“My World Has Been Andover”
Memorial Bell Tower Rededication

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12. WEAVER FAMILY GIFT DEDICATES CARILLON TO JOSH MINER

by Paula Trespas

The family of David Weaver ’61 offered a ringing endorsement of Josh Miner, a fitting thank-you for all the late faculty member did during his days at Andover.

27. BUILDING THE ARC

by Theresa Pease

Presented with six weeks to meet the challenge of a lifetime, urban designer Doug Suisman ’72 rose to the task, shaping a vision of hope for a new Palestinian state.

14. “MY WORLD HAS BEEN ANDOVER”

Speakers at Phillips Academy’s 2006 commencement ceremony spotlighted the strong values instilled in Andover students and urged new graduates to carry those teachings forth.

16. TEN FROM THE CLASS OF 2006 SHARE THEIR ANDOVER EXPERIENCES

by Jill Clerkin, Paula Trespas, and Steve Porter

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33. ANDOVER REUNION 2006

It was the year for classes ending in a 6 or 1 to reclaim the Phillips Academy campus as their own—and to make memories of good times and great friends.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We first encountered Bill Coffin ‘42 [In Memoriam, Spring 2006 Bulletin] in the fall of 1956. He had just become chaplain at Andover. In those days chapel was required: four mornings a week for 15 minutes and an hour of church on Sunday. He grabbed our attention the first morning. He said when he was an Andover student, he learned to slump just enough in his chapel seat to get his head balanced on his spine. He could then snooze without earning a demerit from the monitors in the back balcony.

Periodically he had a meal at the faculty dining room on the second floor of Commons, where we earned our scholarships as student waiters. He was lively, walked with an athletic swagger, and had a resonant voice. He had quite a bit to say. We figured out, after overhearing a few asides from his sober-sided bachelor peers, that the new man on campus was not universally appreciated. During the winter term, Coffin married and no longer graced the bachelors’ table, which returned to its usual humdrum discourse.

Coffin quickly injected himself in the life of the school. He may have had something to do with [bringing to campus] the spectacular Soviet chorus that sang at an Andover assembly that winter at a delicate moment in the Cold War. We were wowed by the deep voices and mystical harmonies coming out of this chorus. We were near Coffin in the audience and remember his intriguing remarks about Russian musical traditions and the different ethnic groups represented in the chorus. It was only later we learned that he was an expert Russian speaker and had worked for the CIA on Soviet affairs, to oppose Stalin, in the early postwar period.

A particularly vivid recollection is Coffin’s sermon at the Andover Chapel in the wake of the Hungarian revolt of fall 1956. The Biblical text has faded from memory, but the refrain he used several times was tattooed on adolescent brains: “And a lone Hungarian sniper continued firing at the invading Soviet tanks.” It was a paean to courage in the struggle for freedom against overwhelming odds. It was also part of the unremitting campaign he waged against student cynicism and the quietism of the Eisenhower era. In the winter term two Hungarian refugee high school students suddenly appeared on campus and became part of the junior class. We suspect Coffin had something to do with that.

—Dane Smith ’58, Washington, D.C., and D.M. Bissell ’58, Berkeley, Calif.

The above is an excerpt from a longer letter, which can be read in its entirety at www.andover.edu/news/uscoffinobit.htm.

“Haspira ad astra”—Reach for the stars. Among the many Latin and Italian sayings Dr. Vincent Pascucci [In Memoriam, Spring 2006 Bulletin] used to say, I remember this to be one of his favorites.

When I was a postgraduate student at Andover during the 1990–1991 academic year, I assisted Dr. Pascucci in teaching his advanced course in Italian. I was impressed by his teaching skills. He combined rigor and precision with charm and verve. As a result, in only three terms students made amazing progress in understanding, in speaking, and in writing. But there was more than that in his Italian course: It was also a course about Italian culture, history, and way of life. It was a cultural bridge between the United States and Italy, which gave many students a key to understand and love il Belpaese, the beautiful country.

Dr. Pascucci was for me not only a role model in teaching; he embodied the best of our culture and the best of European grace. He was a warm and enthusiastic man and a generous and honest person. His extraordinary culture and refined sense of humor are still present in my mind. His advice and support have accompanied me throughout the years, especially the difficult ones, giving me encouragement, strength, and poise. Now that he has left us physically, his wise advice and warm support keep accompanying us in our souls.

—Luigi Malferrari ’91, Bologna, Italy

The writer is currently clerk at the Court of Justice of the European Communities, Luxembourg, and lecturer in EC law at the University of Strasbourg in France.

R.S.V.P.

Want to respond to something you read?

The Andover Bulletin considers for publication all letters commenting on the content of articles in recent issues. Letters may be edited for length, grammar, and style. Disagreement with administrative policies will not eliminate a letter from consideration. However, letters characterized by personal invective will not be published.
Torrential spring rains flooded streets, overwhelmed local dams, and canceled sports contests throughout Massachusetts and New Hampshire, but the wet weather could not stop the hardy band of crew alumni who returned to the Andover campus to celebrate their sport’s 50th anniversary at Phillips Academy. On Saturday, May 13, the intrepid rowers took their boats out for a nostalgic row on the Merrimack River.

More than 150 alumni, spouses, students, and parents attended the event, which was organized by crew alumnus Christopher “Kit” Wise ’66, current crew coach Pete Washburn, and Sam Darby, father of boat B1 coxswain Michelle Darby ’07. The honored guest at the event was Bill Brown, the first to coach the sport at PA. Now 90 years old and living in Maine, Brown founded the crew program in 1955, despite being discouraged to do so by the Academy’s Board of Trustees. Undeterred by such reticence, Brown borrowed some old boats from Harvard, Yale, and Princeton—and established a sport at PA that continues to grow and inspire deep passions among its participants. In an ironic twist, Brown’s second crew captain was Oscar Tang ’56, now president of the Board of Trustees.

Tang was among the alumni who ventured out on the river, following a packed breakfast gathering in the Kemper reception area. With representation from every decade, the alumni took out a total of five rowing eights. They rowed for more than an hour before making it safely back to shore.

Edward “Forty” Conklin ’79 filled his entire boat with rowers from his year of graduation, including one from Exeter. “Forty had called me a few weeks prior to the event to get the name of the vendor who makes the current jerseys for the rowers and got one for each of the rowers in the boat,” recalls Jennie Savino, Andover’s assistant director of alumni affairs. “It was great fun to see his guest with an Andover jersey and an Exeter hat.”

Later in the afternoon, the alumni watched as both the girls’ and boys’ crews pulled off thrilling wins over Tabor and Exeter. The races included an impressive come-from-behind effort by the boys, who jumped from third to first place over the course of the last 500 meters.

The day was topped off with a celebratory dinner in Commons. The current varsity captains opened the gathering and accepted some raucous cheers for their efforts that afternoon. The dinner program included a presentation of a cowboy hat and boots to Washburn—to match his new Vespoli V1 boat, the Lone Star, donated by the family of crew captain Karl Hirt ’06. Tang was presented with a plaque in honor of a new boat to be donated to the school by Tang’s friend, Jim Rogers. The boat will be dedicated to Tang.

Along with other representatives from the past five decades—Wise, Conklin, Travis Metz ’87, Maggie Klarberg ’96, and Justin Accomando ’99—Tang entertained the crowd with anecdotes from his crew days. The stories, both funny and touching, ended with heartfelt thanks to Brown for bringing the sport to Andover. Tang announced that several anonymous donors had joined together to create a $300,000 fund in honor of coach Brown, to recognize his extraordinary passion and leadership. An obviously moved Brown concluded the evening with a short thank-you speech and warm wishes for all.

—Stephen Porter
Kathleen Dalton Offers Expertise on Teddy Roosevelt

History and social science instructor Kathleen Dalton recently shared her extensive knowledge of Theodore Roosevelt on national television and in print. Author of a Roosevelt biography titled *Theodore Roosevelt: A Strenuous Life*, Dalton was one of the featured experts interviewed in a documentary about the 1901 assassination of President William McKinley that aired on the History Channel in April.

*Murder at the Fair* was one of 10 documentaries that made up the History Channel series *10 Days that Unexpectedly Changed America*. The documentary focused on how McKinley’s assassination gave rise to Roosevelt’s “accidental” presidency, affording him the opportunity to initiate widespread reforms that prepared the country for its leadership role in the 20th century.

“Teddy Roosevelt changed the course of American history,” said Dalton during one of the segments in the show. “He was receptive to reform at a time when America really needed to reform.”

Dalton’s expertise on Roosevelt was on display again this summer, when an article she wrote, titled “The Self-Made Man,” appeared in the July 3 edition of *Time* magazine as part of an extensive special report on the 26th president of the United States. In that article, Dalton wrote about how Roosevelt’s transformation from a sickly child into a rugged outdoorsman shaped his political thinking and instilled a love of nature that led to his staunch support of environmental protection policies.

Donald Barry Adds Another Honor to the Mantel

The Mathematical Association of America (MAA) selected Donald Barry as one of 24 gifted instructors to take home the 2006 Edyth May Sliffe Award for Distinguished High School Mathematics Teaching.

Nominations for the award were solicited from students on the 60 highest scoring teams in the American Mathematics Competitions sponsored by the MAA. Schools from both the United States and Canada participate in the competitions.

“I’ve never had a teacher so enthusiastic and passionate about mathematics, and his enthusiasm is contagious,” said Gary Cao ’07, one of four Phillips Academy students to nominate Barry for the honor. “While his explanations are clear, insightful, and thought-provoking, he also steps back and has the confidence to allow the students to explore problems on their own. He strives to teach the students beyond what is at the textbook surface and allows them to master the concepts and explore the depths of mathematical problem solving.”

