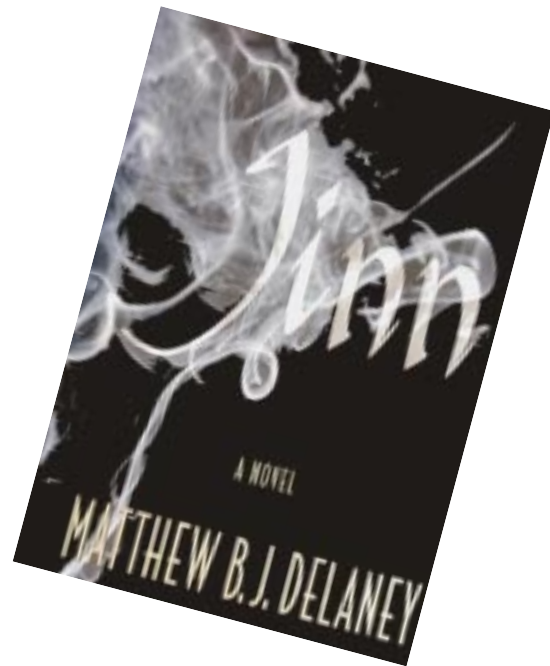
I am constantly thinking of different possibilities - ideas pop in and out. I don't have a special place from which I get inspiration; I just walk around observing things. If I hit upon something interesting, I consider it more and expand on it. Then I start to connect ideas together. That's why in these two books the conclusion ended up being a little too convoluted and complex, and I often have to pull links out of the chain of the plot.

How long did it take you to write the novel?

I began writing the novel during my senior year at Dartmouth. I started off premed at Dartmouth, but got crushed in my first premed class. When I took the second class, about 15 minutes into it, I realized that I could not do that for four years. I ended up having to take four classes to make up for it later, and decided to take the pass/fail creative writing class. The novel is expanded from the original writing sample that I submitted to get into the class. I worked on it during the summer after graduation, and ended up getting a job working online, a total joke - I didn't do anything all day - and I worked on the novel during my down time. I had it done by the winter, got in with an agent, and the deals were all in place by spring. With rewriting and everything else, I probably took another 8 months.

How painful was the rewriting process?

Publishing is definitely a for-profit business. I have all these ideas and put down on paper, and editors look at it in terms of whether it's a profitable commodity. I might write something that is 200,000 words, but I am contractually limited to 125,000 words, which is what the publisher finds to be the most profitable length, so I have to cut. You have so much time invested and need to cut something like 10 pages, which



is something like 2 weeks' work. I'm kind of used to it now, but it is painful.

The publishers also have phenomenal people working on it too; a copy editor goes into excruciating detail looking for factual errors. He found, in the 800-page book, that I made a reference to a monkey in a passing reference, that, it turns out, is not really a monkey and is not found on the South Pacific island on which the scene is set. It feels good working with these people and making it a better finished piece.

How did you land the deal with Touchstone?

I had signed to an agent, and she's been phenomenal. She hooked me up with St. Martin's and then with some film agents out of LA who circulated the manuscript through the film studios in Hollywood. There were a number of different offers, but nothing that we went with. Disney, who owns Touchstone, showed the most interest, and they came back later with a figure. I figured I'd just let my agents handle it; when they first came with a figure, my agent passed. About 6 months later they came back, and said that they were interested again, and after a couple of conference calls where I explained how I was going to write the ending to the novel, they came back with another figure and my agent said we should go with it. Touchstone acquired it in the spring of last year, and they're working at lining up people to start production.



Digital Library for Alumni

Dartmouth College Library

The Dartmouth College Library unveiled a new service to Dartmouth alumni last month, with the release of the Digital Library for Alumni.

The digital library provides access to information in a wide variety of sources, from business and scientific journals to newspapers and consumer magazines.

The service includes full text search of content and the web; with search results stored in folders organized topically. The site also features continuously updated news headlines, a “Special Edi-

tions” service that provides more in-depth information on particular topics, and Alerts, which let users know when new information on topics of interest to them become a part of the collection.

The Digital Library for Alumni is available through a contract between the Library and Northern Light. To access the site, you will need to become a registered user. Check out the library at:

<http://www.northernlight.com/dartmouth/>

Will you be involved in the production?

I'd like to be if I could, but I don't really have any experience in the film industry. The film industry has so much money as a whole that they are willing to pay established screen writers to come onto the project to create the screenplay from the book; and they tossed some names out. Those names were people I'd heard of and have seen their work and enjoyed it. Because I'm inexperienced, I am willing to do whatever it takes to keep the process moving. I'd imagine playing some part, but not anything real critical.

Any advice for those aspiring writers amongst our classmates?

