In reading the featured profiles in this issue of The Elm Tree, I take exceptional pride in knowing that each could include the following subheading: “Demonstrating once again that the mission of Lawrence Academy continues to come alive in the pursuits of our students and our graduates!”

Guided by its mission, Lawrence Academy seeks to imbue its students with the creativity and passion necessary to define their own goals and the resourcefulness and discipline necessary to achieve those goals. The first 20 words of Lawrence Academy’s mission statement capture succinctly what the entrepreneurs—social and economic—whose achievements are chronicled in this Elm Tree are doing with their lives: “Lawrence Academy recognizes you for who you are and inspires you to take responsibility for who you want to become.”

The promise and the objective that underpin the school’s mission are for all students to take stock of where they are every day, to envision a future, and to plan the steps necessary to realize that vision. Guided by passion, constructive risk-taking, and adults who inspire and encourage them, LA students are invited to reinvent themselves each day throughout their LA careers. And from the time they arrive here until they graduate and step into the world beyond LA, they get practice and support aplenty.

From their earliest days in the Ninth Grade Program, our students come up against a learning paradigm that requires them to break out of a mold that has shaped many of them to believe that success comes from regurgitating the information and opinions coming from their teachers. How frustrating it must be, at first, for many LA ninth graders to be asked by a teacher, “So what do you think?” In response, no doubt many think to themselves, “Oh, come on—just tell me what you want to hear, and I’ll say it.” But that is decidedly not what we want from our ninth graders. We really do want to know what they think, and we want to help them to become increasingly more sophisticated, independent, and creative thinkers and problem-solvers.

In reflecting upon his education, Todd Marcus ’85, who was born in Malden and grew up in Ashland, says that he has learned most from the School of Hard Knocks. As with most clichés, however, this observation falls desperately short in accounting for the adventures that have shaped him into the successful entrepreneur he is today as the owner and operator of Cape Cod Beer.

For example, he did not learn in any classroom about the derivation of “porter” as it is used in naming a beer. At a moment’s notice, however, Todd, like a soft-spoken docent, explains matter-of-factly that a dark, chocolatey brew was originally the drink of the common man of East London, dockworkers who were called porters. You can learn about Prohibition in U.S. History class, but, odds are, not about the recipe for “small beer”—written in a diary in 1754 by George Washington—that now resides at the New York Public Library.

When asked to name his most inspiring teachers, Todd instead names adults with whom as a teenager he enjoyed long and interesting discussions—outside of class, which makes sense once you understand that much of his education has taken place within the structure of the work environment, not at school. His favorite teacher has been his work. Like all entrepreneurs and autodidacts, Todd is driven by his passions.

When Tim Armstrong ’89 was still a senior VP at Google, business reporters referred to him as a tall guy on a lot of short lists. In March 2009, he came off all of those lists to become chairman and CEO of AOL, LLC, Time Warner Inc., and he began work there the next month. In this photograph, Tim (the tall guy just below the left leg of the “A”) was joined above the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on December 10, 2009, by 15 of his new colleagues. The occasion of his ringing the opening bell was to announce AOL’s official spin-off from Time Warner Inc. By one report, the Web brands and services of AOL, once known as America Online, reach 107 million unique visitors each month. Look for an article about Tim in the fall 2010 issue of The Academy Journal.
various stories and experiences they had collected and
Exploring the fascinating concept of dreams, each
original musical.

(a technical director), decided to create and perform an
a partnership with Joel Sugerman (theatre director),
most ambitious project. Two dozen students, forming
the winter months as the students who auditioned

prompts you to comment on your time at Lawrence Academy (or your child’s) or on how we can more effectively tell this
school’s stories and communicate with you. I hope you will jump into the conversation. Rest assured, we are listening.

To the editor:
The fall 2009 issue of The Academy Journal is the best school publication to arrive at our home in a long time.
The lead article about Bigelow Hall, covering the most recent renovation as well as the colorful history of this dormitory
dating back to 1863, reminds us all of Lawrence Academy’s role in the lives of so many alumni. Mr. Johnson’s article about
the Boston sports world and Lawrence Academy’s part in that rich history delighted us. The tribute to self-directed
learning—from the Ninth Grade Program to the Independent Immersion Program—amplifies Lawrence’s commitment to
individual development.

These articles and others lead us gracefully to numerous sketches about the 21st century at Lawrence that enlighten and
inspire us. Congratulations to all who make the Journal possible. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,
A Stone

Note: Al Stone, a former president of Lawrence Academy’s board of trustees, is also father of Karen Stone ’74 and David Stone ’76, who currently sits on the board.

In the following letter, edited for length, George “Gib” Coleworthy ’61 responds to the article titled “Living in Bigelow Hall, 1954–1956,” which appeared in the 2009 issue of The Academy Journal. Mr. Coleworthy lived in Bigelow Hall for his sophomore and junior years. Reproduced here is a sample of the memories included in the letter we received.

To the editor:
… My first year at Lawrence, as a sophomore, I was on the first floor of Bigelow House with two roommates, John Houlihan and the Spaulding Scholar, Malcolm Fraser (all of us were sophomores). Across the hall were Jim Garry, my hockey line mate, and Ken Penna, my football tackle buddy, who were a junior and senior, respectively; The dorm masters were Mr. Whipple and Mr. Godfrey, and, as I remember, we did everything possible to make sure Bigelow was always the
topic of conversation, whether it be [for our] trying to escape after lights-out or launching water balloons from the third
door with lacrosse sticks at Townies passing through campus.

… My junior year (1960), I returned to Bigelow Hall and resided in the famous lower portion of the hall referred to as
“The Caves.” My roommate, Clive Wilson, was probably my best friend at Lawrence Academy. He would have been the
best man in my wedding except [that] he was killed in a car accident shortly after graduating from college. A good man
who is surely missed.

There are too many good stories to tell about our time in “The Caves,” but Gilbert Stearns, who was across the hall, wrote
in my 1960 yearbook about the year we spent together and all the crazy things we did, like convincing Mr. Scozzafava to let
us use his antique car for trips into Boston for all sorts of fun times. Never got caught, and, thanks to the Sozzymobile, we
survived the year.

… I truly had a wonderful experience at Lawrence Academy, both scholastically and athletically, and if it were not for some of

But the best times at Lawrence Academy were in Bigelow Hall, and especially in “The Caves.” I think you might have
missed an important chapter of Bigelow Hall by not including “Living in Bigelow Hall, 1959–1961.”

… Thanks for reading the ramblings of a Lawrence Academy graduate, Class of 1961.

George “Gib” Coleworthy

First Word, cont.

One of the most recent examples of the entrepreneurial spirit bringing LA’s mission alive played itself out over
the winter months as the students who auditioned successfully for the winter musical worked to complete
a most ambitious project. Two dozen students, forming a partnership with Joel Sugarman (theatre director),
Brian Feigenbaum (choir director), and Ben Oldham (technical director), decided to create and perform an
original musical.

Exploring the fascinating concept of dreams, each
member of the cast recorded interviews with students, faculty, and administrators about dreams that were special
and significant to them. The team then sifted through the various stories and experiences they had collected and
began, together, to form the backbone of a story, adding dialogue and music along the way. The final product was
extraordinary and far more meaningful to me by virtue of the fact that it was a truly homegrown production. In a
very concrete sense, the participants in this production were inspired to take responsibility for what they wanted
it to become. To see the school’s mission come alive in such an obvious way is extremely affirming, and we have
the faculty to thank, once again, for fostering such an entrepreneurial spirit.

In this issue of The Elm Tree, I invite you to read about
how that same spirit drives alumni Todd Marcus ’85
and current students Kelly and Anna Banker ’11. You
will learn what alumni recipients of the Greater Good
Award, beginning with Ken Ansin ’83, have done since
winning the award; how other alumni are finding ways
at home or at work to make our planet a little greener
tomorrow than it is today; and what services some of
our seniors have performed for their communities.

I hope that you share the excitement and pride that I
feel in how LA has served and continues to serve as an
incubator for entrepreneurs of all kinds who are making
a positive difference in the world in which we live. Indeed, many of you are making such contributions yourselves,
and I salute all of you on behalf of Lawrence Academy.
We are very proud of you!

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— AJB
Adventures in Education

In the late 1970s, when faced with changes in the local public schools that they did not welcome, T odd’s parents began looking for something better for their only child—something that would allow him to “make something of himself,” he says. This search ended with success when Todd landed a place at T af School in Connecticut. Or so the family had thought.

To the detriment of his academic performance, Todd decided to do what many college freshmen do once out of the nest, and the results did not make his parents happy. “I was exposed too quickly to too many opportunities, and I took advantage of as many of them as I possibly could,” he says a bit sheepishly. While there, however, he did enjoy time spent in photography, theatre, and sports. “Nothing against T af,” he says now. “It was just not a good fit for me.”

The second round of searching involved looking inward by the self-described introverted kid who liked to tink er and who took his hobbies seriously.

At Lawrence Academy, Todd found a different atmosphere and a different kind of people, he says, which made him feel much more comfortable at his new school. He repeated his sophomore year, and, when he graduated in 1985 one year older than many of his classmates and more independent than most high school seniors, he already had a job.

“Attending Lawrence Academy turned out to be an extraordinary opportunity for me, particularly because of Doc [Richardson] and the LA II program,” Todd says. The decision to spend senior year studying electronic music with Peter Harzard and designing and building a synthesizer from scratch was driven by his own desire for independence and his interests.

Now called the Independent Immersion Program, LA II fostered the self-directed learning that allowed Todd to study at the Berklee College of Music; to help build a synthesizer from scratch was driven by his own desire for autonomy and his interests.

After taking a year off from school, Todd understood enough about himself to know that the cooperative learning program at Northeastern University suited him better, and, as he continued working for Lexicon, he scheduled classes around work so that he could earn his bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering. “I was able to finish my education at NU by treating it like another job,” he says. When he became a very young component engineer and a project manager at Lexicon (Mr. Yeager’s position when Todd was first hired), he took measures to appear professional (shirt and tie) and more responsible (first to arrive, last to leave).

The future entrepreneur went on to work at two start-ups. At Aspect Medical, Todd helped to develop an instrument that monitors brainwaves to determine the extent to which patients are “under” the effects of anesthesia. At Spacetch IMC, he and others were immersed in developing a 3-D input device for computer-aided drafting and design (CADD) and for the gaming industry, when Doom was being introduced. Todd and at least one Spacetch officemate were drawn by the aromas wafting from the end of the office building, where Mill City Brewing was located.

It’s About the Craft

As early as in the mid-1980s, Todd and colleagues at Lexicon had begun experimenting with brewing in his kitchen. His place in South Natick had a wall lined with carboys of home-brewed beer. It had started like other kitchens of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson.

So when Todd and a co-worker at Spacetch were invited to a brewers-only dinner at Red Bones, in Somerville, he had been making his home-brewed concoctions for more than a few years already. As it turned out, he needed only to hear the call, and it came at Red Bones: “I walked down the stairs and turned into a room full of mostly guys—ponytails, beards, smoking cigars, and drinking barley wine and strong ales—and I had this instant epiphany. I had found my people.” When he was finally home and able to find the phone at 2 a.m., he called Beth, whom he had been dating, to announce his discovery: “The next day, I quit my job at Spacetch and spent the day on the phone calling every brewery in the Northeast that I could get a phone number for.”

Another aspiring brewer might have given up after 30 calls and some unwelcome invitations to volunteer. His last call was heading in the same direction before he asked for more time to inquire about what it would take to get his foot in the door of the industry. The brewer, who also had an engineering background, agreed to talk. After 15 to 20 minutes, Todd was offered a job at Long Trail Brewing, located in Vermont. “I threw Beth a ring out the window of the Jeep, and I said, ‘OK, let’s get engaged; I’m going to Vermont.’” Beth continued working in Massachusetts, traveling on weekends to his modest dwelling overlooking a river in South Woodstock.

There, he learned the workings of a commercial micro-brewery doing business in a seasonal location and selling its packaged brands through a distributor. Eager to learn about the brewpub side of the industry (which means using more recipes, producing many different kinds of beer and sitting with your customers), he signed on as the assistant brewer at Sunday River Brewing Company, in Bethel, Me., where he lived nomadically with tools, books, and his futon in a suitcase that doubled as a Jeep Cherokee. Shortly after arriving in November, he found himself running the entire operation when the head brewer left unexpectedly. In April, when operations ceased with the arrival of mud season, he was back in the Jeep heading for Framingham.

Todd was now working for John Harvard’s Brew House chain, where he learned about cost controls, budgets, inventory controls—more about the business end of running a brewery. He trained in Framingham with another brewer, learning John Harvard’s policies and procedures, before moving to Philadelphia, where those he trained would go on to be appointed as brewers at other locations.