This is the second Sliffe Award for Barry, who won his first in 1996. The program is designed to recognize and reward outstanding teachers for their efforts in the development of the mathematical talents of high school students.
Board Discusses Commons, Honors Retiring Trustees and Faculty

During the spring 2006 meeting of the Phillips Academy Board of Trustees, held May 4–6, board members paid tribute to retiring trustees and faculty and discussed proposals for renovating several different campus buildings, including Commons.

During discussion of campus renovation projects, the board focused on a recent campus planning scheme recommended by Deans’ Council that involves renovation and expansion of Commons dining hall, Pearson and Bulfinch halls, and the Addison Gallery of American Art. Still in the early stages, these recommendations represent preliminary planning concepts intended to support academic program needs of Andover’s 2004 Strategic Plan and address deferred maintenance and requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Trustees voted on the following facilities initiatives:

- The board released design and fund raising, in tandem, for renovation work on Commons and Pearson. A key feature of preliminary conceptual planning involves a sensitive renovation of historic Pearson Hall, designed by Charles Bulfinch, into a campus community center, and restoration of the original floor between the building’s current first and second floors. The ability to move forward with the planning for the renovation of Commons is made possible by a generous $10 million lead gift made by David S. Paresky ’56 and his wife, Linda.

- The board endorsed the concept of the expansion and renovation of Bulfinch Hall and included the project as part of a fund-raising study. Renovations being considered include adding a wing to increase classroom and office space, while being sensitive to the building’s architecture.

- Given initial commitments, the board released design and fund raising for renovation and expansion of the Addison Gallery. The architects will be asked to offer a design that includes room for an education center, a preparation and care area, staff facilities, and art storage.

At the May 5 trustee dinner in Commons, Board President Oscar L. Tang ’56 honored retiring Charter Trustee Clinton J. Kendrick ’61. Kendrick served as an alumni trustee from 1981 to 1986 and as a charter trustee since 1990. Tang also recognized retiring alumni trustees Martin Begien ’46, Grace E. Curley ’81, Claudia A. Arrigg Koh ’67, and Gary L. Lee ’74.

Retiring faculty honored by Head of School Barbara Landis Chase were Carole Braverman, Pat Gerety, Lynn Herbst, Sally Herbst, and Paul Kalkstein ’61.

NEW FACULTY CHAIRS ANNOUNCED

Three current faculty members have accepted appointments to chair their respective departments, effective September 1 of this year and continuing through August 31, 2012.

Shirley Veenema was chosen to lead the art department. Since coming to Phillips Academy in 1979, Veenema has served as an instructor, advisor, and house counselor. Since 1988, she has also worked with Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Veenema, who earned her master’s degree at Glassboro State College in New Jersey, was the recipient of the Frederick W. Beinecke Fund for Teaching in 2004.

Travis Conley will head up the Chinese department. Prior to joining PA in 2004 he taught at Green River Community College in Auburn, Wash., was a teaching assistant at the University of Washington, and served as a translation proofreader and researcher for the University of Washington Business School. He received his master’s degree in classical Chinese literature from the University of Washington, Seattle.

Charles Clerc has replaced recently retired faculty member Lynn Herbst as chair of the French department. Clerc first joined the Andover community in 1995, spending a year as a visiting instructor. Until last year, when he again joined Andover as an instructor in French, he had been director of Proctor Academy in Aix-en-Provence, France. He earned his master’s and doctoral degrees in French literature and civilization from the University of Paris.
China Trip Offers a Taste of School Year Abroad

A group of 24 Phillips Academy students chose to continue their study of the Chinese language this summer as part of an intensive learning program based in Beijing. The five-week opportunity, which combines accelerated classroom sessions with travel, was sponsored by School Year Abroad and made available only to Andover students in this, its first year.

Peter Merrill, head of Andover’s Division of World Languages, said students received the equivalent of about a week of PA Chinese instruction each day they were in Beijing.

In class, students quickly discovered the School Year Abroad method of learning and its heavy focus on performance. One afternoon small groups of students ventured into the local neighborhood to complete a series of assigned tasks. The lesson aimed to build problem-solving skills, using the Chinese language without the aid of instructors.

“What we are really hoping is that the summer experience will inspire students to want to go back for more and take advantage of the yearlong School Year Abroad experience,” said Merrill. “Language-acquisition research has made it clear that languages like Chinese, Russian, and Japanese require multiple in-country experiences in order for students to learn the language well enough to be able to use it professionally.”

Travel Opportunities Enrich Summer for Students

This summer 24 members of the Andover Dance Group traveled to Edinburgh, Scotland, to perform an original modern dance piece at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, the largest theatre festival in the world.

The piece—titled “The Road”—has an explosive kinetic energy that creates a fast-paced digital world set against the world of dreams and possibilities, said PA dance instructor Judith Wombwell, who choreographed the performance. During the piece, the dancers blend with projected, thought-provoking imagery created by Wombwell and fellow faculty member Stephen Wicks.

“One of the students’ favorite parts of the show,” said Wombwell, “is a cell phone dance during which the dancers carry their phones, and they must answer the phone if called. To generate calls, we publish the cell phone numbers for the audience.”

The Edinburgh festival is an exuberant, colorful affair during which more than 1,800 performances are presented from morning to midnight at some 250 venues throughout the city.

Prior to the trip Wombwell expressed excitement for what lay ahead for her students: “At the festival, they will be surrounded by people who feel the same passion for the performing arts that they do, and their work will be affirmed and celebrated.”
Ten Phillips Academy students were chosen to take part in a two-week interdisciplinary expeditionary program to Mexico and Belize in early July. The first annual Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology/Spanish Department B.A.L.A.M had two primary goals: to educate students on the ancient civilizations of Mesoamerica and to improve the students’ Spanish language skills through cultural and linguistic immersion.

The trip’s itinerary included visits to Maya ruins, ancient ceremonial caves, and cenotes (sinkholes), as well as the opportunity to participate in an archaeological excavation at an ancient Maya site in Belize. Students explored some heavily frequented ruins, such as Tulum, but also traveled to rarely seen ancient cities, such as Calakmul, which lies deep within the jungle.

“Learning about an ancient civilization such as the Maya through lectures and textbooks can be fun, but learning as one climbs a 1,500-year-old pyramid or explores an ancient ritual cave elicits a feeling of excitement and astonishment that cannot be replicated in the classroom,” said Don Slater, assistant collections manager at the Peabody Museum. “We hope this trip will be an adventure the students will fondly remember for quite some time.”

The Abbot Academy Association generously provided scholarship dollars for some of the participating students.

Love of Learning Builds among the Maya Ruins

“The Road” Leads to Scotland for Andover Dancers
The Phillip Academy boys’ rowing team performed superbly this summer while enjoying a two-week visit across the pond. At the Henley Royal Regatta, held annually at Henley-on-the-Thames near London, the crew reached the semifinals in the schoolboy eights division of competition, The Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup. Earlier during its stay in England, Andover won its event in the Reading Town Regatta, giving cause for the students to later raise their tankards in triumph. Pictured in the front row, from left to right, are Chip Schroeder ’08, Parker Washburn ’09, coxswain Michelle Darby ’07, Geoff Martin ’07, and Justin Yi ’06. In the back row, from left, are Rush Martin ’07, Scott Morgan ’06, Karl Hirt ’06, and Andrew Faulkner ’07.

ON THE AIR

Alexander Heffner ’08 has brought The Progressive Mind to WPAA airwaves. The political talk show, which airs Wednesday evenings on PA’s radio network, spotlighted a dozen political candidates from across the United States last year. Eleven of the candidates interviewed are in congressional races and one is the first declared 2008 Democratic presidential candidate. The interviews were part of The Progressive Mind’s ongoing “Campaign Forum” series, which, after a summer hiatus, will continue through the November 2006 elections.

Sweet Stroke of Success

The Sabre Foundation, a nonprofit humanitarian aid organization that distributes nearly a million new books each year to libraries, schools, and organizations in developing countries, held a ceremony at its Lawrence, Mass., warehouse this past spring to recognize Phillip Academy student volunteers. Last academic year, 100 students working through PA’s community service program spent more than 240 work hours at the warehouse sorting and organizing more than 21,000 books. The students also helped prepare 20 pallets of books for shipment to Nigeria. During the short thank-you ceremony, Sabre presented Head of School Barbara Chase with a glass paperweight inscribed with a quote from Cicero: “A room without books is like a body without a soul.” Sabre also presented the student volunteers with Sabre Foundation T-shirts.
Special guests on campus

Pulitzer Prize–Winning Poet Richard Wilbur

Internationally Renowned Concert Pianist Eugen Indjic ’65
Alumni guest artist Eugen Indjic conducted a piano Master Class in which more than a dozen students collaborated on the Chopin Preludes Op. 28. He later performed in a recital in Cochran Chapel. Of Russian-Serbian descent, Indjic was born in Belgrade in 1947, emigrated to the United States when he was 4 years old, and began his musical studies in Springfield, Mass., at the age of 8. He was a musical force at PA from 1961 to 1965, also performing with the Boston Symphony Orchestra several times during those years.

Acclaimed Native American Photographer Lee Marmon
Internationally known for his distinguished portraits of elders of the Laguna and Acoma tribes, Lee Marmon was a guest lecturer in PA photography, English, and journalism classes. An exhibition of 11 of his best-known photographs, made possible by a generous gift from Dr. Thomas Corbett ’56, was on display through Reunion Weekend. Marmon’s stark black-and-white photos of Native Americans have appeared in galleries, books, and magazines worldwide.