I've found that there are a surprising number of people who are interested in writing, but that most of them have too many other commitments that keep them from sitting down and doing it. If you are legitimately interested in writing, sit down and start. Set a goal of just one page for the night, that's not a lot, and as you work the flow should start moving forward. Your agent might only need to see 30 pages, so only after a few weeks' work, you should have something you can show and get your foot in the door.

You will also need to realize that it is a for-profit business. You will need to be flexible enough in writing style to change what you are doing because someone has to make money. Even if you don't care about the money, someone needs to make it. It's such a huge

cost to the publisher to print, distribute, and advertise.

Another piece of advice that has worked well for me is that I write better about things that I know personally. Even with a lot of research, I'm not sure I could write an effective thriller about the ER because I don't know anything about it. Try to live life to the fullest; the broader base of life experience you have, the easier it will be to pick what you find interesting and narrow that into something. The things that I have seen working in the nightclub, things that would blow your mind, are things that you see in movies but think never happen in real life. It's crazy and I get to see all of these characters in this whole other world. It's a good cornucopia of information for a book.

Any thing else you'd like to add?

The technical aspects of getting published are a pretty specific list in terms of number of pages, cover letter, etc., but everything is available online, and there are some good websites. Anyone interested can check those out online.

For additional information Matthew Delaney can be reached via email at Matthew.Delaney.99@Alum.Dartmouth.ORG. If you know of other classmates who are doing work that would make a great profile, please let editor Michelle Sweetser know by sending an email to her at Michelle.Sweetser@Alum.Dartmouth.ORG.

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writes that they "now have more space for our books, and an entire room to warehouse aging Macs."

Juan Bell is working as the Houston Rockets and Comets corporate account and new development manager, and is looking to apply to business school next year. He reports that **Folarin Dosunmu** is in his first year at the University of Illinois Law School and **Norrinda Brown** graduated from the UVA Law School in May.

Also completing school is **Josh Platt**, who finished his master's in marine biology at Florida Tech, where he studied biomechanics in fish. He is currently living in Orlando and is teaching high school biology and marine science. He and **Lauren Collins** will be married in Satellite Beach, Florida in October.

Adrienne Wilson has moved to Fort Worth, TX, where she teaches, although she still spends much of her time in Dallas where her family and friends reside. Adrienne reports that **Amy Stone Altizer** and her husband, Jay Altizer, have bought a "precious house" in Dallas, TX and now have two furry friends living with them - Chuck, a golden retriever, and Jake, their new golden lab puppy. Amy is at Cox Business School at Southern Methodist University.

Midwest

Kaitlin Reidy, who is currently living in Chicago, says that **Laura Heinichen** organized an awesome girls' weekend in Las Vegas, NV. **Carrie Bourdon** (soon to be Mrs. Sean Kisker), **Megan Hjermstad**, **Michelle Park**, **Sam Sommers**, Jen Holden, **Tully Pruden**, **Jen Keller**, and Laura were all in attendance and tried their luck on the blackjack table. "If you were thinking Ocean's 11, this wasn't it!"

Posy (Evans) Parsons was married on August 4, 2001 on Cape Cod. After an adventurous honeymoon in Peru, she and her husband Tim Parsons, settled in Pittsburgh, where he will finish his MBA this spring; they don't know where they'll be after that - possibly Boston or Seattle. Posy has been working to start up a non-profit in Pittsburgh dealing with women's health issues.

Posy reports exciting news from **Travis Gardner**, who has been living in Louisville since last summer with his girlfriend, Kate Wool. On a trip to Boston on his birthday (Feb. 2), "after a romantic dinner and in front of a limo that just happened to be waiting for them, Travis proposed to Kate." They celebrated in the limo and met friends out in the town, including **Jonah**

Sonnenborn and Katie Stone '00.

I visited **Chris Hodgson** and Karen Wenner '97 in St. Paul, MN last month while at a conference. Chris is programming for an insurance company and played a great host by taking me to the Metrodome for a Twins game. He and Karen are planning a July wedding.

West Coast

Karen Menuz has started a neuroscience program at UCSF after taking two years off after graduation to work in Europe and travel. Karen reports that she runs into **Bill Hwang** at UCSF and **Pete Woodruff** at UC Berkeley fairly often. Both Bill and Pete are working towards their PhDs in the life sciences. Karen also sees **Sandra Muller**, who is working towards her PhD in art history at Berkeley.

Christopher Rea is happy to report that he will be enrolling in Columbia's East Asian Languages and Cultures PhD program this fall. He will be moving to Manhattan in late August from Berkeley and anticipates 6 years in NYC with frequent trips to Asia.