Many forces seemed happy to conspire in educating Todd in the craft and business of brewing beer, including how Beth’s consulting work took her to Colorado. On some weekends, she would fly west to be with Todd; on other weekends, Todd joined her in Colorado, which, like the Pacific Northwest, is a center of microbrewing. Visiting breweries and sampling beers became practically a hobby. “It quickly became clear that the one in Germany because learning German was not one of his passions.” Instead, he elected to guide himself through the textbooks used at the Siebel Institute. After all, he reasoned, he knew how to read and already had a technical background. He also knew from training some of those graduates of such programs were technically literate but too quickly reached for a phone when anything broke. The School of Hard Knocks had taught Todd a different strategy: “You don’t call anyone. You fix it yourself.”

It should come as no surprise that Todd’s education as a brewmaster did not come from either of the two established schools in the United States (he had ruled out the one in Germany because learning German was not one of his passions). Instead, he elected to guide himself through the textbooks used at the Siebel Institute. After all, he reasoned, he knew how to read and already had a technical background. He also knew from training some of those graduates of such programs were technically literate but too quickly reached for a phone when anything broke. The School of Hard Knocks had taught Todd a different strategy: “You don’t call anyone. You fix it yourself.”

No surprise, again, that Todd had proven himself more than capable as a trainer at John Harvard’s.
Through one expansion after the next, their microbrewery has grown from a 540-square-foot business adjacent to a restaurant in downtown Hyannis to an enterprise that last year generated $1 million in revenue from its 5,000-square-foot home on Phinney’s Lane. They began with 12 accounts and now service more than 300. In their fourth year, Todd had aimed for 50% growth and hit 63%; last year—in the middle of a recession that has beached businesses right and left—he set his sights on 25% growth and reached 24%. “We are shooting for 15% growth this year,” he says. In five years, production at Cape Cod Beer has swelled from 1,000 barrels a year to over 3,000; they now have the capacity to brew over 7,000 barrels.

Because both his family and his business are growing up on the Cape, Todd is always thinking of ways to keep his business worthy of the Mass. Recycle Business Green Binnie Award it earned in 2008. From the windows (formerly in a restaurant) to the light fixtures (formerly in a restaurant) to the light fixtures (formerly in a restaurant) to the light fixtures (formerly in a restaurant) to the light fixtures (formerly in a restaurant), Cape Cod Beer is a debt-free business, aside from small loans from family members. “If we can’t afford to grow, we don’t grow.”

The success of any business starts with a good product, and you get the sense from listening to Todd that, in addition to hops, malt, water, and yeast, his business is also about parts good engineering and ingenuity. Listen to him speak from the production floor and you will learn about enzymes in the mash, diluted glycol running through Schedule 80 PVC pipes, and how to achieve just the right level of carbonation. From beside the front counter, during a round of samples, he will remark on one beer’s moderate mouth feel, mild, fruity esters, and caramel character. Turning to another, he will describe its light body, toasted malt character, and mild, citrusy, aromatic and flavor notes. (He did succumb to a course on beer tasting so that he could learn about the anatomy of the tongue while, of course, quenching his thirst.)

But Cape Cod Beer has thrived also because of Todd’s business plan and model. Knowing that Cape Cod business drops off by 50% after Labor Day and another 25% after Columbus Day, Todd wrote a plan to ensure a subsistence level throughout the year. “I had watched too many businesses on the Cape build a nest egg in the summer while anticipating a bad winter, and then use that nest egg to survive the winter. But there are times when you don’t have good summers, like last year, when it rained every day in June.”

In addition, his business model is about the beaches where he has let Jacob and Harrison run free ever since they learned to swim (at 6 to 12 months old). When he talks about Cape Cod Beer, mention of living and raising a family on the Cape is never far away because for him, the business and lifestyle go hand in hand—sort of like how the tap handles for Beach Blonde Ale are fashioned from driftwood collected along the beach on family outings and then engraved with his logo by friends who run a business known for its baseball bats. His customers are all around him—and only on the Cape—precisely because he wants to keep it that way. When a draught customer is running low because of a larger-than-anticipated crowd and calls while Todd is putting his boys to bed, the brewmaster of Cape Cod Beer can and will promise him a delivery within the hour.

“Save the Planet: It’s the Only One With Beer”

“My mission statement still has the word profit in it, as any should, but there is a quality-of-life model to my business, too,” Todd says, while seated in a conference room constructed to facilitate communications in a growing organization. So taken with their corner of Massachusetts soon after arriving on the Cape, Beth and Todd drove around a lot and somehow found time to publish a book, Cape Cod Playgrounds, which was available in local bookstores until they could no longer keep up with revisions and publishing new editions. They are currently looking for someone to update it for another print run.

“We bring all of our recycling to the community recycling center to help grow that program instead of sending it off to a waste management facility.”

Todd Marcus ’85

Thanks to Cape Cod Homebrew Supply, started in 1999 and conveniently located in Cape Cod Beer’s retail space, customers who share his passion can pick up a home-brewing kit and the ingredients needed to reproduce Todd’s beers. Anyone living on the Cape is invited to join monthly meetings of the Cape Cod Lager and Ale Makers (CCLAMS), hosted by you-know-who. (Wine drinkers, don’t despair: Todd sells a kit for making that, too!) As you leave Cape Cod Beer, having sampled the product, you know why smiling customers return for growler refills. It’s craftsmanship. But if you need another reason, a sign above the light switch makes another promise that will also put a smile on your face: “Free Beer Tomorrow.”
by Arthur Kent, dean of faculty

PREFACE

In July 2008, my family and I embarked for our sabbatical in Costa Rica. As anyone might think, it was a time when all of us—individually and collectively—were subjected to many different experiences and emotions. The following is about how we ended up in Monteverde, Costa Rica. If we were to write a book about our year there—don’t worry, my wife won’t—this part might be titled “You Have to Start with a T.”

In the spring/summer of 2007 and the dollar was at an all time high, I was all for it (yes, I’m that shallow). Except. Except that I remembered Monteverde. We had gone there as a family, and, given the ages of the boys, this was going to be harder and harder to do as they got older.

At the end of the 2007 school year, I knew that I was going to be eligible for a term sabbatical. This would allow me to take about 10 weeks off—from teaching and pursuing some travel, take a class, pursue some adventure, or just stay home with my family. My wife, Cathy, and I talked quite a bit about this, and we thought that it would be wonderful to “go somewhere” with the boys. We tried talking, it was clear that we had very similar aims for a trip with Oren and Ethan, then 10 and 7. We wanted to go somewhere where they could not just see a different culture, but experience it as well. We wanted them to learn a language. All ambitious goals but attainable nonetheless, we thought.

These were experiences (in varying degrees) that both Cathy and I had had when we were in our 20s, when she had lived in France and I had lived in Italy. And, like most parents, we thought that if our kids had the experience of a lifetime, they might make the transition easily. Cathy and I discussed how to do this, and we decided that we would be honest with them—always a good tactic—but we also realized that we couldn’t get into everything with them since we didn’t want to scare them. We wanted to excite them about going there, so we wanted to make our weeklong trip one that we had with adventure and fun so that going there for a year would be something that they could look forward to; we certainly weren’t going to play up that they would be living in a quasi-jungle with no computer, where rice and beans, and not food, comprised the major food group and where they couldn’t understand anyone.

We brought them into the planning for our November trip. We showed them pictures of the country, talked a lot about what we would see and do, and, since we wanted to go to another destination, they got to choose where else we would go. They chose Volcan Arenal, an active volcano, over a beach; they chose hot lava over getting a suntan. We told them why we were going to Costa Rica and about living there for a year, and, while they didn’t jump up and down with joy (one can always hope), they didn’t start packing their bags to move in with another family. We also told them that we would also look at the two schools in Monteverde and be staying in a house that we might rent for the year. It was all good. Or at least it wasn’t all bad. Cathy and I were pleased with how they were reacting and felt that they might make the transition easily.

So we went. First to Arenal, where we hiked, ate pizza twice (“See, they have it here!”), heard the unseem volcano rumbling, and soaked in hot springs. Then it was on to Monteverde. We crossed Lake Arenal and took a van for about two hours over bone-jarring, pot-holed dirt roads to reach Fred’s house, which was next to the Monteverde cloud forest. It was on a hillside (Monteverde is at about 5,000 feet), and the huge trees and vines hanging all over reminded me of all of the jungle movies that I had loved as a kid.

I told Cathy and the boys about the places I had been (“Look, Ethan: That’s Iguanodon’s, which has great pizza”—I should have been a salesman) and stories about what I did there. The house was very comfortable, and Cathy and I immediately realized that we could live in it for a year. Even though we were excited, I still thought we had to be sure that we had to be out to be noticed by the setting and the promise of animals and creatures creeping and crawling around. We had arranged to visit both the Friends School and the Centro de Educación Creativa (aka, “The Cloud Forest School”). It was a good sign when Oren said, “If we come to Costa Rica, I want to go here.” We also toured the cloud forest itself (The Monteverde Biological Reserve), went zip-lining, visited a butterfly museum, and, yes, ate pizza!

We got back home and really didn’t talk about the next year very much. Cathy and I wanted to talk about it with each other, and we wanted to do some serious talking to other people about the kids. While we knew that living in Costa Rica would be a good thing for them (and for us!), we really didn’t want the period of time leading up to the trip to be traumatic; then, we realized that they were going to be worried about missing their friends and how the cats were going to get along without them. They were very much looking forward to living there. We were very much looking forward to living there.

We talked about the ups and downs, and in the end, the boys were excited. And, as it turned out, they were very much looking forward to living there. They were very much looking forward to living there.
We started talking to our boys more and more, and finally we told them that we wanted to go there for the year. Oren was fine with it; Ethan, less so. “What are your concerns, your worries?” we asked them, deciding to try the proverbial pros-and-cons list. Both our boys are not overly introspective, so this took some time.

“I miss friends,” was the biggest worry. “Not being able to understand anyone” was also a big one, and “food” was high on the list. We were surprised that the idea of not having television wasn’t a big deal, and that one of the pros was “getting a laptop.” We talked and talked about this list, and we tried hard to prod them to see other pros (animals, insects, learning a language, playing soccer in Costa Rica, the fruits we would eat), but it was all talk to them. It was clear that there needed to be less talk and more action.

We tried to speak some Spanish at home. Cathy and I knew very little, but we would use it and try to get them to use what they learned at their school. This got nowhere. When we served rice and beans, which are the staple foods in Costa Rica, Oren would eat the rice but push around the beans; after taking about three minutes to eat one bean, he declared it bitter. Ethan would barely eat either. We planned their going-away party (and their welcome-home party). Clearly, the transition was going to be difficult. Yet, for all of this, both of the boys didn’t make that big of a deal about going. There wasn’t a great deal of enthusiasm—Oren could rally his support much more than Ethan—but we felt that they would be fine. Of course, we really didn’t know; we could only hope.

Cathy and I secured leaves from our jobs and planned for the trip, dealing with items big and small both in Massachusetts and Costa Rica. I’m not going to get into all of this, but let’s just say that I understood how General Eisenhower must have felt when planning for D-Day.

Fast-forward to July 19, 2008. We are in our airport hotel and will be leaving very early the next morning. The last weeks have been busy, but everything has gone well. The boys had a great good-bye party with their friends; it was fabulous. Liana and Alex always have a way about what Oren and Ethan were going to do. They are quite good at this. We got them used to the rooms and propped stuffed animals on the beds. The boys seem good. We have packed everything for the entire year in eight bags and carry-ons. The boys were great: They went through their things and picked out their clothes and special items that would help them to make the transition. There is no doubt that we are all nervous and scared, and Cathy and I try to share our own worries with the boys. We don’t overdo it, but we want them to know that we are feeling what they are feeling.

Up at about 3:00 a.m. to get to our 6:00 a.m. flight. Lugging bags, tired but in good spirits, we boarded the planes, first to Miami and then to San José, Costa Rica. We arrived at about 1:00 p.m. and had arranged to be picked up and taken to Monteverde, which was about four hours away. Geovanny, a driver the school had provided, was waiting for us, and off we went. We were all tired, but we were all a bit wired as well. Geovanny didn’t speak English, so I tried to speak Spanish with him. I had decided to try to speak with people as much as possible in front of the kids because I wanted them to see that it wasn’t hard to make a fool of myself (which I did on many, many occasions). So there I was using my Spanish I could, and Geovanny was pretending to understand me. We got to the house at about 5:00, after the wonderful, scary drive up the mountain, and settled in. The fact that we had stayed in the house and the kids knew what their room looked like was a big help, and they quickly got things up on the walls and the stuffed animals on the beds.