Yale Professor and Historian Jonathan Spence
British-born historian Jonathan Spence, recognized as one of the foremost scholars of Chinese civilization from the 17th century to the present, spoke on China’s growing importance in the modern world and how its role as an emerging superpower is shaped by its history. The Sterling Professor of History at Yale University, Spence has written numerous books on China and Chinese history. His talk was followed by a question-and-answer session and a book signing. Spence came to Andover as the Alfred E. Stearns lecturer.

Grammy Award–Winning Cellist Eugene Friesen
At the forefront of a new generation of musicians versed in classical, popular, and world music, guest artist Eugene Friesen conducted a String Improvisation Clinic for students. Friesen is an active performer, composer, teacher, and recording artist. His gift for the responsive flow of improvisatory music has been featured in concerts all over the world with the Paul Winter Consort and Trio Globo, and with poets Yevgeny Yevtushenko and Coleman Barks. Friesen is on the faculty of the Berklee College of Music in Boston.

Human Rights and Media Activist Danny Schechter
Director Danny Schechter introduced the screening of his 98-minute film, Weapons of Mass Deception. The powerful and provocative documentary sheds light on the role media played in the 2003 Iraq War. The basic theme: There were two wars going on in Iraq: one was fought with armies of soldiers, bombs, and a fearsome military force; the other was fought alongside it with cameras, satellites, armies of journalists, and propaganda techniques. Schechter later took questions from the audience.

All the News That’s Fit to Post…
Go to www.andover.edu and click “Newsroom” for story details and additional Andover news.
Look before you leap. Think before you act. Though most have been offered this advice at one time or another, such instruction does not necessarily jibe with the philosophy of Kurt Hahn. A German educator who originated the Outward Bound program in Europe, Hahn did not believe that thought and action should be “divided into hostile camps.”

That sentiment has since been heartily, albeit cautiously, embraced by Phillips Academy’s Search & Rescue program.

Experiential learning is at the heart of this popular three-season athletic option. In the context of outdoor group activities such as hiking, rock climbing, paddling, and camping, students have the opportunity to learn not only certain outdoor skills but also about group dynamics, problem solving, communication, and decision making, as well as safety, injury prevention, and first aid. Most importantly, students inevitably learn more about themselves—their values, strengths, and limitations—as they are encouraged to take on challenges that often require venturing outside their comfort zones.

Based on the Outward Bound program initiated by Hahn during World War II and brought to the United States by Andover faculty member Josh Miner in the early 1950s, Search & Rescue (S&R) began as an experimental program at PA headed by Miner and Headmaster John Kemper. In 1964, the S&R program was formalized and became a regular part of the athletic offerings open to all students. Initially focused on emergency medical and rescue techniques, the program quickly evolved and expanded to include climbing and rappelling, winter mountaineering, bicycling (including maintenance and repair), and kayaking; some students even built their own kayaks. Regardless of the activity, the aim was and continues to be presenting groups of students with challenges and problems to be solved—without specific instructions on how to go about it. It is up to the group to decide what approach might be successful and up to each individual to determine what role he or she will play.

While the PA program certainly does not advocate plunging ahead recklessly, S&R rests upon the principle that the best thinking and learning happen while doing—and upon reflection afterward. Except when safety concerns demand otherwise, S&R leaders steadfastly refuse to demonstrate or dictate methods of solution to the problems facing their groups, and as a result, students have the opportunity to collaborate, experiment, take prudent risks, and learn by doing.

With so much of academic life spent in classrooms, libraries, and laboratories, being outdoors offers a great change of pace—whether students are taking on one of the challenge course activities in the Cochran Sanctuary, the primary on-campus venue for S&R groups, or out exploring Den Rock, the Shawsheen River, or Mt. Monadnock. While participants can and do learn a great deal about their
natural surroundings, the outdoors is not the goal; rather nature is a means for learning about oneself. This notion that the environment provides the setting and the challenges to help youngsters grow in important and healthy ways was captured by Hahn, whose programs were heavily slanted toward marine safety and rescue, in the mantra “Learn by the sea, not for the sea.”

Current S&R director Mark Cutler describes the outdoors as “a tool, a learning place, a place to grow and explore yourself.” A self-professed major outdoor enthusiast whose experience with outdoor education and experiential learning began in middle school and continued through his years at St. Lawrence University, Cutler heads a team of 10 faculty S&R leaders who work in pairs with groups of five to nine students. During any term, there are typically three S&R groups with some variation in emphasis. Fall groups usually experience a smorgasbord of activities: hiking, rock climbing, paddling, camping, and the Sanctuary ropes course, which includes a 350-foot zip line. Consistent with the Academy’s non sibi motto, many groups also engage in a service project, such as a cleanup along the Shawsheen River. In the spring, groups are more specialized, with students focusing on more advanced activities like rock climbing or canoeing.

Cutler has expanded on the S&R Trails program by providing opportunities for students not only to hike but also to gain a better appreciation of the earth and act as stewards of the land. This past spring, students engaged in a collaborative project with the Andover Village Improvement Society (AVIS), a local grassroots conservation organization that has acquired and maintains as natural preserves more than 1,100 acres of land in the town of Andover. The S&R students designed and built a new trail, including a 30-foot boardwalk that connects PA land at the end of Hiddenfield Road with AVIS’s nearby Stanley Reservation.

In winters past, S&R groups have tackled ice climbing and winter camping in northern New England, excursions that require meticulous planning and special expertise. Ironically, this winter S&R will expand to include an indoor climbing group. The 35-foot high, 30-foot wide Josh Miner Climbing Wall, opened in late 2004 near the Sumner Smith maintenance building, is already a popular spot. Five to six belay lines can operate simultaneously as students navigate dozens of freeform handholds. Unlike most climbing walls, PA’s facility was built to provide students the opportunity to do short, controlled lead-climbs—in preparation for “real granite” climbs in New Hampshire’s White Mountains and elsewhere.

Always changing and evolving, S&R continues to provide great experiences for many students—and its history includes many marvelous success stories. There was the girl with a fear of water who learned to Eskimo roll in her kayak on an icy river, and the boy who overcame lifelong vertigo and successfully climbed and repelled down the Memorial Bell Tower; both students went on to earn significantly improved academic records. Cutler embraces the phrase “challenge by choice” and believes in the tremendous value in giving kids the opportunity to confront their fears or disabilities. A student with poor vision can lead a lost group to their campsite by compass in the dark. The most reticent youngster can speak up when a dangerous situation arises.

Numerous alumni have labeled their S&R experiences as the most influential of their high school years. Among the several stated goals of the program is the aim of encouraging students, without the filters of headphones, drugs, or mere intellectual abstraction, to face life directly, to cope with both success and defeat, and to develop genuine appreciation of self, of others, and of the natural world.

Andy Cline is Andover’s sports information director.
As David Weaver ’61 and his son, David Andres Weaver ’90, strolled the Phillips Academy campus after the memorial service for Josh Miner in February 2002, their thoughts and conversation naturally focused on the charismatic housemaster, faculty legend, admissions director, and mentor, who had died a month earlier. Their meanderings took them to Salem Street and past the Memorial Bell Tower, an iconic structure on the Andover campus whose melodious bells had been silent since the early 1990s. Looking up to the cupola, both father and son said they harbored a hope that someday the bells might ring again.

Some donors give gifts to Andover for specific purposes, and some gifts have stories attached to them. Both apply to a gift from the Weaver family—David and his wife, Dorothy Collins Weaver; son Andres; and daughter Christina Weaver Vest ’89 and her husband, John. Their generosity, coupled with that of other donors, resulted in the Memorial Bell Tower’s newly refurbished and expanded carillon, which now honors Josh Miner.

As a student, David Weaver aspired to be the Academy’s carillonneur, something he told the assembled group of students at an All-School Meeting on May 3, at which the new Memorial Bell Tower carillon was introduced to the school. But in order to capture the honor, Weaver had to first win the Fuller Music Prize competition as an upper middler. The prize was named for Samuel Lester Fuller, Class of 1894, whose gift made possible the Memorial Bell Tower, dedicated in 1922. Weaver related that on the day of his recital his confidence waned and his nerves were shattered. “I played my heart out…clanging those bells in not-so-quiet desperation…knowing that I could not succeed…knowing that I would fail.”

Along with Weaver’s parents, his brother, and Lorraine Banta, his organ teacher, all of whom had come to support Weaver, were his housemaster, Josh Miner, and Miner’s wife, Phebe. Discouraged and dejected, Weaver cried out, “I knew I never should have tried. I know I can’t win!” Weaver went on to tell the students, “Josh literally leapt from the pack of parents and teachers, grabbed me by the shoulders, and shook me. His head close to my ear, he said, ‘David, I never, ever, want to hear you say anything like that again! You can do whatever you put your mind to. I know you will win…even if not here in this competition…you will win…’” Miner did win the contest and throughout his senior year he was at the carillon keyboard every morning, playing his heart out. It was for him, he said, “both a celebration of coming of age and of suddenly believing that I could achieve the difficult and sometimes even the near-impossible.” Weaver said Josh’s words stayed with him, “dead center,” at Harvard and throughout his career in business.