International

Krispin Leydon writes that he is in Limerick, Ireland working/studying at the Interaction Design Centre. Apparently he's learning about the human relationship with technology - he's spent the past 6 months "studying how and why people use paper and pencils when high tech alternatives are available."

Several of our classmates have served military duty abroad, including **Nathaniel Fick**, who writes that "after spending most of the fall with the Marines in Afghanistan," he met up with **Brad Davis** and Jeremy Joseph '00 for a weekend in D.C. He reports that Brad is a Naval officer on the West Coast and Jeremy is a Marine officer with him in San Diego.

Eric Eckberg sent a green card all the way from Camp Able Sentry, in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Eric was there as one of the Quick Reaction Force Platoon Leaders in B Battery, 3rd Battalion, 6th Field Artillery, part of the 10th Mountain Infantry Division (say that three times!). The unit is there as a part of Task Force Falcon, the U.S. part of NATO's Kosovo Peacekeeping Force. Eric's battery has "done everything from escort VIPs and equipment around theatre to conduct dismounted patrols through Kosovo villages." Eric returned in May after the 6-month duty, and he and **Andrea Roberts** are planning an October wedding.

Good things come in threes...

by Jeffrey Fine, Class Treasurer

Good things come in threes, or so it seems. This is our third issue of Alma Matters in the last nine months. This is the third year since our graduation (ok, that may not be a good thing...), and we have recently had mini-reunions in three different cities. Continuing the theme of "raining threes," I'd like to present three points about our class dues program.

The Cause:

Class dues are for the class. They are paid to the class and used exclusively by the class. Class dues fund mini-reunions, such as last summer's baseball games in New York and Boston and more bar nights than we ever have had back in Hanover (well, ok, not quite that many.) Class dues will also be used to help pay for our fifth year reunion, in about two years. (Eeekk!).

Communication:

Class dues allow you to keep in touch with your classmates and see what they are doing. They fund your subscription to the Alumni Magazine (over 50%

of collected dues are used to pay for the class subscription to DAM). Class dues also fund Alma Matters, the class newsletter - this is the third issue in the past nine months and we will continue to publish one every quarter. I know how much we all enjoy reading the misadventures of Landis every three months.

Cost:

Class dues are set at \$35 per year, as they have been for the past three years. We have set class dues at a level that would be affordable. (If you are unable to pay the full amount of dues, but would like to contribute a reduced amount, please let me know). Over the past three years, expenses for the class have risen dramatically. This jump is due to the combination of an expected decrease of the College's subsidy of our subscriptions and an increase of subscription rates of 40% to all classes. To continue to keep dues at an affordable rate, we need high participation. If we do not see an increase in participation, we will be forced to either raise dues or cut expenses (such as the removal of non-paying class members from the DAM subscription list). Please contribute to the financial welfare of the class!

Take a break!

Test your memory and see how well you do with this word find. To make it more difficult, we've given you clues to the terms in the puzzle.

- College founder
- Breakfast locale
- Winter-term extravaganza
- Campus post
- pre-orientation orientation?
- Current president
- burns bright every fall
- healthy food eatery
- 7:45 a.m. routine
- Green Book a.k.a.
- home for student activities
- Baryshnikov's favorite Hop fare
- '99 Commencement speaker
- Community service center
- place to polar bear swim
- spring event with drumming
- A.k.a. frat row
- school of engineering
- demolished computing center
- largest library on campus
- dorms in Vermont?
- green light atop Baker for big weekends
- canoe club
- Webster conversion
- the heart of campus

T	H	G	I	R	T	S	E	I	R	F	P	O	H	A
U	R	O	B	H	I	K	S	P	I	R	T	C	O	D
C	A	R	A	U	N	E	R	L	O	U	S	I	M	P
K	T	Y	K	I	E	V	E	A	C	B	I	K	E	E
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T	C	A	R	N	I	V	A	L	N	E	R	G	W	E
E	O	E	T	I	T	U	K	E	R	I	M	E	A	W
R	E	I	W	H	L	O	N	A	M	N	I	H	Y	A
F	M	O	N	E	Y	L	I	G	H	T	H	T	S	B

Hey, everybody! A great opportunity has opened up for the Dartmouth Classes of 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001.

A very generous parent of a young Dartmouth alum has agreed to give \$50 for every donation that is made to the Dartmouth College Fund for the entire month of June by members of our class. This means that if you make a gift to the DCF (any amount will do), an additional \$50 will be given from the challenge pool established by this parent PLUS our class will receive the DCF credit! You have to act fast, because only the first 250 gifts made by young alumni classes are eligible.

Make a difference and give to Dartmouth @:
<https://www.dartmouthcollegefund.org/securefrm.htm>