I had told the kids that we would eat pizza at Tramontin’s for our first meal. While the kids and Cathy were unpacking, I got the keys and got into the car that I had bought via e-mail. (Do you call me fearless? Stupid?) It was dead. I decided to wait until the next day to deal with buying a new battery, which was my first step toward developing the required skills to maintain our vehicle. We had to plan to walk to dinner.

I walked back into the house and saw Oren. He was sitting on the couch, pretty much immobile, clutching his squishy pillow hard to his chest. I sat next to him and asked what was wrong. He started to cry. He said that in the car on the way to Monteverde, it hit him just how far away from home he was and how long he was going to be there; he said that the time there was going to go very slowly.

It broke my heart. Why hadn’t I seen this coming? Oren had always been relatively upbeat about the trip, expressing excitement and looking forward to it. He often tried to help convince Ethan that this trip would be, well, not fun, maybe, at least not as much as he was expecting. If this is what is happening to him, what about Ethan? What about Cathy? Would we all just break down? My mind raced, and I worried that I had forced my family to do something that they weren’t ready for and didn’t want to do. Ethan came down, and we all sat and talked. We were all scared, tired, and sad. What could we do? Nothing at that moment, except get some dinner. We decided that we should quickly get things settled and go out and have dinner. Oren agreed, and, still teary, got up and started to get ready. As we were walking down the dark road in the rain (we couldn’t walk to the entry place, which almost made Ethan teary as well), Oren said: “You know, Dad, this rain is really great for bringing out the frogs.” It was the first time that I had smiled since arriving in Monteverde.

I remember thinking later, as I was washing up in our new bathroom after the kids had semi-settled in their new beds. This shouldn’t be happening. Why is it happening? We did everything right, didn’t we? We worked diligently in helping them to prepare for this transition, and Oren just shouldn’t have reacted the way he did. Of course, this was my naively stupid response to something that surprised me. I should have been prepared for this, but I had allowed myself to become convinced that everything was fine. They were smiling when we left home, weren’t they? Sure, there would be some bumps, but everything would smooth out. Nope, they would be fine. But here I was with the kids who I thought had been solid, a rock, and he was falling apart. On the first day, no less. The other boy was always tentative and I just hoped that things would work out. Clearly, this year was going to be a challenge and the kids were going to need our attention. Lots of our attention. This is transition with a capital T, and there were a lot more letters after that.

So here I am, at 3:00 a.m., writing my first journal entry. Tired, fearful for my kids and my wife, and, frankly, scared for myself. Watching Oren break down caused me to question everything and brought out my own fears and trepidations. Can we really do this? At 3:00 a.m. on that first night, I’m not so sure.

AFTERWORD

We did do it. It was clear, though, that the transitions happened because the boys “allowed” their fears to dissipate and wash away. Or they just sidestepped them.

The comment that Oren made about frogs became the beginning of a yearlong investigation into the ecosystems of Costa Rica. We kept a list of animals, insects, and birds on our refrigerator, and we all constantly updated and refined it. It was a great way for them—the list was their idea—of getting to know and appreciate their new environment. Plus it denaturalized it for them.

One of Ethan’s biggest fears was that people spoke Spanish in Costa Rica and he spoke English. How would he communicate? It didn’t make a difference that he knew that the school was bilingual and that the kids there spoke English (with different proficiencies, obviously). The school had a fabuloso (soccer) team, and Cathy and I wanted them to join it. Ethan was very much against this idea because he thought that he didn’t speak English. In fact, whenever we were going to meet a new person, he always asked, “Does he speak English?” Oren was certainly willing to join the team, but this didn’t assuage Ethan’s fear, which was bigger than the promise of fun. But we made him go (yes, sometimes you have to force things and be cruel), and both of them were definitely confused for a while. But slowly, as their Spanish got better, and, more importantly, as they grew more confident that they could survive, they enjoyed it. In fact, Ethan announced to us many times that he was anxious to go back and play soccer in Massachusetts. “I’m a much better soccer player because I played with all of the Tico kids,” he would say.

Both of the boys made the transition to speaking Spanish without anyone really noticing. For about three months, we never heard them speak, and then they spoke! In fact, they spoke well and proficiently enough that my usual flailing around in Spanish became more of an embarrassment than an object lesson. Oren was found of telling Ticos, “Mi padre habla como un gringo.” This always got a big laugh. And he was right.

Did the boys eventually eat rice and beans? Nope. We gave up on that, and, while we felt guilty serving them mac and cheese, at least they were eating. They did try every fruit and grew to love many of them. When we asked them what was hardest about being in Costa Rica, they both said that “it was feeling different.” Like Cathy and me, they were always aware that they were gringos. (This is not a derogatory term in Costa Rica, just a descriptive one. It would be like our saying, “Oh, he’s a blonde.”) Whether we opened our mouths or not, we were always gringos. Being at school and always being the minority wore on them. We talked about this quite a lot, and, while Cathy and I worried that this experience would help them in later decisions about how they would live their lives in so many ways, it was something that both boys didn’t want to experience again.

We worked continuously at making the transition to living in and adapting to a different culture. We did this by doing, not by talking. We talked about their experiences to help them (and us) put them in perspective, but it was clear that transitions would be made by going through it. We had to feel it. It was hard, and there was still plenty to learn when we left, but it was a great year—and it will become even greater as the years go by. There were other nights like that first one for all of us, but together we got through it. We all learned so many things about Costa Rica, about Latin America, and about each other. And, most important, we learned about ourselves.

Pura vida!-
The sound many will forever associate with Bill Mees is a long, bass moan, the groan of a foghorn lying deep in a cave: “Woe.” It’s more a noise than a lamentation—a prologue to his latest complaints. “Woe. That faculty meeting was a Mad Hatter’s tea party.” He hits each consonant. “Woe. The king is a thing. Nothing moves him; he’s like Pharaoh.” This is the way Bill talks, laments laced with references to literature—Alice in Wonderland, Hamlet, the Bible. For him, the literary and the real world give meaning to each other, and both live in the remarkable memory of a man who loves books and language and culture and who loves teaching young people about all of them. The teaching career of J. William Bill Bullwinkle the Moose Mr. Mees is a circus of noise and color and movement; 50 years of laughter and grumbling that can best be told and understood in Bill’s style, through simile, metaphor, and allusion. And Bill is not an easy man to understand, for he is the visible personification of absolute contradiction, a man of many me’s.

Bill entered the classroom as a full-time substitute teacher in 1960, while he was an assistant in the language department at Boston College. In 1961, he began a two-year stint at Milton, followed by nine years at Pomfret, where he met Ben Williams (who would become head of Lawrence Academy and eventually hire Bill), and four years at Noble and Greenough. Through these years, he taught French and Spanish and some history electives. In 1977, after a year of what he felt was exile at Mearsburg Academy (“Woe. My life in the middle of Nowhere, PA, was miserable”), he accepted Ben’s offer to teach French and Spanish at Lawrence, live in Waters first and then Prescott House, and oversee winter activities in the gym.

Bill arrived at Lawrence on crutches. “I had fallen off a wall at the home of a late friend whose son I had taught at Nobles. Standing on the wall, which overlooked a meadow that led to the Charles River, I tripped (martini in hand) and, like Humpty Dumpty, over I went.”

And then came the long and painful process of putting Humpty Dumpty together again, with about the same success, a process that actually began while he was at Milton, when in the summer of 1963, he had the first of many surgeries to repair his degenerating spine. He was 25 years old. “Woe. The spinal disintegration began after working for four summers at Hood Milk Company, where I smashed up 300-pound cakes of ice before icing down and loading delivery trucks; that kept me in shape for soccer, tennis, golf, and weight lifting in college.” It was in the weight room at Milton that Bill was given the name Bullwinkle the Moose, eventually shortened to Moose, when a student saw, on a bench near the grunting Mr. Mees, a comic-book picture of Bullwinkle also lifting weights. It wasn’t until the end of his first year at Lawrence that doctors discovered that the fall from the wall had fractured his spine and that his buff life as a stud was ending.

To appreciate Bill and his contradictions—his lamentations and laughter, his cynicism and optimism—you have to understand that the man has lived in “the kingdom of pain” for close to half a century. Yet he is as much like Yorick, a fellow of infinite jest, as he is like Eeyore (“After all, what are birthdays? Here today and gone tomorrow”).

He loves people, young and old. “Dormitory life was fun,” he says. “I always enjoyed students, even when I lost my temper. I recovered quickly, and so did they. Life in Prescott was always an adventure.” While sharing an apartment in Prescott with Kevin MacNamara, a young teacher and hockey coach, also in 1977, Bill launched the tradition of the Chowder Party, inviting parents in for New England fish chowder during the hockey tournament. That tradition lasted 25 years, carrying over to his house in Peppernell until 2003. Bill’s house, the Mersery, which loves company, continues to echo with the laughter of students, parents, trustees, and colleagues.

Like many of Bill’s students, Dan Roop ’06 recalls his teacher’s hospitality: “He never ceased to impress us with his culinary masterpieces, from chicken cordon bleu to sirloin steaks, melons wrapped in prosciutto and oil, and, of course, no-dice-for-desserts featuring homemade meringues in a homemade custard dizzled with homemade raspberry sauce. Moose always says, ‘I never want my students to go home hungry.’ The meals are three- to four-hour marathons, for as the Moose says, ‘a meal should be: good food, good drink, great people, great conversation, and many laughs.’”

Although Bill loves conversation, he really prefers the first-person monologue. Guests in his home, colleagues in the English office, students in the classroom might sit for hours listening to detail after detail of the world according to Bill—stories of doctors, surgeons, and things, and why the Moose is boiling hot and whether Hemingway has wings. Like Beckett’s Hamms (Endgame), Bill’s first word is, invariably, “me,” and his first thought is, “Can there be misery loftier than mine?” Wise. At some point toward the final minute of your time together, he sighs and says, “But enough about me. What do you think about me?” In many ways, J. William Mees resembles his namesake Bullwinkle J. Moose, who declares, “Humble, that’s me. Mr. Modesty. When it comes to humility, I’m the greatest.”

And, paradoxically, Bill is humble. He has devoted his life to young people and works hard to help them discover the best in themselves. “I always wanted to be a teacher,” he says. “I never wanted to be anything else. I always gave my time and, in some cases, my last back to help people out. I’ve saved a few students and lost a lot of them, to my regret. I was never perfect. Who the hell is? But my heart was always for a student to put forth as solid, honest, and determined as an effort as possible. I hate mediocrity.” Most of Bill’s students know how deeply he cares about them and about their success, and many have stayed in touch with him for years.

One of his most enduring friendships is with former student Jamie Noll ’87. For Jamie, Bill epitomizes the prep school experience: “His commitment to the kids as students, residents, and athletes is unmatched. He would attend both home and away games and always stand along the glass at the rink. He’d even drive to colleges to watch some of his former students and advisers who played at the next level.” Berto Sicilia ’80 has developed such a close relationship with Bill as a confidant, one that has endured over 30 years, that he invited Bill into his wedding party with two brothers and his closest fraternity brothers. Alex Mayer ’06 describes Bill as “the type of teacher and person you can’t help but respect because he always aims for a higher standard and asks his students to do the same, but he’s also an incredibly kind person who cares about his students and Lawrence Academy in a truly rare way.” And Piper Marshall ’93 recalls fondly that “Mr. Mees inspired competition—you against yourself to perfection—and also a certain camaraderie. He is tough and unrelenting in a way that encourages aspiration.”

Current students like senior Aaron Heller have had the same experience: “I have spent much time with Mr. Mees over the past two years. His honors English class junior year is an experience that will stay with me forever. With him, I learned to analyze the works of my favorite author, Charles Dickens. Being a teacher of French, Spanish, and Latin, he also inspired me to continue learning a foreign language. One of the most inspirational things he ever said to me was, ‘If you want to go to Europe, just go. Leave everything, just for now, and pack it up when you come back.’ While I know that I cannot simply drop everything, leaving other people to pick it all up, I now understand that I simply need to act on my passion. There is one high school teacher whom you always remember, often reflecting on what he taught you. I know that Mr. Mees will always be that teacher.”

Another senior, Jess Peterson, says, “Mr. Mees never failed to challenge us. I enjoyed his class, not because it was the easiest but because it was the most challenging. I remember when we got our first papers back from Mr. Mees last fall. It is important to note that before the papers were returned, Mr. Mees passed around a bag of candy and invited everyone to take some.