Weaver knew Miner would support him even before that spring day in 1960. Weaver had been a day student for three years and was doing poorly academically and faltering socially. His family and Dean of Students Gren Benedict tried to salvage his Andover career by offering him a chance to live on campus as a boarder. He was assigned to Josh and Phebe Miner’s dorm, Stimson...
Miner watched his new ward and, in Weaver’s words, “concluded that a big part of my problem was that by nine o’clock every night, I was an exhausted zombie.” Miner’s solution? Go to bed at nine and wake up each morning at four to study and do homework. Weaver tried the routine, but the first morning he slept through the alarm. “Thereafter,” Weaver related, “every morning, Josh knocked at my door at four o’clock in his pajamas, robe, and slippers to roust me out and make certain that I was up and functioning.” From then on Weaver flourished.

Concluding his remarks at the All-School Meeting, Weaver said, “If you’re lucky enough to have a Josh in your life, I urge you to cherish and hold on to him or her. Perhaps, sometime, you’ll have an opportunity like we have today to say thank you.”

Weaver and wife Dorothy introduced their offspring to the Miners as youngsters, and the families have maintained a close relationship over the years. When the children got to PA, the Miners’ home was always open to them. Christina says she enjoyed brunch at the Miners’ home on many occasions. “They were there for me and were instrumental in my decision to come to Andover,” she says. Andres says the Miners’ impact on his family and that of generations of Andover students is immeasurable. “Ours was a fitting gift,” he says, “something important to our family and symbolic of Josh’s role as an influence and mentor in our lives.” He adds, “The bells woke students every morning, but Josh woke my father—figuratively and literally.” Dorothy interjects, “The bells are a celebration of Josh’s ability to inspire students to move out of their comfort zone in order to discover their special strengths and talents.”

Standing beside Josh Miner during the 55 years of their marriage was his wife, helpmate, and colleague, Phebe, now in her 83rd year. “Josh had great faith in David and applauded his many successes over the years,” she says. “The gift of the Weaver family and the dedication of the carillon in Josh’s memory has touched the entire Miner family. Josh would have been deeply touched as well by this memorial.”

Despite a rainy Reunion Weekend more than 500 people filled Cochran Chapel on June 10 for a formal rededication of the Memorial Bell Tower. The ceremony celebrated completion of a $5.1 million rebuilding project that began in the winter of 2005.

The tower was dismantled and rebuilt, brick by brick, in order to correct engineering flaws dating to its original construction in the 1920s. Those flaws had compromised the building’s structural integrity and ultimately silenced the bells. Much of the original fabric of the tower was salvaged and reused in the reconstruction, most notably the three-tiered wooden belfry that forms the upper half of the structure.

Though the reconstructed tower appears identical to the original built in 1923—right down to the recut inscriptions in the Deer Island granite blocks at the base of the building—the structure has been fitted with an enhanced set of bells that is configured with a touch-sensitive electronic system. The system features a keyboard on the ground floor that is used to sound the bells. In total, the new tower houses 49 bells, 19 of which were used in the original structure. Fourteen of the new bells are inscribed with the names of Andover’s heads of school, starting with Eliphalet Pearson. The other new bells bear donor inscriptions.

The rededication ceremony featured addresses by Board of Trustees President Oscar L. Tang ’56, former Board President David M. Underwood ’54, Sikanyiselwe Maqubela ’03, and Head of School Barbara Landis Chase.

The full program for the rededication can be viewed at www.andover.edu/news/belltower06.htm. In addition to the names of the many donors whose contributions made the restoration possible, the program contains historical information about the Memorial Bell Tower and life at Andover during World War I. The program also includes excerpts of letters sent home to friends and former teachers by Andover community members serving in the war. In all, 2,222 Andover students, alumni, and faculty members served in uniform during World War I. The Memorial Bell Tower was constructed in memory of the 85 who died during their service.

—Stephen Porter
Head of School Barbara Landis Chase drew the 2005–2006 academic year to a close in part by reflecting on how it began—with a national tragedy and a heartening response close to home.

In her address at Phillips Academy’s 228th commencement ceremony on Sunday, June 4, Chase spoke of hospitality, honesty, hard work, and hope—four characteristics she said she hoped the graduating students “found in abundance at Phillips Academy” and will carry with them into the future.

Recalling how Andover started off its year by taking in 19 students displaced by Hurricane Katrina, Chase told the assembled audience, “Hospitality has to do with the way we open our minds and hearts to outsiders, and it rang in our new year.” Two of those students displaced by Katrina were members of this year’s graduating class, she noted.

On the subject of honesty, Chase recalled a campus-wide dialogue begun during the school year on the importance of personal integrity. She said honesty is a value woven deeply into the fabric of Andover’s culture.

Chase also spoke of the “beauty and redemptive quality of work.” She told students: “What I hope for each of you is that you will find work that makes you happy—not every minute of every day, but often enough to be sustaining, personally absorbing, and meaningful to a community beyond yourself.”

On the topic of hope, she quoted poet Emily Dickinson, who wrote that hope “is the thing with feathers.”

“Hope does indeed take flight on the wings of teaching and learning,” said Chase. “It is one of the major products of a liberal education. As a student you gain fresh knowledge, expand your understanding, and in the process can scarcely escape a feeling of hope for your future. And as you think about how
you will use that knowledge and understanding, you feel a sense of hope that you can make a real impact on the world.”

About 3,000 people attended the graduation exercises, which took place in front of Samuel Phillips Hall on the school’s Great Lawn. In a time-honored Andover tradition, the graduation procession of faculty and students was led by the stirring sounds of the Clan MacPherson Pipes and Drums of North Andover, Mass.

The Class of 2006 consisted of 309 students—160 boys and 149 girls. Joining 37 students from the town of Andover and dozens more from other Massachusetts communities, graduates hailed from across the country—New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, for instance—and such countries as Canada, England, China, Japan, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Korea, Thailand, and Germany.

Student Council President Ali Siddiqi ’06 of Salem, N.H., drew laughter from his classmates and the assembled crowd as he shared his memories of his four years at Andover. He also paid tribute to the education he received: “Although my world has been Andover, I have come to know the world through Andover because the world is at Andover. The world is here not only in the form of international students, but the world is here in the form of international ideas, international discussions, and international concerns.”

Following the speeches, Chase presented the Academy’s most distinguished prizes to five outstanding members of the graduating class:

- Kendall M. Massengill of Richmond, Va., received the Non Sibi Award, given to the student who has honored Phillips Academy’s not sibi (not for self) tradition through efforts on behalf of others. She has enrolled at Washington & Lee University.
- Thomas M. Dignard of Reading, Mass., received the Yale Bowl, given to the member of the senior class who has attained the highest proficiency in scholarship and athletics. He has enrolled at Yale University.
- Warakorn Kulalert of Bangkok, Thailand, received the Faculty Prize for outstanding scholarship during the senior year. He has enrolled at Harvard University.
- Katherine M. Faulkner of Homer, Alaska, received the Madame Sarah Abbot Award, given to a young woman for strong character, leadership, and outstanding scholarship. She has enrolled at Harvard University.
- Ali Siddiqi of Salem, N.H., received the Aurelian Honor Society Award for sterling character, high scholarship, and forceful leadership. He has enrolled at Columbia University.

The Phillips Academy Class of 2006 will matriculate at a total of 107 four-year colleges and universities. Top choices, accounting for almost 33 percent of the class, include Harvard, with 18 members of the class attending; Brown, 13; Yale and Georgetown, 12 each; University of Pennsylvania, 10; Cornell and Trinity College, nine each; and Duke and MIT, eight each.
Ten from the Class of 2006 share their Andover experiences

It is always a challenge to choose the handful of seniors traditionally profiled in the summer edition of the Andover Bulletin. Every instructor, every dean, and every coach has his or her favorite candidates—and for very good reasons. There are many impressive and compelling stories that could be told. The 10 students profiled on the following pages serve as worthy representatives of their peers. It is their intelligence, talent, skill, determination, perseverance, enthusiasm, initiative, personal integrity, and commitment to community that help fortify Andover’s tradition of excellence. Though all are accomplished in the classroom, each has excelled in several other areas, as well—from sports, dance, music, and writing to world languages, leadership, and community service. Each has also received a variety of awards, honors, tributes, and accolades too numerous to fully list in the individual profiles that follow.

Although their backgrounds, accomplishments, and PA careers are quite different, there are two common threads shared by these “youth from every quarter”: a sincere gratitude for their Andover experience and a related desire to give back in significant ways—to school, community, and society at large.
Raised in Spanish Harlem, one of the largest Latino communities in New York City, Jonathan “Figgy” Figueroa was aware of periodic crime and violence in the area, but his particular neighborhood always felt safe. He knows he was lucky in another way, too. “I was blessed,” he says, “with the opportunity to attend Andover. My mother taught me to make education the first priority in my life,” says Figueroa. As a seventh-grader, he participated in Prep for Prep, a program that prepares academically promising inner-city youth for independent schools.

“When my parents and I approached Andover that first day, Blue Key members were lined up along Main Street screaming and waving and holding up ‘Honk if you love Andover’ signs,” he remembers with a smile. “Being from New York, I was amazed at how friendly everyone was. And being from Spanish Harlem, I soon realized how sheltered I had been growing up mostly around blacks and Hispanics.”

Easygoing with an ever-ready grin, Figueroa found that fitting in at Andover was pretty easy but adjusting to the academic demands was a bit more challenging.

Figueroa spoke Castillian Spanish as a second language, but not very well. Thanks in large measure to his instructor, Advanced Spanish quickly became one of his favorite classes. “I was truly captivated by Profesora Pages-Rangel’s teaching style and dedication to her students. I could relate to her in many ways because she has a Puerto Rican background similar to mine,” he says. “She was a great role model.”