December 1979—This file photo captures Bill Mees in the Schoolhouse in Spanish teacher only two years after he had arrived at LA.
Then he announced that he had our papers, and everyone froze. ‘There is no point in scaling or giving students a higher grade than they deserve because babying you in high school will not help you at all in college,’ he said. Although at the time most of us were terrified and dreading the grades we were about to receive, I knew that I was benefiting from this philosophy.

Of course, there is another side to Mr. Mees the teacher, a side readily acknowledged by Jamie Noll. “Many students were afraid to take a Mees class because he had the reputation of being tough and intimidating.” Once they saw their class schedule in the fall, many students ran to the Studies Office trembling or weeping and begging for a change in teacher, as fearful of Mr. Mees as Dorothy and her friends became in the presence of the Wizard of Oz. “His booming voice, large stature, and Philadelphia-lawyer wardrobe helped to solidify his intimidating persona,” says Jamie.

Maeve Connemah and ’05 remembers, “As a whole, my class was intimidated by this legendary teacher with a cynical edge and dry tone who scared my class speechless.” And lord knows, his typical approach to his classes seemed to reveal to the student his true nature and his faith in the student’s ability. “Like most teachers, Bill just wants to be loved.”

You realize, too, that, unlike so many veteran teachers—those who fear new moments when you realized the depth of his affection for students. Nothing upset him more than to upset them. His first response is, “Oh, for chrissake, man,” if you were class speechless.” And lord knows, his typical approach to his classes seemed to reveal to the student his true nature and his faith in the student’s ability. “Like most teachers, Bill just wants to be loved.”

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and by the end of the class, we were all leaning in, listening to him read "Twas the Night Before Christmas" in a bright-red Santa hat. I’ve never heard it read better, and I can honestly say that this is the single brightest memory from my time at Lawrence Academy.

"What more does a teacher get than that?" asks Bill. Woe.

Denny Blodget, a 38-year veteran of independent schools, served as assistant head of school at Lawrence Academy from 1987 to 2005. He is the founder and director of Heads Up Collaborative, creating and leading workshops that bring researchers and teachers together; he serves on the board of trustees of Long Trail School; and he is a guardian ad litem for abused and delinquent children in the family and district courts of Rutland, Vermont. He lives with his wife, Dale, in Danby, Vermont.

LA Delegation Attends People of Color Conference, Teachers Lead Workshop

The People of Color Conference opened on December 3, 2009, at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colo., with an address by keynote speaker John Quiñones, co-anchor of ABC TV’s 20/20 and correspondent for 20/20/20.

Representing Lawrence Academy were seven students and two faculty members. Karen Bowley, ESL director and Spanish teacher, and Wonjen Bagley, LA’s coordinator of diversity initiatives, presented a workshop titled “Having a Voice.” The workshop introduced its 45 or so participants to Lawrence Academy’s Cultural Coffeehouse Series (CCS), from its inception to its current place in LA’s community. Established by LA language teachers Karen Bowley, Caroline Grinnell, and Jennifer O’Conner, the CCS promotes an exploration of culture and how people experience culture by providing a safe forum for honest discussion. The 90-minute workshop was well received and allowed participants to develop mock kickoff programs for their own schools.

In the meantime, Sydney Bagley ’12, Tyler Beauchesne ’12, SuYeon Park ’12, Robert Gutierrez ’11, Andrea Fei ’12, Frances Hamilton ’10, and Kelly Greacen ’10 represented LA at the Student Diversity Leadership Conference, gaining knowledge about issues in support of diverse communities. The conference gathers students to focus on the importance of reflection, facing allies, and strengthening community. According to Ms. Bagley, the students called the conference “life-changing” and were moved by the unity they felt in so short a period of time with a diverse group of students from around the country. “They bring back with them information, experiences, and strategies that they are eager to share with the entire LA community,” she said.

As a direct result of viewing a new documentary by filmmaker André Robert Lee, The Prep School Negro, which generated great excitement at the conference, the CCS—now with a student focus group collaborating with faculty leaders Karen Bowley, Barbara Greene, and Jon Kaiser—welcomed Mr. Lee to campus on February 15 for a screening and discussion of his documentary. Students from St. Mark’s School also attended.

For the past 22 years, the National Association of Independent Schools has hosted the annual People of Color Conference and the Student Diversity Leadership Conference.

"Lifer" Leaves LA

In anticipation of his retirement, we paid tribute to Robert “Campy” Campolieto in the fall 2008 issue of The Academy Journal. Inside that issue was an article written by Denny Blodget titled “Creating Small Bonfires,” which traces Campy’s career and expresses the gratitude of colleagues and former students. Because of the economic downturn, however, Campy chose to delay his retirement until this year. We wanted to remind readers that he has been saluted in print for his dedication to his students at Lawrence Academy.

Because of its focus on equity and social justice issues, according to Mr. Bagley, the conference attracts faculty, administrators, trustees, and students to support, generate, and exchange ideas, and nurture leadership. “Through workshops, speakers, affinity groups, performances, and networking, conference participants gather tools that will help them to build better schools and become stronger advocates and allies,” she said.

The 2009 Elm Tree article on the genesis of the CCS is available for downloading on the Publications page of Lawrence Academy’s Web site. Look under “Our Community.”
On Friday, October 23, the school community gathered in the Richardson- Mees Performing Arts Center to celebrate the 17th annual Founders’ Day, when those who have served the school with distinction are recognized. After Head of School Scott Wiggins called on previous recipients of the prestigious Founders’ Day Award to stand and be recognized, the assembly turned its focus to saluting others.

Greater Good Award
Presented to a student at Founders’ Day and an alumna/us at Cum Laude Day, the Greater Good Award recognizes Lawrence Academy citizens who use their education to make the world a better place. It was established through a grant from the Lawrence Academy Endowment Fund for Service, Social Justice, and Global Awareness, created in 2005 by Jay Dunn ’88 and his family. This year’s recipients, seniors Yoo-Jin Cho and Maggie Raemer, were introduced by seniors Megan Lewis, Emily Holmes, and Emily Trausler.

A senior from South Korea, Yoo-Jin was described as “an active force in the service program at Lawrence Academy,” having served on the Cultural Coffeehouse focus group and the steering committee of the school’s new community service program, in addition to working during Winterim with severely disabled adults at ARC Community Services, Inc., in Fitchburg, Mass. “ARC Volunteers is not an easy Winterim, and Yoo Jin handled the tasks at hand with ease and compassion far beyond her years. She impressed her peers with her no-barriers attitude, as she tackled both the language barrier and also the mental barrier when interacting with the ARC patients,” said the student speaker.

In addition, she has volunteered with Habitat for Humanity in South Korea and works there with disabled people and abused women through the YWCA.

Maggie Raemer, a four-year senior from Brookline, Mass., was introduced as having “devoted herself to helping children and adults with mental disabilities.” For three consecutive summers, Maggie has volunteered at Camp Jabberwocky on Martha’s Vineyard, where she works with and befriends children and adults with cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, and other disabilities. According to the student speaker, “Maggie can often be found with her friends from Jabberwocky at Red Sox games, bowling trips, and movie nights. She is devoted to each camper and puts so much effort into making sure that she has wonderful experiences in their lives.”

Maggie helped campers to create an episode of How’s Your News!, a television show that aired on MTV last year. In addition to her work on campus in support of A Precious Cause (on behalf of orphans in Botswana) and organizing charity walks, Maggie interned at The Horace Mann School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing during Winterim 2009 and hopes to study special education in college.

Twenty-Five Years of Service: A. Scott Johnson
During Founders’ Day, tribute is also paid to the men and women who have served on the faculty at Lawrence Academy for 25 years. Speaking on behalf of math teacher Scott Johnson on this occasion was his friend Dr. Mark Haman of the English department.

After humorously taking to task members of the math department who, he claimed, complained that one of their own should lionize Mr. Johnson, Doc Haman said that he had sought statements from them on their colleague’s milestone. “Fifty percent of them said, ‘Twenty-five years!’ That’s 788,400,000 seconds!” (I can see Mr. Wigglesworth at the assembly turned its focus to saluting others.

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A. Scott Johnson
“Scott Johnson is one of the people who most clearly define for me what makes Lawrence Academy special.” Mark Haman

Finally, noting that his long friendship has helped him to see Mr. Johnson as a “seer,” Doc Haman offered his tribute: “Mr. J’s faith and his intellect work together in a way I deeply admire. He has the discipline to see himself and the world clearly, but the optimism still to believe that kindness and honesty are the best guides along our road.”

Kathy Peabody Memorial Book Award
Following a brief introduction by Rob Moore, assistant head of school for external affairs, seniors Jordan Lovejoy and John Kelly invited to the stage former faculty member George Peabody (1963–2001), as well as Kevin McDonald ’70, who, with other 1966–67 members of Pillsbury House, conceived of the award to memorialize Mrs. Peabody. “Her patience, guidance, and support were invaluable to students as they adapted to a boarding school environment,” Jordan said, speaking for those who knew Mrs. Peabody. Mother of Paige ’84, Mark ’86, and Beth ’88, Kathy was loved and appreciated by generations of Lawrence students, many of whom began their careers at Lawrence as residents of her home.

In presenting the award this year to Myra Stewart, a member of the dining hall staff, John said that many students have “fantastic stories” to share about the consideration and compassion Ms. Stewart shows them. He told two stories to help others see Ms. Stewart through his eyes—and the eyes of the proctor and peer counselors who made the selection.

First, he recounted how he entered the dining hall on a rainy day, not in the best of moods. Myra waved at him with “the biggest smile on her face.” After he asked her how the waffles were that morning, her eyes moved back and forth between John’s face and the waffles. “She grabbed one of the waffles and hit it against the countertop. Nothing happened to the waffle. She put it back and looked at me with a straight face and said, ‘John, do not get waffles today.’”

Myra Stewart and her husband, David

John introduced his second story by saying that Myra knows precisely the kind of omelet he eats and where he sits at breakfast. On one morning, she surprised him by bringing the omelet to him—but before she reached him, she stopped. Her eyes opened wide as if someone had just been shot right behind him. “She looks at me and then runs back to where the maple syrup is, covers the omelet in syrup exactly as I like it, and brings it to me. Honestly, I can say that I have never been happier in my life.”
After John saluted Myra for being kind and honest, and “one of the nicest people I have ever met,” Jordan presented the award, reminding those gathered of Myra’s “passion for the people and community.”

Founders’ Day Award

Mr. Wiggins shared with English teacher David Smith ’65 the presentation of the day’s final and most prestigious award to Mr. Smith’s classmate, Sam Rowe ’65.

After describing the Lawrence Academy of their years together—238 boys, mostly boarding students, dressed in jacket and tie for classes taught by 21 teachers, and ice hockey played on the Cow Pond—Mr. Smith remarked that perhaps the most noteworthy difference between then and now is marked by the loss of the school’s elm trees. “When Sam and I would drive to and from school, there were areas of Route 119 where the branches of the elms on either side met overhead, creating a storybook tunnel—brilliantly yellow-orange on a clear autumn day like today.” Just as the trees felled by disease were replaced, he said, campus trees toppled by the 2008 ice storm were removed and are slowly being replaced; in both eras, he said, what stands out is Lawrence Academy’s commitment to replanting.

“That’s a metaphor. The trees remind us that eras of school life come and go, but that a fine place like Lawrence Academy will remain if its people will remain committed to it over time. Sam Rowe is one of those people who have remained committed over time. It seems that you can take the boy out of the Academy, but that a fine place like Lawrence Academy will remain if its people will remain committed to it over time. Sam Rowe is one of those people who have remained committed over time. It seems that you can take the boy out of the Academy, but that you can’t always take the Academy out of the boy.”

For his part, Mr. Wiggins recounted first meeting Sam on a visit with Mr. Moore that brought him to the top of a wrestling room. Now, Mr. Wiggins noted, Mr. Rowe accompanied Mr. Moore on fundraising visits to do his part to make the plans come to fruition. Finally, he returned to Lawrence Academy last spring to offer his recipe for success to the graduating class—about how to engineer it for themselves.

In each role—steward, caretaker, rescuer, visionary, fundraiser, and advisor—Mr. Rowe demonstrates his commitment to Lawrence Academy. Mr. Wiggins concluded, and is, therefore, a philanthropist deserving of the school’s highest honor for service to the school. With previous recipients joining him on stage, Mr. Wiggins presented the 2009 Founders’ Day Award to Sam Rowe. In accepting the award, Mr. Rowe pledged to exhibit it prominently in his home as a reminder of what Lawrence Academy has meant to him and to his family. “What I would say to you is this: Pay great attention here, use the leaders, educators, and staff you have here, and you will bring your dreams and aspirations to reality.”