The many hours he spent each week helping out at the Lawrence Boys’ and Girls’ Club reminded him how Andover was changing his life. “I loved working with those kids,” he says. “We had so much in common. I was their tutor, but just as important, I was someone they could really talk to.” Figueroa was also Abbot Cluster president, an active member of the African Latino American Society (Af-Lat-Am), a senior leader, and a sprinter on the indoor and outdoor varsity track teams.

For part of the summer Figueroa was a Prep for Prep advisor. In August he traveled to Edinburgh, Scotland, with the Andover Dance Group to perform in “The Road” at the Fringe Festival. The first in his family to graduate from high school, Figueroa is currently a human biology major at Harvard University; he plans to become a cardiologist. —JC
She claims she had the best of both worlds at PA, living in a dorm with her friends but close enough to her Marblehead, Mass., home that her parents could catch just about every one of her sporting events, dance shows, and project presentations. That’s Ali Holliday. Always positive, always smiling.

Since the age of 4, soccer has been Holliday’s passion. She made Andover’s varsity soccer team as a ninth-grader—at five feet tall and less than 100 pounds. “I didn’t play much at first,” she says, “but later, as a team captain, I realized there was much more to the game than just ‘playing.’ Motivating the team to work for the team, not for self, was hugely satisfying.” Holliday also ran varsity track for three years.

She considered math her best subject—until her first day in Math 310. “Mr. Barry began by talking about the levels of infinity,” she says. “I struggled with that lesson and bombed on my first test. It was so disappointing! But I loved that class. Mr. Barry really made me think. Suddenly math was not as black and white as I had thought.” Holliday soon got up to speed in math and was an honor roll student every term.

For French class last year, Holliday interviewed a 40-year-old Haitian immigrant living in nearby Lawrence and soon became hooked on Haitian culture. “Nancy had so much to share, such stories to tell,” she says, “and even though our backgrounds are very different, we found many commonalities. Our get-togethers inspired me to sign up for Haitian dance and cooking classes and to take a Caribbean literature course.”

A versatile dancer, Holliday was determined to try out for SLAM, Andover’s high-energy step team, which is comprised mainly of students of color. “When I told my friends and family, they laughed at me,” she recalls with a grin. “I was very nervous, but somehow I made the team and it was so much fun. I think the environment at PA gives kids the courage to step out of their comfort zones, take risks, and try new things.”

Holliday taught dance and coached sports at a New Hampshire girls’ camp over the summer before heading to Stanford University; she hopes to become a doctor and possibly practice in Haiti for a few years. Her brother David ’08 will carry on the Hollidays’ Andover tradition, which was started by sister Lauren ’02.—JC

“I think the environment at PA gives kids the courage to step out of their comfort zones, take risks, and try new things.”
Smart, classy, accomplished, confident, and well-adjusted. That just about sums up Mgbechi Erondu. With a PA résumé as long as her arm—an honor roll student every term for four years, a poet and a published writer of fiction, senior representative to the Student Council, a member of the varsity soccer and track teams, a community service volunteer, a singer in the Gospel Choir, and an artist at the piano—one only wonders, “How in the world did she do it?”

If you ask her, she admits to being a hard worker, but she’s also shy and a bit of a homebody. “The social life here was intimidating at first,” says the resident of Millstone, N.J., “but I think I improved.” Her younger sister, Chioma, “Chichi,” also a member of the Class of 2006, was with her throughout her four years. “It was nice to have someone who really knows me, especially when I first got here. When I didn’t want to speak, I could rely on Chichi. She’s the outgoing one, my mouthpiece,” Erondu laughs.

A daughter of a mother who has a doctoral degree in pharmacy and a father who’s an endocrinologist/researcher, Erondu has two other younger siblings. She has journeyed three times to Nigeria, the country of her parents’ birth, to travel and visit relatives. A PA trip to South Africa last year to perform a leading role in the school play *Things Fall Apart* was a watershed event in Erondu’s young life. “To witness firsthand the trials that the people of South Africa have overcome, to observe, and to even be a small part of history in the making, had the greatest impact not only on my growth at Andover,” she says, “but also on my growth as a person, an intellectual, a young lady of Africa.

“My cultural background has had a strong influence on my writing and my personality, as well as the activities I’ve chosen to participate in,” she notes. “I’m grateful to my parents for instilling in me the knowledge of who I am.” Her parents are fluent in Igbo, a language Erondu understands but, she says, is shy about speaking.

Her summer plans included a job at Rutgers University’s Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences before heading to Princeton University to study psychology and creative writing. “After college, I hope to attend Harvard Medical School and eventually specialize in neurology,” she says. —PT
KATHERINE FAULKNER

Katie Faulkner knew from an early age that boarding school was her destiny. Both of her parents had gone to boarding schools; her mother, the former Sara Cox ’79, had attended Phillips Academy. Still, when Faulkner received her Andover acceptance letter, she wept at the thought of leaving her family and friends behind in Homer, Alaska. “But after about two days on campus, I loved it,” she recalls, laughing.

Eventually, her two brothers, Andrew ’07 and William ’09, joined her at Andover, helping to ease any latent feelings of homesickness. But well before their arrival, Faulkner had settled in.

Outgoing and personable, her sunny manner not only wins friends easily, it impresses coaches. This past year, her cross-country coach awarded her the Hallowell Cross-Country Cup while her swim coach presented her with the Washburn Award. Both awards honor her team spirit and sportsmanship. At commencement, she received one of the senior class’s five major prizes—the Madame Sarah Abbot Award, given to a young woman for strong character, leadership, and outstanding scholarship.

Sports have clearly been one of the most important aspects of Faulkner’s time at Andover. In addition to serving as a captain of the swim and cross-country teams, she also rowed girls’ crew. She savored her teams’ many successes, including winning several Interschol championships and setting a New England record in the 400-yard freestyle relay. But more than that, she thrived on the camaraderie. “I really built some strong friendships,” she says. “You learn to be proud not just of your own accomplishments but the accomplishments of others as well. One of the best days of my life was when some of my friends broke their own swimming records.”

Also active in several community service programs, Faulkner gave swimming lessons to special-needs children and taught English and health classes to youth in impoverished Mexican villages. Academically, she took delight in all of her classes, while developing a particular affinity for history. Faulkner recalls a crisis of confidence during her first term after nearly flunking a Spanish midterm. But with hard work and some help from the Academic Support Center, she turned that around.

“I soon learned that not only could I survive here, I could do well,” she says. “Andover just has this way of pushing all your limits, but then always being there to support you.” Faulkner aims to test new limits this fall at Harvard University, where she plans to study history and government.—SP
MERZUDIN IBRIC

When you’re only a kid, it’s rough to find out firsthand that war is hell. But in a grim twist, the horrors of war changed Merzudin Ibric’s life—for the better. In 1992 while playing in the family’s backyard in Macesi, Bosnia, Ibric’s sister’s leg was shattered by a bomb. There were no hospitals to treat the 2-year-old and no medication for the pain. When the war ended in 1995, several surgeries proved unsuccessful and doctors recommended amputation—an option her parents were dead set against. Seeking the best possible medical care—and, yes, a miracle—the Ibrics came to the United States in 1997. They settled in Revere, Mass., and the young girl’s leg was successfully treated in Boston.

During the Bosnian war the seven members of the Ibric family, who are Muslim, became refugees in their own country. They lived in an old schoolhouse, a slaughterhouse, and a bakery. Going to school was almost impossible, says Ibric, who missed nearly three years of schooling. “We were almost massacred at Srebrenica,” he relates, “but we managed to [flee] before the killing started.”

Upon arrival in Revere, the 12-year-old Ibric, who says he knew two English words, “bye” and “OK,” was put in a sixth-grade English as a Second Language class. Having to work long hours at a bakery to help his family get off welfare, he lost interest in school, but a teacher at Revere High School refused to let him drop out. She encouraged him to study and to give track a try.

“Once I began to run track,” Ibric says, “my life changed. I began winning races, earning titles, and breaking records. I started to do well in school. I went from Fs to honor roll. I applied for a Phelps Scholarship at Andover.”

A PG student, Ibric was privately tutored in math. “I didn’t know if I’d make it past first trimester, but everyone at Andover made sure I did. For that support I’m eternally grateful,” he says. “When track season started and I received my first 6 in Mr. Kalkstein’s English 520 class, I felt like I really belonged at Andover.”

Ibric has written a memoir about his life and war experiences that he hopes to publish, and his “big, big dream” is to one day be an Olympic athlete. This summer he trained for Nationals and worked to help pay his tuition at Wheaton College in Norton, Mass. Long-range? “I’d like to work for the CIA in their National Clandestine Service,” he says. —PT
KEVIN OLUSOLA

With an outgoing personality, wide smile, and manners that would make any mother proud, Kevin Olusola is a young man of many abilities—yet it is his remarkable musical talent that truly sets him apart.

The son of a psychiatrist from Nigeria and a nurse from the Caribbean Island of Grenada, Olusola was raised in a family with strong Christian values. He began playing the piano at age 4, the cello at 6, and the saxophone at 10. He excelled at all three. The summer before eighth grade, Olusola was selected to join some of the nation’s best high school and college wind instrumentalists as a member of the United States Wind Collegiate Band. At just 12 years old, he toured Europe with the band as their principal saxophonist.