The assembly ended with the LA Singers performing two songs, “Sing and Rejoice!” and the traditional school song, “Lawrence, Here’s to Thee.” (Note: A variation of this report first appeared as a news item on the Bulletin Board at www.lawacademy.edu.)

Since it was established in 2005, the Greater Good Award has been presented to students and alumni who demonstrate that they have used their education to make the world a better place. Presented here are updates on what alumni recipients have done since winning the award.

When accepting the first Greater Good Award in 2005, Ken Ansin ’83 had already supported some 20 organizations personally as a board member or board president—a hospital, a museum, an orchestra, the United Way, a number of schools and colleges, Save the Children, and the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation. Since then, Ken has graduated from Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government with a master’s in public administration and a focus on microfinance and economic development in the developing world. After serving on then-incoming Governor Patrick’s Transition Committee and advising the governor on microfinance issues, he traveled overseas to study leading microfinance institutions. In late 2008, Ken joined the board of Root Capital, a nonprofit providing loans and training to farmer cooperatives in the developing world, and the advisory committee of BRAC USA (The Bangladesh Rehabilitation Assistance Committee). When he returned to Mali, he visited Sanasi, a child he has sponsored over the years, saw new schools that have been built by Save the Children, and traveled with Oxfam to visit villages involved in the Saving for Change micro-finance program. At the same time, closer to home, he began serving on an ad hoc committee for the Pine Street Inn, which is dedicated to ending homelessness in Boston, and he now serves on the Micro-Finance Committee for Young Presidents’ Organization, a network of CEOs committed to improving leadership worldwide through an exchange of ideas. As if all of that were not enough, Ken is also a guest lecturer at YearUp, a Boston-based nonprofit that provides training and job opportunities in finance and high tech for urban 18- to 24-year-olds. “I recently moved to the Bay Area,” Ken tells us, “in part to work with some of the locally based thought leaders in the area of micro-finance and socially responsible business. Included are the Skoll and Omidyar Networks and the Gates Foundation.”

Megan Camp ’79, the president and program director at Shelburne Farms, a nonprofit environmental education center that is also a working dairy farm and land trust, was presented with the 2006 Greater Good Award for her more than 20 years of working as an environmental educator. Since then, Megan has overseen initiatives at Shelburne Farms that promise to effect changes in environmental education at the community, state, national, and international levels. In partnership with the Burlington School District, Shelburne Farms has helped to launch the first magnet school in Vermont, The Sustainability Academy at Lawrence Barnes. “This is the result of a decade of work to provide support to teachers and schools in education for sustainability and is one of the highlights of my career in education,” says Megan. The Academy has attracted the attention of Peter Seenge of the Society for Organizational Learning. Following work over a few years with Senators Leahy and Sanders on national policy for Farm to School (F2S) and the Reauthorization of the Childhood Nutrition Act, Shelburne Farms was awarded a grant of $476,000 from the Centers for Disease
Control to support work in Farm to School programs. The grant will allow Megan to provide Vermont teachers, food services, and communities with training and support; to study how more than a decade of F2S work in Vermont has changed dietary choices for school children; and to share the research results and best practices nationwide. Nationally, Shelburne Farms continues to expand professional development opportunities for educators; one of its Vermont pilot programs, A Forest for Every Classroom, is now being replicated by the U.S. Forest Service and National Park Service. Finally, Shelburne Farms and the Institute for Sustainable Communities last year launched a three-year, trilateral international project with Japanese partner LEAF (Local Ecological Activities Foundation for Children) and South China Normal University. The goal of this project is to help Chinese students learn about best practices in sustainable development through becoming involved in energy-efficiency projects in their communities.

Tia Smith ’95, awarded the Whitehurst Prize at her graduation, returned to Brooklyn after graduating from Rollins College and, in her work for both the Salvation Army and the Church Avenue Merchants Block Association, became the program supervisor for the largest family shelter in the United States. In working to prevent homelessness, Tia was helping entire families recover from the destructive effects of homelessness, mental illness, extended periods of unemployment, and chemical addictions. Since receiving the Greater Good Award in 2007, she has been directing a team working in three different locations to advance the mission of a homelessness prevention program (Palladia, Inc.) that serves individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Tia and the 25 workers she directs assist those in need of housing placement, employment training, entitlements advocacy, financial empowerment, savings and budgeting counseling, family mediation—all of which helps to aid households in becoming self-sufficient. “Our program is currently serving a variety of populations, including individuals and families facing eviction, living in overcrowded conditions, or being discharged from jail, as well as those having made a recent application to the shelter, those residing in the shelter, and those who are residing in the community after having left the shelter system with a housing subsidy.”

Cory Peterson ’07 founded a chapter of the Elias Fund at Lawrence Academy in the fall of 2003 while serving as the nonprofit’s northeast regional manager and coordinating 32 high school chapters nationwide. In the same year, he began organizing the first EliasFest, a benefit concert that raised over $10,000 to help Zimbabwean youth and empower young people everywhere to participate in community development. In 2008, after completing his freshman year at St. Lawrence University as one of the university’s 25 Community Service Scholars, Cory returned to accept the Greater Good Award. Since then, he has organized two Naukabout Music Festivals, one drawing 100,000 people to benefit the Elias Fund and the other drawing 200,000 people to benefit the Fresh Air Fund, which funds summer vacations for low-income children from New York City. He has also spent a summer term studying the conflict in Northern Ireland. Last summer, as an intern with the Adirondack Museum, he helped develop a marketing plan to incorporate Web 2.0 technologies and reduce costs. In July 2009, he began interning with the Committee on Capital Markets Regulation, a nonpartisan organization that conducts research with the goal of improving the regulation of U.S. capital markets. Denise Korn ’83 was selected to receive the Greater Good Award in 2009 for her work in providing opportunities in the world of design and art for underprivileged youth. Soon after starting Korn Design, an award-winning brand design and strategy firm based in Boston and New York, Denise founded Youth Design to provide public high school students with professional internships in the Boston area, and the program is now running in Denver, Colo., and Providence, R.I. She also sits on the board of Kids Can Cook, a nonprofit that brings middle school students into the kitchen to learn about nutrition, the inner workings of a restaurant, and habits promoting self-esteem. She Denise also supports The Farm School, a teaching farm in Athol, Mass., that teaches students about organic farming and personal responsibility. “As challenging as 2009 proved to be on many levels,” Denise writes, “my work with inner-city high school kids seemed more relevant than ever. My mentorship program, Youth Design, soared!” Last summer, Youth Design placed 12 students in Boston and several in Denver and effectively piloted the program in Rhode Island. Youth Design was honored with a coveted Sappi “Design That Matters” grant, which allowed the nonprofit to produce a new video of the program and a beautiful press kit, both essential tools in getting the word out about the program. Denise, who speaks on the topic of mentoring, spoke at the AIGA National Design Conference in Memphis in the fall of 2009. Thanks to being awarded another Sappi grant this year, Denise can focus on yet another project: “I am working on a book, to be published later this year, which profiles some remarkable creative leaders from a variety of backgrounds and illustrates the power of creative mentoring in our society.

The Greater Good Award was established through a grant from the Lawrence Academy Endowment Fund for Service, Social Justice, and Global Awareness, created in 2005 by Jay Dunn ’83 and his family.

Look for updates in a future publication on what our student recipients have done since winning this award.

Lawrence Academy will honor living alumni who are serving or who have served the United States in uniform by publishing an “Armed Services Roll Call” in the pages of the next Academy Journal, due out this fall. As a 20-year member of the United States Army and Army Reserve and a veteran of two tours of duty in Afghanistan, I am eager to see that we do not omit any of my fellow alumni veterans, so I encourage you to send the Alumni Office your branch and years of service and your current rank or rank at time of discharge or separation. Lawrence Academy is proud of all of our alumni who have served in the military and wants to hear from as many of us as possible. Please contact the Alumni Office and share your information by calling Amanda Doyle ‘98 or emailing her at adoyle@lacademy.edu. The deadline is August 1, 2010.

Thomas P. McCuin Jr. ’85
Major, Civil Affairs
United States Army Reserve
LA Launches New Community Service Program

By the time classes began in September 2009, language teacher Caroline Grinnell had already been researching and networking for several months to begin forming relationships with service partners in Groton and other communities. Following her appointment by Head of School Scott Wiggins as Lawrence Academy’s community service coordinator, announced later in the week, and time was set aside for the school’s new approach to community service, scheduling three days during the year for everyone to participate in service activities.

On Tuesday, November 3, 2009, Lawrence Academy had brilliant fall weather for its first schoolwide community service day. Students and faculty had signed up to join groups performing a wide variety of services in Groton and surrounding areas. The more than 20 projects included many local efforts, such as cleaning at the Groton Country Club and several of the town’s churches, winterizing community gardens; working on public trails and conservation lands; creating artwork for Seven Hills Pediatric Center; and baking for Loaves & Fishes, a food pantry.

Offering their services also to neighboring towns, students assembled and delivered Thanksgiving baskets to the Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center in Gardner; painted the Habitat for Humanity office in Fitchburg; helped to build a handicapped-accessible porch on a Habitat home in Westminster; harvested apples at Leominster’s Sholan Farms, which sends fresh-fruits products to New York City’s underprivileged youth; and helped to build the set for the upcoming celebration of Three Kings Day at a Leominster Hispanic center. According to Head of School Scott Wiggins, turning the entire class day over to community service activities made it possible for the school to “advocate the common good in myriad venues, in a multitude of ways.” Surveys administered before and after the day helped students to reflect on their experiences.

In the winter term, students and faculty were prepared to begin Martin Luther King Jr. Day on January 18, 2010, with a special assembly featuring keynote speaker Mohammed Bilal. Following the assembly, students were to turn to a letter-writing activity, for which they had prepared by examining the topic of poverty during advisor meetings in the weeks leading up to MLK Jr. Day. Students and faculty had also been invited to respond to a question about how poverty and socioeconomic disparities have an effect on freedom by submitting entries in one of three media—art, writing, multimedia—to The Cost of Freedom Contest. (See page 14 for some of the art.) For the final activity, students were to watch one of four movies, including Mississipi Burning and Crash, and then to participate in discussion groups. The day’s activities were unfortunately canceled as a result of a snow day, but the winners of The Cost of Freedom Contest were announced later, and time was set aside for students to complete and mail their letters to officials in government or the nonprofit sector.

On campus, Maggie Raemer interned at The Horace Mann School for the Deaf; worked for a week last summer at YES Prep School in Houston, Tex., serving disadvantaged students in grades 6-9; and did a term studying at the environmentally conscious Island School in Iceland. Having previously served on the Honor Council, Maggie is currently a member of the Judiciary Council. She also introduces visitors to the school as one of the Elm Tree Society’s exemplary tour guides.

Rachel Niemoller of Groton spearheaded Lawrence Academy’s effort to reduce electricity consumption in its first year participating in the nationwide Green Cup Challenge. After attending a fall kickoff event, Rachel joined the Academy’s community service honor roll, we recognize seniors who have led the way in modeling the importance of serving others. We think that readers will be interested to see the variety of opportunities the students have seized. Topping the list are the 2009 winners of LA’s Greater Good Award, Yoo-Jin Cho and Maggie Raemer.

Yoo-Jin Cho, from Chungnam, South Korea, has served on the student focus group responsible for developing events for the Cultural Coffeehouse Series on campus, as well as the steering committee of the school’s new Community Service Program. Yoo-Jin spent two Winterims in service programs, one working with severely disabled adults in Fitchburg, Mass., and one in a similar facility on the outskirts of Lima, Peru. She has volunteered with Habitat for Humanity in South Korea and South Korea and works there with disabled people and abused women through the YWCA. With others from Lawrence Academy, she has served at two of the three Groton Community Dinners at First Parish Church of Groton. On campus, Yoo-Jin serves as a peer counselor, and she has also been a member of LA’senvirothon team, which researched and made recommendations to Groton conservation boards on the use of conservation lands for recreation.

Margaret Raemer of Brookline, in her third summer as a volunteer at Camp Jabadabadoony on Martha’s Vineyard, helped to create an episode of MTV’s How’s Your News? series that featured the disabled campers as news reporters. On campus, Maggie has solicited support of A Precious Cause, which raises awareness and funding on behalf of orphans in Botswana, and she has organized many charity walks with students, including this spring’s Walk for Hunger. Maggie interned at The Horace Mann School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing during Winterim 2009 and hopes to study special education in college. She has served Lawrence Academy as a member of its Honor Council, a group that advises the head of school in matters regarding the code of conduct.

The recipient of the Greater Good Award in 2008, when she was only a junior, Andover’s Frances Hamilton, started a chapter of A Precious Cause to support orphans in Botswana, ran an annual holiday season Toys for Tots drive, and spoke out to raise awareness of world hunger. In 2009, she participated in the Walk for Hunger and earned a 2008-09 Lawrence Academy Service Award for her work during the summer at Esperanza Academy, a middle school for underserved students in Loreto, Mex. For her Winterim 2010 Winterim, Frances will assist at a shelter for the severely disabled in Peru. She has served in the government and on the Faculty-Student Senate, Honor Council, and Judiciary Council. Regularly addressing the school community regarding service issues is a peer counselor, and, with classmate Jesstingerson and Dan Giovacchini ’11, recently established LA’s Peer Tutoring and Writing Center.

Frances Hamilton ’10

LA student and faculty pictured in front of the Habitat house in Westminster, Mass., on November 3, our first schoolwide community service day.

Students to complete and mail their letters to officials in Groton and other communities. Following her appointment by Head of School Scott Wiggins as Lawrence Academy’s community service coordinator, announced later in the week, and time was set aside for the school’s new approach to community service, scheduling three days during the year for everyone to participate in service activities.

For have an effect on freedom by submitting entries in one of the school’s new approaches to community service, scheduling three days during the year for everyone to participate in service activities.

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as well as information about its recycling habits, into an energy-use tracking program designed by her father’s company, Perillon. Selecting the “LA Going Green” button on the Sustainability page on LA’s Web site will lead readers to that data and to Rachel’s informative blog, the first student blog at www.lacademy.edu. Working with classmate Maggie Raemer to encourage participation in this spring’s Walk for Hunger, Rachel also took part in her soccer team’s KICK AIDS fundraiser.

Angelica Bishop of Groton, who recently sent money from bracelet sales to earthquake-stricken Haiti, has also organized drives to collect winter coats for residents of a local shelter. Last summer, she attended school in Santiago, Chile, and she relates her experience in support of The Foundation of Santa Clara’s efforts to raise money for treating children born with HIV/AIDS: “We put on aprons and carried around box-bags and basically asked for money. The weirdest part was walking around the mall, confronting people (all in Spanish, of course) and asking for money for the cause—sometimes by making them feel bad! I had also never walked around on the street, knocking on car windows at each red light, moving as fast as I could before the light changed green.

All around, it was a much different experience collecting money this way, but the same feeling that I was able to help and make a difference lingered long after the long day of chasing after people was over!” Angelica also volunteered during her junior year Winterin, working with the Sisters of the Order of Mother Teresa at a shelter for disabled children and adults on the outskirts of Lima, Peru.

Littleton’s Jess Peterson will participate in May’s Walk for Hunger, having been part of last year’s group that raised more than $1,500 for Project Bread. She is serving for her third year as leader of LA’s chapter of the Elias Fund. Introduced to campus by her brother Gary ’07, the group has a mission “to provide hope and opportunity to Zimbabwe through the development of a vibrant social sector” and also “to engage the current youth culture of the United States, encouraging a positive identity centered on social justice.” As a junior, Jess participated in a service Winterin in the Dominican Republic, helping to rebuild a community school. At Lawrence Academy, she has served on the Honor Council and joined this year with classmates Frances Hamilton and Dan Giovacchini to establish a new and well-staffed Peer Tutoring and Writing Center.

Acton’s Emily Holmes volunteered for four weeks last summer in Agua Buena, Panama. Working through AMIGOS de las Americas, she and two other teenagers ran a day camp for three hours each weekday, empathizing with the environment and helping to build a community library while also raising money to purchase books for it. Living with a host family, Emily was immersed in the daily life of a devoutly Catholic community and notes that adjusting to cultural differences was “one of the hardest things I have ever done in my life”—and one of the most rewarding. Closer to home, she served at three Groton Community Dinners and helped during the winter holidays with a gift drive for Bellesini Academy’s “Adopt-a-Student” program and a food drive for Loaves & Fishes. A presenter at the school’s Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebrations, this year she won first prize in the writing category of LA’s The Cost of Freedom Contest. Emily attended the 2008 People of Color Conference in New Orleans, where she also assisted with post-Katrina cleanup efforts. In her hometown, Emily volunteers at a home goods recycling facility. Most recently, she applied for an internship to the MINGA program, a youth-run Boston group that raises awareness of child prostitution and sex slavery.

Compiled by Beverly Rodrigues

MLK Art—The Cost of Freedom Art Exhibit

Nick Bodharamik ’11
Tyler Beauchesne ’12
Fran McNierney ’10
Bomi Kim ’13

Dylan Callahan ’10
Dylan Callahan ’10
Dylan Callahan ’10
Emily Trussler ’10

Katie Russell ’10
Maggie Raemer ’10 and Jordan Lovejoy ’10
Ali Savelly ’11
Lauree McGowan (faculty)
convincing the goalie to be your teammate. I was lucky enough to do so by teaming up with the actual tournament when he began looking for the teammate who would best complement his skill set: “The game
T ori remembers teaming up with home three NCAA championship titles, chimed in for the girls: “Bos’n Ball is one of my favorite memories from my
T ori Wellington Hanna ’97
being able to defend his title in his senior year because of a broken leg still haunts the man! point out fingers at each other in blame.” And let’s not forget the intimidation factor. For TJ, this meant showing up scored most of our goals on our opponents in this way. We shot right down the middle and laughed out loud as they
covered the middle when defending the goal made the difference between participating and winning. “We actually
For serious competitors like making of such a fun, long-standing tradition.”

The tournament, which is included in LA’s Wikipedia entry, was
opened up to girls in 1995 and has gained great popularity with them, too. The tournament is so popular that it is rumored that other schools have started to play Bos’n Ball. In the history of the tournament, five teams have repeated as winners; there has never been a three-peat. A Facebook page has been created so that LA alumni can post any pictures or stories from their Bos’n Ball experiences. Check it out and join! It’s called—surprise—Lawrence Academy Bos’n Ball. Todd Wheelden remembers Bos’n as a fixture on campus. “He was always good for a quick pat on his shaggy, scrappy coat, but he seemed to have his own agenda and was generally off looking for
scrap.” In the inaugural tournament, Todd, the team’s goaltender, was inexplicably chosen by the coach, who, as a former professional player, had one of the better shots on campus. Todd believes that his coach had a plan: “I think his agenda was to be sure to get his name on the trophy first! As the team’s goalie, I would typically make the saves, and he would score the goals. En route to the finals, we defeated the other pairings handily, not giving up any goals. In the championship game, I recall Bob letting up on a softie goal, tying up the match. He

The legendary Bos’n
Be sure to post your Bos’n Ball Tournament memories on the Facebook fan page for Lawrence Academy Bos’n Ball!

Beating the goalie to be your teammate. I was lucky enough to do so by teaming up with the actual tournament when he began looking for the teammate who would best complement his skill set: “The game
T ori Wellington Hanna ’97, a phenomenal athlete who was an All-American in lacrosse at Maryland and brought home three NCAA championship titles, chimed in for the girls: “Bos’n Ball is one of my favorite memories from my athletic days at LA. It was a fun competition that sparked some season-long rivalries between Bos’n Ball teams.”

T ori remembers teaming up with Catie Floyd McMennamin ’97, “who had a lethal shot”; it was as a junior, with
Kelley Duggan Sorrow ’96 as her partner, that she won the right to sign the trophy.

Bos’n Ball Champs
1985 Todd Wheelden & Rob Moore
1986 Steve Lussier & Kevin Quilty
1987 L.J. Combe & O.J. Hagar
1988 Marc Beran & Jason Hammond
1989 Doug Friedman & Matt McKerrow
1990 James Hirni & Teague Kennan
1992 Colin Cushman & Justin Murphy
1993 Colin Cushman & Lee Crocker
1994 Brian Deshler & Mike Bruno
1995 Kelley Duggan & Tori Wellington
1996 Lindsay Crosswell & Kate Bagshaw
1997 Nick Comeau & Nick Peraino
1998 Jenny Koloff & Kristin Lillie
1999 Matt Greene & Aaron Swan
2000 Ashley Chubbuck & Wendy Mills
2001 Liza Benson & Jackie Rideout
2002 Ilidi Rozemorsky & Maggie Joyce
2003 Lindsay Andrus & Mel Burliss
2004 Maggie Joyce & Emma Chase
2005 Shauna Decoteau & Alex Peyton-Levine
2006 Brady Hutchinson & Lia Palmacci
2007 Elbiet Moore & Sarah Rippert
2008 Baylie Lamarre & Rachel Niemoller
2009 Baylie Lamarre & Rachel Niemoller

The tournament is played in late October or early November, right around Halloween, it was not long before the hard shots from the 18-yard line were stinging the hands and bodies of dusps wearing both costumes and gloves. To quote Coach Moore, “Two players showed up for the tournament in full hockey equipment to protect themselves from the sting delivered by a cold ball on a cold day. The next year, the tournament resembled a Halloween party.” There have been some incredible costumes over the years, and the tradition continues today, as readers can see from the accompanying photos.

Back on the practice field on Monday, the team decided that a two-on-two shooting competition that they had been playing should become a tournament named Bos’n Ball, complete with a winners’ trophy. That year, goaltender Todd Wheelden ’86 and Coach Moore were the first to write their names on a homemade championship trophy fashioned in Spaulding Hall’s workshop out of a soccer ball nailed to a wooden plaque. Because the tournament is played in late October or early November, right around Halloween, it was not long before the hard shots from the 18-yard line were stinging the hands and bodies of dusps wearing both costumes and gloves. To quote Coach Moore, “Two players showed up for the tournament in full hockey equipment to protect themselves from the sting delivered by a cold ball on a cold day. The next year, the tournament resembled a Halloween party.” There have been some incredible costumes over the years, and the tradition continues today, as readers can see from the accompanying photos.

This year, on the Shumway Fields, the Lawrence Academy Bos’n Ball Tournament held its 25th annual competition for varsity soccer teams (boys and girls). The tournament was established in 1985 by Rob Moore, then the boys’ varsity coach, after his dog Bos’n had been struck by a car the night before the Brooks game. A regular at practices, Bos’n had been the team’s mascot. The team learned of the accidental death on the bus on the way to a game, when LA was to play the powerhouse Brooks team on their
Parents’ Weekend. The underdog team, shaken by the loss of their coach’s dog, decided in the pregame huddle to dedicate the game to Bos’n. They were fearless, playing their best game of the season in front of the Brooks home crowd and bringing home a 3–1 win.

The Elm Tree 2010
Mom was flipping out. [She looks at Anna and smiles.]

Seventy-five pairs of shoes in our foyer. We'd call them [smiling back] Yeah. We had to line them all against the wall.

We had a whole set and basically rearranged our entire living room. We set up actual "We watched the movie and wrote a little script," Kelly explains. "This was a bigger deal: kids, not attending one. They were identical twins from Harvard, Mass., I interrupted Kelly twice within the first minute because what she was saying didn't quite compute.

In fact, they had been running a summer camp for neighborhood kids even before they moved to Harvard as fourth-graders.

"We started out really low-key," by herding 3- and 4-year-olds around. The second half of the day was given over to rehearsals with kids who stayed on for the "serious stuff," putting on a play in the living room for their parents. Suddenly, the older kids for half a day in "camp stuff"—sprinkler games, arts and crafts, water balloons—while operating out of the family home. The second half of the day grew and brand the business. Oh, and one more change: "That was the first year we decided to put on a play at the end of it."

Just for the record, the Banker twins were in second grade when they "started out really low-key" by herding 5- and 4-year-olds around the house. (Nancy, the mother of these enterprising twins, was a stay-at-home mom, so there was an adult nearby if the need arose.)

One summer after another, Kelly and Anna continued leading younger kids in musicals, not acting in them. The enterprising twins decided to cast their younger brother, Drew, and 12 of his closest friends to perform in Grease. Two seventh-graders were directing a cast of fifth-graders. Kelly now concedes that writing a script for fifth-graders to perform Grease was something of a challenge, but she says it with a smile. Rehearsals took place at home, and the performances were held at the Unitarian Church. That show was followed by sixth-graders performing a one-act version of High School Musical.

Combining their talents and prodigious creative drive, they learned to use stage lights and gels in increasingly sophisticated ways and equipped their actors with wireless microphone headsets piped through a soundboard. As eighth-graders, they left behind the Unitarian Church, which was proving too cramped for both the performers and the audiences. When they held a February audition for Oliver in their basement, expecting 30 teenagers to show, they were faced with a new challenge. Seventy-five showed up.

Kelly: Mom was flipping out. [She looks at Anna and smiles.]

Anna: [smiling back] Yeah. We had to line them all against the wall and they had to wait on the stairs. It was like American Idol.