After exhausting all academic and musical opportunities offered at his Owensboro, Ky., high school, Olusola came to Andover as an upper. He remembers how his new PA classmates all seemed “so brilliant, hardworking, and organized.” After faring poorly on several early tests, he received encouragement from fellow students who shared their stories of first-term struggles. His grades steadily improved, and he became an honor roll student. Last year Olusola was selected from a field of 7,000 applicants as one of 80 semifinalists for the prestigious Ron Brown Scholar Program for the most academically talented African American high school seniors.

It’s no surprise that music instructor William Thomas, a fellow cellist from Kentucky, was Olusola’s most influential mentor and advisor. “He opened my ears to classical music,” says Olusola, “and encouraged me to tutor and perform with Project STEP, a program at the New England Conservatory that helps students of color get intensely involved with classical music. It was a tremendous experience.”

An African Latino American Society (Af-Lat-Am) mentor and a member of the World Language Council for Spanish, Olusola is probably best known to other PA students as the frenetically innovative beatboxer for the Yorkies, Andover’s *a cappella* group. More typically associated with hip-hop music, beatboxers create an array of beats, rhythms, melodies, and sound effects using the mouth.

The eldest of five children, Olusola is attending Yale University and majoring in music theory/composition and biochemistry. He hopes to become a physician, as well as an advocate for saving music programs in beleaguered U.S. public schools.—JC
JACQUELINE PRICE

The third of four children, Jackie Price, a tousled blonde with energy to spare, had lived with her family in Tulsa, Okla., for most of her life. But after two years at a small private high school, things seemed just a little too comfortable. She applied to Andover for admission as an 11th-grader.

“I arrived on campus early, tried out for the varsity volleyball team, and was in with a group of potential friends right away,” she recalls. “Clyfe Beckwith, one of the first teachers I met at PA, was a fantastic volleyball coach. He was enthusiastic about every game and worked us hard to prepare, but he also understood the importance of taking a break in practice to play some fun games or even taking a day off to rest.”

A standout competitor in volleyball, basketball, and crew, athletics were a major part of Price’s Andover experience and resulted in many awards, including the MVP Volleyball Award and the Robert L. Wurster Basketball Trophy, awarded to a senior member of the girls’ varsity basketball team who contributed the most to the sport through sportsmanship, endeavor, and ability. But Price’s number-one priority was always academics, and she soon discovered her most difficult classes were often the most rewarding.

“I used to dread writing papers,” she says, “but Ms. Tousignant, who taught my upper English class, was incredibly helpful and encouraging. My writing improved tremendously in just a few months.” To augment classroom learning, Price made it a point to attend the many guest-speaker and guest-artist events on campus.

As a proctor in Paul Revere her senior year, one of her roles was to help the younger girls adjust socially to their new life away from home. “With so many students at Andover, it’s not hard to find friends,” she says, adding, “It’s always exciting to meet kids whose backgrounds are very different from your own.” As a senior leader, Price and others came up with ideas for the Class of 2006 gift. “Then we basically heckled our classmates to donate,” she says with a laugh.

Price worked as a nanny in New York City for much of the summer before heading to Columbia University, where she is likely to major in engineering or economics. Prior experience in Tulsa in a youth-run juvenile court for kids with minor misdemeanor offenses has Price contemplating law school in the future. —JC
Marysia Blackwood

In the Academy directory she was listed as Maria Blackwood, but, she says, she prefers the Polish diminutive: Marysia. And why not? Blackwood is bicultural and binational.

She has crossed the Atlantic numerous times, beginning at age 5 when she made the trip from Poland, the country of her mother's birth, all by herself. "Eight years after my first solitary trip, the idea of flying unparented across the Atlantic seemed routine," she wrote in an essay. "My entire life has been a segue between two cultures."

Blackwood's attachment to Poland is deep-seated. She attended preschool for two years outside Poznan and spent her eighth-grade year in Krakow. On the other hand—and the other side of the ocean—she calls New Haven, Conn., home. That's where she received her primary school education and is now continuing her studies. "I'm going to Yale because I love living in New Haven," she says.

Blackwood was born when her historian father, a native of Atlanta, and her mother, who teaches comparative literature and film studies at Stony Brook University in New York, were still graduate students at Yale. While her parents researched their dissertations in Prague, Moscow, and Paris a few years later, Blackwood stayed with her grandparents in Poland.

Given her background, it comes as little surprise Blackwood speaks both Polish and English, but the Andover honor student is also fluent in French and German.

When she was unable to get into International Relations, her first-choice elective, it turned out to be a good thing, she says. Blackwood tackled economics instead, was considered a superstar in the class, and now wants to make economics her career. Writing is another passion. She wrote for the Phillipian; was on the editorial board of the Courant, Andover's student literary arts magazine; and was editor-in-chief of Backtracks, another student publication, this one detailing trends in the creative arts.

Blackwood's love of words dates back to her youth in Poland. A precocious child intellectually, her earliest memory is her frustration, as a toddler, at not being able to read or write. She overcame that challenge soon enough. "I wrote my first book when I was 3," she says, "about an Indian princess who was kidnapped by evil British soldiers. Illustrated by Marysia."

Before starting at Yale, Blackwood spent the summer at her family's country home in Wylatkowo, Poland. "I've been going there my whole life," she says. "I adore it." —PT
When his hockey coach suggested he consider attending Phillips Academy because of its up-and-coming hockey program and superior academics, Tom Dignard took the advice to heart. A hockey fanatic since the age of 4, Dignard even played on a team that won the Quebec International Pee-Wee Hockey Tournament, the largest minor league hockey tournament in the world. When four of his hockey friends were accepted at PA, Dignard became even more convinced that Andover was the place to be.

Despite arriving on campus with a ready-made group of buddies, Dignard, who commuted to school from his home in Reading, Mass., found what many day students find—integrating yourself into campus life is a little difficult when you're not living in a dorm. It took until the fall of his lower year, Dignard remembers, before he really felt like he belonged. “Being in sports helped a lot,” he says. “The community got smaller as I got to know more people through hockey and baseball. As a junior, I used to just go home right after sports practice. But in my lower year, I stayed on campus later into the evening and came back on weekends.”

As a senior, Dignard was not only elected captain of his baseball team, he also won two sports awards—the Sumner Smith Hockey Award, which honors sportsmanship, endeavor, and ability, and the Raymond T. Tippett Memorial Award, which is presented to a senior member of the varsity football or baseball team for his loyalty, courage, and modesty. At commencement he also received one of the Class of ’06’s five major prizes—the Yale Bowl, given to the student who has attained the highest proficiency in scholarship and athletics.

Although math, economics, and physics were his favorite subjects at Andover, he credits English instructors Greg Wilkin and Jon Stableford ’63 with being two of his most influential teachers; they helped him gain mastery over one of his weakest subjects. “I was a terrible writer,” he admits with a grimace. “They each helped me improve my writing skills and made me feel more confident about speaking up in class. And they did it without making me feel awkward.”

As Dignard moves on to Yale University, where he'll pursue studies in math and economics and, of course, continue his hockey career, he'll no doubt value his improved writing skills—as well as the lessons in perseverance he picked up along the way. —SP
LYNETTE LEE

Growing up, Lynette Lee led a seemingly cosmopolitan existence, attending elementary school in Hong Kong, where her parents live, and then middle school in Toronto, where her brother lives. But though she shuttled regularly between Eastern and Western cultures, she remembers her childhood largely as a sheltered one, “pleasantly uneventful and filled with movies, shopping, and having friends over,” she says.

Feeling the need for something more, Lee applied to Andover. It was only after she was accepted, however, that she realized what she hoped to find in this small-town community that contrasted so sharply with the bustling cities of her younger days. “I wanted to become an independent person and to learn—not from textbooks—but from my peers, my teachers, and ultimately my own experiences,” she says.

Her first trimester was a tense one as she adjusted to her new environment and worried about making friends, but she soon bonded with the other girls in her dorm, many of whom were from countries such as Korea, Poland, and Kazakhstan. Her friends became more than just part of her social network, they became a critical part of her education.

“The thing I love about Andover is its diversity,” she says. “My friends are so open and willing to talk about their culture and religion. After living with them, their countries became more than just places on a map for me.”

Throughout her four years at Andover, Lee actively sought out new experiences. She served as principal flutist in the chamber orchestra, co-editor of the Courant, a proctor, a peer tutor, a track team manager, and co-founder of the badminton club. She has participated in numerous community service projects and spent a summer helping build schools in rural China. Meanwhile, she made the honor roll each year and earned various academic and music prizes.

Her years at Andover, says Lee, helped her learn to think for herself, develop confidence as a leader, and appreciate the importance of giving back to others. But most of all, they allowed her to take risks she might never have taken at home. “When I get to Harvard,” she says, in a soft-spoken voice that belies the depth of her ambitions, “I plan to join every club and give myself as many opportunities to meet as many different people as possible.” —SP
If you have ever logged onto one of those computer games in which you are tasked with developing a new city, society, or civilization, playing the game might have felt a bit like playing God. The choices you make—Where will people live? Where will they work? How will they move about?—are decisions communities normally make organically over the passage of generations.

But suppose you had a chance to play such a game for real? And suppose the...
structure that evolved from your mental meanderings might actually set
the stage for a new country, enhance the lives of the people who would
live there, and maximize the world’s impetus for achieving peace in a
troubled area?

That was the challenge facing Doug Suisman ’72 when what began as an
intellectual exercise morphed into a potential blueprint for the infrastructure
of an independent, peacetime Palestine.

Suisman, who developed an interest in the built world in Andover’s basic
visual studies course, recalls creating a small city in Plexiglas under the tutelage
of PA art teacher John McMurray. As a young graduate of Yale and Columbia
University’s school of architecture, Suisman shaped little chunks of society: a loft
apartment, a contemporary house, a chain of cookie stores in New York. Later,
after moving to the West Coast and expanding his career to embrace urban
design and teaching, he put his fingerprint on more wide-reaching projects: an
international award-winning redesign for Peachtree Street in Atlanta, the
master plan for the Los Angeles Civic Center, and the Metro Rapid Bus System
in Los Angeles. He even wrote Los Angeles Boulevard, a seminal monograph on
fitting together the various pieces of an urban environment.

But masterminding a country was not on Suisman’s agenda when he
and his wife, Moye Thompson, strapped their children, Claire, then 4, and
Teddy, 2, into the family car for a 2003 neighborhood barbecue near their
home in Santa Monica, Calif. Their hostess, Ann Kerr, had a longtime
interest in the Middle East, and the only other guests were a family with
three young daughters.

As their children joined in play, the other girls’ dad told Suisman he was
associated with the RAND Corporation, a nearby think tank. Suisman said he
was the principal of Suisman Urban Design, involved with public space and
transit systems in Los Angeles.

“You might be just the person I’m looking for,” the fellow barbecuer said.

Soon, Suisman had taken on what he calls “the project of a lifetime.”

A DATE WITH DESTINY

At first, the request sounded like a bad joke. With $1 million in funding from
philanthropists David and Carol Richards, the RAND Corporation had a
year’s head start in ideating a new Palestinian society. Setting aside the ques-
tion of how peace would be achieved between Palestinians and Israelis, ana-
lysts concentrated instead on how life would be lived in the event of a
two-state solution to the longtime conflict. In the process of producing a 452-page book called *Building a Successful Palestinian State*, RAND was positing scenarios for economic development, justice, internal security, health-care delivery, and education. In response, real estate developer Guilford Glazier had come forward with an additional $1 million contribution, asking RAND to develop ideas for building housing to accommodate the expected influx of returning refugees to the new state.

After the chance meeting in Kerr’s backyard, Suisman got a call from RAND principal investigator Steven Simon, who asked him to spearhead its infrastructure study. Complicating the challenge was the fact that Suisman was being invited not only to create the physical form for a state that had never existed but also to account for the proposed return of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians who had emigrated to other parts of the world during the diaspora that began in 1948. With one of the highest fertility and birth rates in the world, analysts believe the population of the region, about twice the size of Connecticut, could double to 6.6 million by 2020. What’s more, Suisman, son of Michael Suisman ’47, was raised in a Jewish household in Connecticut and had visited Israel just once in his youth. His knowledge of Palestinian affairs was sketchy. On top of that, the budget was tight, and the timetable allowed for six weeks of preparation.

“Six weeks!” Suisman recalls. “I nearly fell over laughing, then I started telling [Simon] all the things I could not do in that much time: I could not do much research, I could not give them a plan. About the most I could do was outline a few steps they might consider taking toward a solution. He said, ‘That’s fine. Send me an e-mail and we’re good to go.’”

**ARCHITECTING THE ARC**

As it turned out, six weeks was enough. Referred to by the *New York Times* as a “political naïf,” Suisman may actually have been buoyed by his relative ingenuousness. Planners well-versed in the region had long been bogged down in its patchwork quilt of political boundaries, daunted by its volatility and violence, disheartened by its crumbling infrastructure, and defeated by myriad details that obscured the big picture. Glazier, like most of those who dared think about a post-conflict Palestinian state, envisioned the construction of a megacity that would absorb some three million people.

But Suisman, bringing a fresh and idealistic view to the process, was loath to concentrate all the resources of a new nation in one metropolis. It was, he feared, a recipe for creating the world’s highest-density housing and worst urban sprawl. What’s more, his training as an urban designer convinced him that “new cities” like Washington, D.C., and Canberra, Australia, take decades or more to develop an urban culture and vitality. He had set to work on other possibilities, such as the development of three primary metropolitan areas or a “scattering” of smaller cities, when a defining metaphor jumped out at him.
Highlighting on a map all the cities of historical and political significance in the West Bank, he noticed most of them fell along a 70-mile arc that followed the curve of mountain ridges from Jenin in the north to Hebron in the south. With that realization in view, it was a matter of merely “connecting the dots,” the New York Times later said. Another flick of the wrist and Suisman had what he calls a “simple brush stroke” connecting the ribbon of cities with the Gaza Strip, making for a curved line 140 miles long. By linking and enlarging the region’s most culturally vital urban areas, rather than erecting a new city or cities, Suisman reasoned, planners could create a sustainable society that built upon the past while also shaping communities more manageable in scale.

A RAINBOW OF OPPORTUNITY

That primitive metaphor Suisman had stumbled upon opened the door for the development of a powerful set of recommendations that has riveted the attention of world leaders and won Suisman two distinguished architecture awards. On October 27, 2005, the Los Angeles chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) celebrated The Arc: A Formal Structure for a Palestinian State with an Honor Award—its highest design distinction. In making the selection, the AIA jury praised the document for “the simplicity of its diagram and its depth of research” and added that “the project integrates complex systems in an unprecedented and breathtaking way.” Then, in January 2006, Suisman’s study received a second Honor Award, this time from the national American Institute of Architects, which called the project “a clear and compelling framework plan...conveyed with extraordinary sensitivity” as well as “a visionary plan built on a logical approach to infrastructure, creating immeasurable hope for a displaced people and nation.” In that same month, Architecture magazine also awarded the project a prestigious Progressive Architecture Award for unbuilt work.

As described in the RAND publication The Arc, Suisman’s dream—expected to cost about $33 billion over 10 years—is to set aside a curving swath of public land 140 miles long, varying in width from several hundred feet to perhaps half a mile. The territory’s fundamental feature would be a
high-speed train linking the cities of the West Bank, then continuing on to an international airport and seaport at Gaza. Beyond transportation, the reserved land could be equipped with an aqueduct, conduits for electricity and natural gas, and fiber-optic telecommunications lines connecting Palestine’s major cities and towns. It could accommodate environment awareness stations, renewable energy facilities, scenic vistas, parks, gardens, olive groves, nature preserves, and hiking, horse, and bike trails.

To preserve the historic hearts of the cities along the arc’s path, avoid disruption, and preserve archaeological treasures, the railway stations would not be placed in downtown locations but would be situated some eight to 25 kilometers away, connected by local rapid-bus lines. From the stations to the historic city centers would extend grand boulevards, with side roads off the boulevards providing natural areas for housing, mosques, parks, cultural facilities, and commercial development, creating huge numbers of jobs within easy walking distance to the transit system.

By distributing population growth and development over a wider area, as opposed to creating a single metropolis, Suisman believes the new nation could achieve an urban density of about 35,000 people per square mile, comparable to that of Brooklyn, N.Y. Suisman says that density is typical of historic Arab cities and is considered ideal for creating sustainable communities in urban areas, particularly where single-family residences are not the rule and individual auto ownership is not a defining feature of the culture.

Key factors in Suisman’s vision for the arc, he says, include recognition of the importance of the cities’ heritage and of their potential to support a bustling tourist economy capitalizing on the region’s beauty and historic destinations that include Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Nablus, and Jericho. He also insists that what is built must be ecologically sustainable and have the potential to contribute to the region’s long-range prosperity. Finally, Suisman voices a determination that the architecture must be not just serviceable but symbolically inspirational.

“Whatever is built,” he says, “has to embody a powerful, uplifting iconography symbolizing Palestinian aspirations for their own autonomy and independence.”
LAUNCHING THE ARC

Before releasing The Arc publicly at an April 2005 press conference, the RAND Corporation took care to share its recommendations with major stakeholders.

“Le didn’t want to blindside anyone,” says Suisman, who made six trips to the Middle East within nine months to brief Israeli and Palestinian leaders, in addition to meeting with representatives of the White House, the European Union, and the World Bank. In all quarters, he says, the work was received with “great interest and respect.”

To be certain, there was a broad range of responses, including, at the most extreme ends, those Israelis who remained skeptical of any plan for Palestinian independence and those Palestinians who felt that by concentrating their population in the central part of the country The Arc would leave the borders more vulnerable to Israeli incursion.

That’s all fine with Suisman, who notes that RAND did not intend the document to be a hard-and-firm plan, but a series of possibilities to think about, refine, and develop.

“It’s not necessarily a precise blueprint for action, but a starting point for discussion,” he says, adding that the most common response from Palestinians was “This gives me hope.”

Indeed, after hearing Suisman’s presentation, Palestinian deputy finance minister Jihad al-Wazir had tears in his eyes, the New York Times reported. Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas formed a panel of ministers to study the recommendations in the hope of incorporating some aspects of them into national policy.

Meanwhile, the RAND Corporation has taken the unusual step of committing itself to finding new funding to continue developing the arc concept and providing technical support to the Palestinians for as long as they are interested in receiving it. Indeed, some RAND board members have already written personal checks in support of the effort.

Of course, the election of the new Hamas regime in the interim has cast the outcome of the report in doubt, but Hamas has expressed an interest in learning more about The Arc, and it is widely speculated that having in view a workable plan for an independent Palestinian state will provide an incentive to future peace efforts.

No matter what happens, Suisman is pleased that people are reading the document with interest. “It has already had considerable influence on how people think about the conflict and its potential resolution,” he says.

A freelance writer from Melrose, Mass., Theresa Pease served as editor of the Andover Bulletin for 12 years.
The unusually persistent spring rain that fell through much of Reunion Weekend created an assortment of puddles but failed to dampen the spirits of the more than 1,500 alumni who returned to Andover to catch up with old friends and meet a few new ones. While much of the tradition, fun, and fanfare is captured on these pages, dozens of additional reunion photos can be viewed in the Multimedia Gallery at www.andover.edu.