Kelly: Seventy-five pairs of shoes in our foyer. We’d call them downtowns in little groups. It was unbelievable!

With a cast of 40, the rehearsals moved to the Congregational Church. "It was a nightmare," says Kelly. "It was insane," adds Anna. But they’re both smiling and laughing.

After two performances at Bromfield School—and after all expenses—the twins cleared approximately $1,100 each. When the door at Bromfield closed, another opened at Littleton High School for performances of a musical revue called Back to the Eighties. When the technical director at Littleton had held the door open at their first meeting, he clearly expected to see an adult accompanying the girls.

"At the first rehearsal, he was watching to make sure it wasn’t some rinky-dink little whatever," Anna says. "He really liked it, and at the end of the show he was all into us doing more, and he wanted us to help him out with his shows. So it worked out really well. They’re actually still working with us for this show that we’re doing right now."

Among the lessons learned at that venue, they acknowledge like businesswomen weighing the pros and cons, was that the impressive

We went the whole nine yards. For the audience, we cleared out our couches and set up benches, but that was also still in our living room. "A cast of 10 and a crew of four put on a show in The Banker Theatre for approximately 40 guests.

In seventh grade, they moved to three productions: Wizard of Oz, Annie, and Grease. You can see where this is going. They had already moved from the living room to an elementary school in Harvard after the directors of a program called Spectrum granted them permission to use their stage. That was good enough for Wizard of Oz and Annie, but the arrangements prevented the girls from making any money—they were eager to reinvest in AKT Productions.

Having settled into a chair near her sister as Kelly is telling the story behind The Sound of Music, Anna seamlessly enters the conversation.

“We missed having the freedom to do what we wanted and not have to consult with these people and have all these meetings and have to negotiate everything,” Anna says. “We figured, ‘We can do it ourselves and just negotiate with each other—just the two of us. And we don’t have to charge the participants so much to do it, and it can be more of an open opportunity.’” Instead of working with first-, second-, or third-graders, the enterprising twins decided to cast their younger brother, Drew, and 12 of his closest friends to perform in Grease. Two seventh-graders were directing a cast of fifth-graders. Kelly now concedes that writing a script for fifth-graders to perform Grease was something of a challenge, but she says it with a smile. Rehearsals took place at home, and the performances were held at the Unitarian Church. That show was followed by sixth-graders performing a one-act version of High School Musical.

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technical effects introduced at Littleton left them with nothing in the bank after the final curtain call.

A & K Summer Camps continued operations until the summer before they enrolled at Lawrence Academy as sophomores. By then, Anna says, it had become "a bigger deal": They usually ran two sessions with 20 students per session while charging between $80 and $100 per camper.

With their mother's help, they kept financial records for each summer camp and dramatic production to be sure that they knew what to charge to have something left over for a donation or to pay their bills. Soon enough, thanks to advice from an adult director, they began purchasing the rights to perform the musicals, says Kelly: "We were worried that we would get into copyright trouble because it was becoming more of a bigger deal and people were coming to see it, and we just wanted to play it safe."

AKT Productions Arrives at Lawrence

In the fall of 2008, the Bankers were ready to direct a robust cast of middle-school students in a production of J.T. Must Die, the Musical in Lawrence Academy’s Richardson-Mees Performing Arts Center. It went up in January, almost exactly a year after Back to the Eighties, which had been followed by another production of Grease. In the spring, the directors worked for the first time with students from Lawrence Academy to produce Spring Awakening, but just before the final performance, the male lead went home with the H1N1 flu virus. Unfazed, Kelly and Anna simply canceled the show.

"We’ve experienced almost every kind of setback possible: our leading lady landing in the hospital with a rare disease three days from opening night; blizzards on show night or during tech rehearsals; changing leading roles right before the show; cast members quitting on us right before the show; licensing issues; searching for new performance space; and many more,” says Anna. "We don’t really consider the loss of that one Spring Awakening performance a setback—more of a minor disappointment, which we quickly recovered from.”

Suddenly, faculty member Ned Mitchell pokes his head in the door, briefly interrupting the interview.

Ned: Hi, girls. How’s your production coming?

Kelly: Great!

Anna: Awesome!

Kelly: You should come. It’s this weekend.

Ned: It’s coming up on the weekend? When?

Kelly: Friday night and Saturday night at 7:00 in the theater.

What could be more normal than two sophomores directing their first production at their new school? Opening night is days away, and they are perfectly cool, with not a hint of nerves. And yet what they had begun in October, with rehearsals every Tuesday night at Lawrence Academy, marked another “escalation” in their work.

Kelly: The different thing about J.T. Must Die, the Musical is that it’s not a musical.

AJB: Pardon? [Looks up into two smiling faces.]

Anna: We made it.

Kelly: Yeah. It’s based on a popular movie called John Tucker Must Die. It’s a chick-flick kind of thing. Because we didn’t know what show to do, Anna wrote one. We were like, “Well, let’s just make our own show.” So Anna wrote a stage adaptation of the movie and we put in popular songs from the radio that they’re singing. So it’s kind of in the vein of Back to the Eighties.

Anna: Only the thing is, it’s not as contrived.

Flying under the radar when they arrived at Lawrence Academy, Anna and Kelly were already proven entrepreneurs, theater directors and producers, daycare providers, camp directors, and money managers. By the time they decided (in seventh grade) to produce fliers, they had also become publicists who understood the importance of keeping the look of the fliers consistent from year to year. Even before reaching high school, Anna and Kelly Banker understood the importance of preserving the Banker brand.

Yet between them, these two girls have only limited experience, mainly in Irish step dancing and in performing in musical theatre. They admit to having had no voice training or training as musicians and have taken no classes in set design or costume design or business—not have they had classes or mentors in playwriting.

AJB: Wait... do you mean to say that the students performing in your productions know more about dance or singing than you do—combined?

Kelly (director, choreographer, and designer of costumes and sets): Right.

Anna (director, writer, blocker of scenes, and designer of costumes and sets): Absolutely.
Kevin Cronin Joins Board

Mr. Kevin Cronin was voted onto the Board of Trustees during its October 2009 meeting.

Mr. Cronin joined Liberty Mutual Insurance Company’s investment department in 1988 as an investment analyst. He joined Massachusetts Financial Services in 1993 as a vice president and portfolio manager. In 1997, he joined Putnam Investments as a senior vice president and mortgage- and asset-backed securities team leader. After a series of promotions, Mr. Cronin became the chief investment officer for fixed income in 2001. In 2005, he became senior managing director and head of investments. He served as a member of Putnam’s Executive Committee and of the MMC Partners Group. Mr. Cronin earned a bachelor’s degree in economics from Wesleyan University and a master’s degree in business administration, with a concentration in finance and accounting, from the Carroll School of Management at Boston College. He is a Charter Financial Analyst, a member of Lawrence Academy’s Board of Visitors since 2008, and a former trustee of Boston College High School.

Mr. Cronin and his wife, Patricia, reside in Andover, Mass., with their children, Andrew and Brendan ’11, who is boarding at Lawrence Academy. In addition to their contributions to the LA Scholarship Auction and Gagne Winterim Scholarship Golf Tournament, the Cronins have been extremely generous supporters of the LA Annual Fund. “I look forward to working with the trustees, head of school, faculty, and staff to make Lawrence Academy a great experience for all of the students,” Mr. Cronin said after his appointment. “As a current parent, I spend a good deal of time on campus and with members of the community. I hope that this perspective and my career experience can be of value to LA.”

Copper Beech Boughs Out

The copper beech in the Quad is no more. Standing beside the portico of the Ansin Academic Building, with its twin trunks wired together, the tree was estimated to be approximately 200 years old and was living on borrowed time—especially since its roots were disturbed during the demolition of Sheedy Hall in 2003. During the first week in August 2009, because of increasing concerns for the safety of that building, the majestic tree was brought down. The stump was removed on Wednesday, August 5, as a portion of the trunk rested in the nearby parking lot, so heavy that it is dented the asphalt.

“How Strong Are You?”

The first survivor of date rape to speak out nationally, Katie Koestner accepted an invitation from Director of Residential Life Stacey Low to address the school community during a full term all-school assembly. Ms. Koestner, 37, who held the audience’s rapt attention for more than the allotted 60 minutes, shared her account of the traumatic events of that one evening early in her freshman year at The College of William & Mary. On June 3, 1991, Ms. Koestner was on the cover of Time magazine and an issue featured an article titled “Clshan on Campus,” which opened a nationwide discussion of date rape. “I did not come here for your pity,” Ms. Koestner said, following her narration. “I came to ask for your strength,” remarking that at 18 she had not been nearly assertive enough.

Since then, she has appeared on nearly 50 national television programs and over 2,500 college and school campuses. She is the board president of Take Back the Night, which hosted its first national conference at Columbia University on November 7, a few days after she visited Lawrence Academy.

After returning to William & Mary, Ms. Koestner earned two bachelor’s degrees, one in public policy and another in women’s studies, graduating magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. Coe College, located in Iowa, recently awarded her an honorary doctorate in public policy. In 1993, HBO made a movie about her story.

Judith French Poetry Recitation Contest 15

Standing in the Schoolhouse rotunda with last year’s winner, Steve Rihiero ’10 (right), is Sam Gilibead ’11, who won the 15th annual competition with his recitation of “when you have forgotten Sunday: the love story,” a poem by Gwendolyn Brooks. Other finalists were Hannah Corbin (“Gone the 21st-century blues,” by Marge Piercy); Tyler Beede (“Sign for My Father, Who Stressed the Bunt,” by David Bottoms); Kelly Banker (“Courage,” by Anne Sexton); Chris Knollmeyer (“Unresolved attention,” by Taylor Mali); Laura Greenwood (“Forgetfulness,” by Billy Collins); Brendan Donahue (“Tony Steinberg: Brave Seventh Grade Viking Warrior,” by Taylor Mali); Jordan Nathan (“Next to of course god americana,” by Colleen Cummings); Rosie Dempsey (“Poetry Readings,” by Charles Bukowski); Michael Jamieson (“Dog’s Death,” by John Updike); and Emily Fox (“The Motorcyclist,” by James Tate).

Poems for this competition, in which all juniors participate, are chosen by the students and must be at least 14 lines in length. Judges, who include the previous year’s winner(s), evaluate the finalists’ understanding of their chosen poem as reflected in an effective use of inflection, pauses, pace, and posture. Judy French, who worked at Lawrence Academy from 1975 until 1985, served as administrative assistant to two of heads of school, Ben Williams and Steve Hahn.

Mexican-American Author Visits Classes

Matt de la Pena, speaking only a few days after the release of his third novel, We Were Here, told students who had read his first two novels that he had decided early in life to attend college on a basketball scholarship. He didn’t really know what college was, he admitted, because no one he knew had actually gone to one, but he knew that he loved playing basketball and was sure that as a collegiate basketball player, he could “check out girls and maybe even be on TV.”

As a child growing up poor in National City, Calif., he was raised by parents who married as teenagers. He describes his Mexican father as someone who never spoke English. “He was trying to do quite a bit,” Matt said about his father. “He was the one who gave me the perspective and my career experience of the community. I hope that this perspective and my career experience can be of value to LA.”

To illustrate his point, he explained that his first novel, Ball Don’t Lie, went through 104 drafts before he considered it ready for publication—and even then, on the subway home from purchasing a copy (after waiting impatiently in the bookstore for someone else to do so), he caught himself making changes on the printed page. “You always think it could be a little bit better. The story’s never truly finished, only abandoned.” Ball Don’t Lie is currently being made into a movie starring Ludicris.
Parents’ Association: Success Knows No Bounds

Town leaders, alumni, parents, and educators from both independent and public schools gathered in the Williams Arts Center Recital Hall during the annual Board of Visitors meeting held on Friday, November 6, to listen to keynote speaker Dr. Chris Harth ’82. Dr. Harth, who currently serves as the director of global studies and world languages at St. Andrew’s Episcopal School in Jackson, Miss., coordinates that school’s efforts to “go global” and “go green.”

Dr. Harth’s remarks crossed over through subjects including climate change, population trends, international education, and service learning and were sprinkled liberally with data from his own wide-ranging research. He concluded with several suggestions drawn from the programs at Lawrence Academy and from his ongoing work at St. Andrew’s, which includes multinational travel and service learning experiences.

He began his remarks on adapting education to our changing world by noting, focusing only on territory, that by living in a neighborhood—which is itself within a city, state, nation, and continent—each of us develops multiple identities and loyalties. When we consider that communities defined by geography are only one of many, it becomes immediately clear that we belong to many different communities.