Forgetting meetings and minutes momentarily, Oscar Tang ’56, president of the Board of Trustees, focuses on making 50th Reunion merriment and memories. Pictured from left are Argie and Oscar Tang with Oscar’s daughter Dana Tang Darrell, son-in-law Andy Darrell ’81 (celebrating his 25th Reunion), and grandchildren Una (center) and Kai Darrell.

Sydney Henriquez Glover ’56, left, and Trustee Emerita Betsy Parker Powell ’56 share a laugh about some schoolgirl memories with a cutout of Mary Crane, Abbot Academy principal from 1955 to 1966.

Members of the Class of 1956 enjoyed a special Saturday afternoon panel discussion titled “Cityscapes: What’s that Language I’m Hearing?” in Samuel Phillips Hall.
Fifth Reunion attendees Desirae Simmons and Navroze Godrej pause for a moment following a luncheon in the Underwood Room hosted by Head of School Barbara Chase.

Visiting Scholar in Physics John Briggs ’77 shares the history of Abbot Academy’s antique telescope with 50th Reunion celebrants, left to right, Jane Sweetser Ferguson, Susan Wickham Maire, and Gail Turner Arcari. Formerly installed in Abbot Hall, the telescope is now owned by Briggs.

Nancy Parker, wife of Ed Parker ’56, shares photos of her husband’s younger years with Elaine and Jesse Barbour ’56. The 50th Reunion marked the first time that Jesse had set foot on the Andover campus since June 1956.

It’s a family affair as Charter Trustee Mollie Lasater and husband Garland Lasater (near center) both celebrate their 50th Reunions. They are joined by (at left) son Bo ’86, his wife, Kathryn, and their daughter Lucy; as well as niece Elizabeth Lasater ’01 (back row); nephew Kam Lasater ’99; and Liz Johnson ’96 and her fiancé, Miles Lasater ’96, the Lasaters’ nephew.
Peter Andel '56 is back on campus to celebrate his 50th Reunion while daughter Cindy Andel Dolan '81 returns for her 25th.

Trustee Emeritus Rick Beinecke '62 and son Ben '02 were among the hundreds who attended the Memorial Bell Tower Rededication on Saturday morning. The Beinecke family helped fund the tower’s renovation.

Sarah Sherman '04 and father Bill Sherman '60 pause for a chat with Yardley Chittick '18 before the Memorial Bell Tower Rededication ceremony. All were contributors to the tower’s reconstruction.

Kevin Erdman ’81 and his father, Don Erdman ’56, enjoy their respective 25th and 50th Reunion festivities.

“Life on the Hill Today,” a moderated PA student panel sponsored by the Classes of 1976 and 1981, featured the opinions and observations of sons and daughters of ’81 alumni.

Harry Chandler ’71 and daughter Margot Chandler ’00 returned to campus not only to see old friends but to honor the memory of Harry’s father and Margot’s grandfather, Otis Chandler ’46, who generously supported the Memorial Bell Tower renovation project before his death in February 2006.
Rainy Day Funds

Wet weather failed to dampen the spirits of the more than 300 family members who attended Phillips Academy’s Grandparents’ Day 2006, held May 13. This year’s special day, honoring the grandparents of current students, drew the highest attendance for the event in recent Andover history. Continuing with that same theme, Grandparent Fund Co-Chairs John and Barbara Robinson (Lily ’08) presented Head of School Barbara Landis Chase with a check for $129,205, the largest gift ever from the fund.

On Commencement Weekend, the Senior Parent Fund Non Sibi Luncheon also was rained on, forcing relocation from the Phelps House gardens to Commons. Regardless, parents, grandparents, faculty, and staff gathered to enjoy a picnic lunch and celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2006 and the Senior Parent Fund. The fund’s able and enthusiastic leadership team presented the Academy with a check for $322,412, a total that had increased to $335,759 as of press time.

Above: pictured, from left, are Senior Parent Fund Non Sibi Luncheon attendees Gene and Joan Hill, Head of School Barbara Landis Chase, Harry and Susan Neuwirth, Kathy and Tak Takvorian ’66, and Jaymie and Steven Ho ’74.

Left: Co-chair of the Annual Giving Board Claudia Arrigg Koh ’67, Head of School Barbara Landis Chase, and President of the Board of Trustees Oscar Tang ’56 accept the Class of 1981’s record-breaking 25th reunion gift of $1,659,897 from Reunion Gift Committee members Jack Liebau and Grace Curley.
Non Sibi Association Update

After a quarter-century without change Phillips Academy has announced an increase in the minimum gift required for membership in the Non Sibi Association. As of July 1, 2006, the minimum gift requirement is $1,778. Membership is available to alumni who have celebrated their 10th reunion, as well as non-alumni (parents, grandparents, widows, friends, etc.). The intent of the increase is to boost contributions to the Andover Fund, which provides 9 to 10 percent of the annual operating budget, which of course increases each year. It takes about $2,230 in today’s dollars to buy what $1,000 bought in 1981, thus Non Sibi membership remains a bargain!

“Queen of Reunions” Calls It a Career

After 16 years of service to Phillips Academy, Pat Gerety, the soul of reunions and the head and hands of Alumni Council, retired in August as assistant director of alumni affairs for classes and reunions. She began at Andover as an assistant to the secretary of the academy and has since handled just about every job in the Office of Alumni Affairs, including editing class notes, organizing regional events, and assisting with reunions. Energetic and always willing to fill a need, Gerety also worked with Friends of Andover Athletics (FOAA) and Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Alumni (GLABA), and assisted with Leaders’ Weekend, Parents’ Weekend, Grandparents’ Weekend, and commencement. Her honorary title, Queen of Reunions, was bestowed during Reunion Weekend in June, and she was officially crowned (above) at the Annual Meeting of the Alumni Association by Head of School Barbara Landis Chase with President of the Board of Trustees Oscar Tang ’56 looking on with approval.
AndoverAgain Offers Courses for Alumni This Fall

AndoverAgain, an online enrichment program beginning its third term in October, will offer instruction in everything from music, philosophy, and literature, to science, data searching, and more.

The courses—taught by current faculty, faculty emeriti, and alumni of Phillips Academy—do not meet in the conventional sense. All of the activity—assignments, discussion, and commentary—takes place in the course forum on the World Wide Web. Participants come and go as their schedules permit, responsible only for keeping up with the flow of the course and making comments in the forums. More than 120 alumni of Phillips and Abbot academies participated in the first two terms of this program.

The 2006 edition of AndoverAgain, made possible by a generous gift from Jana Paley ’81, also will feature an open forum on public affairs moderated by emeritus history instructor Thomas T. Lyons.

For more information about AndoverAgain or to enroll in the courses or the public affairs forum, visit the enrichment program’s Web site at http://andoveragain.com.

LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE DINNER

Alumni Trustee Louis Elson ’80 hosted Phillips Academy’s first international Leadership Initiative, which included a dinner at his London home, on May 16. Part of a series, this event focused on the school’s endowment. The evening’s presenters were Andover’s Chief Financial Officer Steve Carter and Chief Investment Officer Amy Falls ’82. London’s May 2007 Leadership Initiative is to feature a presentation by Dean of Faculty Temba Maqubela on the Academy’s Strategic Plan, with a focus on new programs targeting “uneven preparation.”

Upcoming Alumni Events

For more information regarding events listed here or to R.S.V.P., please go to www.andover.edu/bluelink and click on “Events Calendar” or phone Judy Turgeon in the Office of Alumni Affairs at 978-749-4291.

Andover-Exeter Football Game
Saturday, November 11, 2006
1 p.m. Kickoff

Postgame Reception in Ropes Salon, Commons
Hosted by Andover Abbot Association of New England
The football game will be broadcast by streaming video, available on any computer with high-speed Internet access. A link will be posted at www.andover.edu. Andover-Exeter parties are expected in New York City, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, and Austin, Texas.

Andover Abbot Association of New York

Holiday Reception
Monday, December 4, 2006
6–8 p.m.

SPECIAL GUEST:
Head of School Barbara Landis Chase

PRINCETON CLUB OF NEW YORK
15 West 43rd St.
New York City
Andover alumni realize there is much more to a successful life than simply finding a job, and that moving ahead is often all about making good choices from the start of any venture—professional or otherwise.

By sharing experiences, skills, and expertise with one another, fellow alumni/ae might find their paths to success just a bit smoother. Consider joining the PA Mentoring Program today, because the end truly does depend on the beginning.
A Life Lived Fully
Ends Too Soon

Longtime and highly respected Phillips Academy faculty member Craig Thorn IV died Monday, June 12, 2006, after a two-and-a-half-year battle with cancer. He was 47.

Little more than a week earlier, at Andover’s commencement exercises, Head of School Barbara Landis Chase spoke of Thorn to the Class of 2006: “I have never known another human being with Craig’s capacity for work. He taught many of you to love literature, to write and edit. He barbequed with you at football games and in the front yard of Thompson House, the dorm where four of you have lived with Craig and his family. He is a talented and prolific writer and editor in his own right. Through all this, he has taught us that hard work, done well, done joyfully, lifts us out of ourselves. It takes us away from our own cares and burdens. It transports us to a new landscape, where fresh intellectual and human insights illuminate our lives with a stunning clarity. For teaching us all this, for being the person he is, we love this man.”

Craig Thorn’s obituary can be found on Page 90.