Referring to Thomas Friedman’s most recent book, Hot, Flat, and Crowded, the keynote speaker said that being increasingly connected to others on the planet only increases our capacity to affect others, for better or worse, and that such an increased capacity “change[es] the ethical responsibilities that we have not only for our own behavior but [for educating] our kids” because they will not have the luxury of dismissing any concern as “domestic.”

With the Earth’s population projected to increase by two billion in the next 40 years—and with much of that increase occurring in developing countries, with ever-larger appetites for energy—the world in 2050 will be “a radically different world from the one in which we now live and even more fundamentally different from the world in which we grew up.” Dr. Harth said. Given the rapidity of change, he compared designing a curriculum today for the graduates of 2050 with trying to hit a fast-moving target.

Faced with a persisting geographic illiteracy among American students, he placed his hopes for helping students “go global” in programs like Winterim, which reflect an emphasis on international education. He recommended developmentally appropriate travel programs to help American students become acquainted with different ways of seeing the world; he advocated for service learning programs, which can help students to transfer into new contexts the valuable lessons reciprocal relationships have to offer, among them being that “[w]e define ourselves in our future actions with other people and in the context of defining ourselves, we generate the reality.” He suggested simple measures, too. Equip all schools with flags and all classrooms with globes that you can hug (“the idea is that if you hug something, you won’t want to trash it when you get older”); involve parents in green-themed fund-raisers; and, for boarding schools like LA, weave into your own school’s efforts at global education the resources close at hand—like an international student population. (“Those kids have different perspectives. Their conversations are different.”)

If initiatives in curriculum reform are carefully conceived, he concluded, they will garner support. “If you climb a good tree,” he said, quoting a Ghanaian proverb, “the village will support you.”

In addition to fulfilling his roles at St. Andrew’s Episcopal School, Dr. Harth serves as president of the Global Studies Foundation, a nonprofit promoting international education, and as co-chair of the Assessment Community for the National Council for Social Studies. Previously, he served on one of the first interagency working groups studying environmental change and national security sponsored by the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, D.C.

Parents’ Association: Success Knows No Bounds

As another school year draws to a close, we are grateful for the many contributions of our parents toward a very successful 2009–10 Parents’ Association. When organizations have great leaders, there is no limit to what can be achieved. Led by Chair Kathie Hartner (‘81), and Vice-Chair Heather Greacen (Kelly ’10, Scott ’13), this year’s PA achieved beyond expectations.

Organizing over 30 schoolwide events, with more than 100 volunteer parents, the PA brought an atmosphere to campus that reinforced the efforts of and extended a hand of appreciation to the faculty and staff. As a community, we banded together in the face of a changing economic climate and uncertainties regarding the success of our biggest event, Vintage LA 2010. The PA’s yearly scholarship fundraiser, led by Mirzi Garcia-Weil (Jenny ’10) and Linda Foster (Ryan ’10, Sean ’12, Marc ’13), raises funds for deserving students who would otherwise not be able to attend Lawrence Academy. Throughout the process, Kathie and Heather led the charge by serving asuber-volunteers to support the co-chairs of the event and the numerous volunteers who have worked tirelessly toward its success.

Remaining positive and leading by example have been the hallmarks of Kathie’s two-year service to the PA, first as vice-chair and this year as chair. Supported by Heather, Kathie’s tireless effort and eagerness to meet new families and that such an increased capacity “change[es] the ethical responsibilities that we have not only for our own behavior but [for educating] our kids” because they will not have the luxury of dismissing any concern as “domestic.”

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On Making Academic Lemonade

While speaking to the student body at an academic awards assembly, Stephen Ribeiro ’10 described how a mediocre transcript prompted him, following his sophomore year, to reflect on his purpose in school and life in general. Discovering a passion for aerospace engineering, he explained, has since motivated him to ask questions to get at the bedrock truths—even in classes that did not appeal to him. “If you take anything that you truly love and apply it to everything that you are doing, you will improve, and once you do that, you’re golden,” he said. A saxophone soloist in LA’s jazz band, he has frequently demonstrated a passion for music, too.

Athletics

ISL Winners

The students pictured here were recognized by the Independent School League coaches for their outstanding play during the fall 2009 season.

ISL Winners

Among the Spartans’ leading scorers, senior captain Danielle Doherty, of Newton, Mass., scored LA’s only goal in the Division I NEPSAC championship game loss to the Martlets of Westminster School. To advance to the finals, the Spartans (16-5-5) defeated nemesis Noble & Greenough School, 2–1.

Senior captain Sarkie Ampim, a 6-foot-6 forward from New York City, led the Spartans (29-0) in rebounds in his final season. Sarkie contributed 13 points and 8 rebounds, even after sitting 14 minutes of the first half, to help defeat St. Mark’s School, 55–43, and clinch the NEPSAC Class C championship. It was Sarkie’s second career title.

Tony Knight ’11
All-League Football

Mike Orloff ’11
All-League Football

Max Ricci ’11
All-League Football

Matt Tower ’11
Honorable Mention Soccer

Denzel Brito ’10
All-League Football

Danielle Doherty ’10
All-League Field Hockey

Nick Hamel ’10
Honorable Mention Football

Nico Higgins ’10
Honorable Mention Football

John Kelley ’10
Honorable Mention Football

Peter Neck ’10
Honorable Mention Football

Ryan Welch ’11
All-League Football

Rebecca Breault ’11
Honorable Mention Cross-Country

Dan Giovacchini ’11
All-League Football

Marcus Grant ’11
All-League Football

Daniel Caesar ’11
Honorable Mention Soccer

Tyler Cardoze ’12
All-League Football

Emily Field ’11
All-League Field Hockey

Dan Giovacchini ’11
Brendan Lamont ’11, Nicole Kazanjian ’11
Nicole Kazanjian ’11, Yoshi Shimura ’10
Izzy Lawrence ’10 in front of other V1 dancers

Front to Back: Stephanie Sorell ’10, Lisa Berman ’10, Holly Morris ’10, and Ali Savely ’11

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THEATRE AT LA

fall production

TARTUFFE
Performed on November 5–7, 2009 • Richardson-Mees Performing Arts Center

winter production

barefoot...and late for history
Performed on February 18–20, 2010 • Richardson-Mees Performing Arts Center
Tom Warner high school photo

Tom Warner charging down from the apple orchard portion of the Academy’s cross-country course, where he’d set a course record as a sophomore in 1972.

Memories of Tom Warner ’75

Compiled and introduced by Richard A. Johnson ’74

“My grief, I find, is not desolation or rebellion at universal law or deity. I find grief to be much simpler and sadder. All things he loved are lost because he is no longer here on earth to enjoy them. All the things he loved!”—Frances, in Death Be Not Proud, by John Gunther

“At the age of twenty-two, I believed myself to be unextinguishable.”—Siegheld Sassoon

One of Tom Warner’s classmates once remarked, “Tom is LA,” and this was true in every imaginable way. During his three years at the Academy, the Shirley native left an indelible mark as a student, athlete, leader, and friend. After graduating in 1975, Tom attended Amherst College, where he excelled as both a Dean’s List student and member of a championship hockey team. He was diagnosed with a brain tumor not cut his life short. I visited Tom in the hospital for the first time, and I always believed that it meant, ‘How much longer before I can go home?’ Or, ‘How much longer until lunch?’ (which I really doubt; it was one of the first two). Then another crowd of people came in. I always believed that it meant, ‘How much longer before I can go home and get out of this stinking hospital?’ The last time I saw him was probably about a week or two before he died; I came for a visit to the house and was with him in that back bedroom. And the very wise Ma Warner had said to all of us, ‘I want you to play his music and talk to him because even if he only wakes up for a brief moment, I want him to know he is at home.’ He was a man for the ages, and there is no telling what he would be doing now; I’m sure he’d be married with a couple of kids and he’d have a huge success at whatever he had chosen to do.”

Tony Samps ’74: “I remember standing at the starting line of the ‘72 PSAL cross-country championship meet shivering with what seemed a huge mass of young runners experiencing high anxiety as if about to enter a battle. My recollection is that the ground was spongy and I had a hard time staying vertical. Concrete? Mud? I’m not sure, but hadn’t some mischievous kids hung pictures torn from Playboy magazine to trees in the forest loop? Maybe that was another race, but I know it took place at Governor Dummer. I was fixed on a rugged little St. Paul’s runner whom I did not like, and I tried to keep up with him. When I saw him after going through the finish bottleneck chute, I asked to see his number card. I don’t remember what it was except that it wasn’t too much lower than mine. Tommy told me later how he had made his way ahead of two out of the three ‘invincible’ Governor Dummer runners and that the leader was shocked (and gibbering to himself) to see who was immediately behind him. During the awards ceremony, the headmaster introduced Tommy as ‘the kid who scared us all.’”

Richard Johnson ’74: “I too will never forget the ‘72 PSAL meet at Governor Dummer as Tommy Warner finished second (not only was Tommy an amazing person, but he also was a runner of great strength and extraordinary talent). Our team, against all odds, averaged an earlier loss to St. Paul’s and finished second in the league (now the ISL) to Governor Dummer. I remember being as happy as I’d ever been in my life up to that moment. It was so perfect. We hugged each runner when he came down the finish chute. I remember that our captain Jeff Kornick, nearly floated as we told him how we’d all done. It remains one of those indelible moments, up there with true love, birth, death—the important stuff in life. That night, I visited the Warner home for the first time, and my life has never been the same since.”

Patrick Warner ’80: “I recall with delight a ‘taken from school for dubious reasons day’ in the spring of, I think, my freshman year at LA (April 1977). I was, oddly and unusually, outside for a literature class or maybe a history class, a group of us young lads and lasses on the hill overlooking the football field and the cows across the road in the Gibbet Hill field where the Castle is. Glancing up from whatever text we were discussing, I saw Tom and Rich (Johnson) striding toward me. They confided to the teacher (Dave McKnight? Daddie Drophes? John Curran in Fiddler drag?) that I had a dentist appointment. As I ambled off with them, confused (I didn’t recall any dentist appointment), toward (yup!) the blue VW Bug, they told me that I wasn’t going to the dentist but to my first-ever Red Sox game at Fenway!”

“I know that I’ve said this before, but reading an exchange like this reminds me anew that you guys are the keepers of the flame. You keep Tom alive. Your memories are, by and large, the ones that remain, the strongest ones anyway, and in many ways the most perceptible.”

Eric Reisman ’75: “I had a moment with Tom at Children’s Hospital, sometime before he went home for the last time. He and I were alone for a very short time, and he said to me: ‘How much longer?’ I never got to ask, and never got to find out if that meant ‘How much longer do I have to live?’ ‘How much longer before I can go home?’ Or, ‘How much longer until lunch?’ (which I really doubt; it was one of the first two). Then another crowd of people came in. I always believed that it meant, ‘How much longer before I can go home and get out of this stinking hospital?’ The last time I saw him was probably about a week or two before he died; I came for a visit to the house and was with him in that back bedroom. And the very wise Ma Warner had said to all of us, ‘I want you to play his music and talk to him because even if he only wakes up for a brief moment, I want him to know he is at home.’ He was a man for the ages, and there is no telling what he would be doing now; I’m sure he’d be married with a couple of kids and he’d have a huge success at whatever he had chosen to do.”

Greg Cape ’74: “I have very specific memories of the few years Tom and I spent together, during a time in our lives when first it seemed that everything good was possible, and then suddenly it was not. As our son Thomas passes through these years now, I find myself pulled back, wondering about how my friendship with Tom and our cross-country team pals gave me all I would ever need to be myself today.

‘Tom was the first to give me the nickname ‘Copey,’ not highly original but so welcome nevertheless as a badge of belonging. It was somewhat surprising that he sought me...
out as a friend, as he was many things I was not: a brilliant student and deep thinker, a respected athlete with muscles like braided wire rope, and a confident young man at ease with himself. He was loose-jointed, graceful, and had fine presence and a warm and kind appeal, and in secret I hoped that some of this would rub off on me, especially with the ladies. (OK, some disappointment there.) In short, he made me feel worthy, and so, in those rare moments that can pull us out of ourselves, I sought to be the kind of teammate and friend that would affirm him ... and by some mystery or blessing, in doing so I affirmed myself. What was and is remarkable is that this same gift was passed between Tom and all of us: Rich, Tony, Tom Fahey, Eriq, Dave Oakes, and anyone else who got caught up in what was essentially a conspiracy of goodness, with Tom at the center. He is still there.

“Not long after we lost him, I reread some of the handwritten letters we’d written to one another. On the lined pages in his spidery hand were obscure, jokey references I can’t place today, and there were also dreams, fears, and a vital joy just beneath the surface that I can still feel. Tom helped me to find and treasure the best things about myself. Such things live on and have grown in my heart. Tom’s friendship showed me how to give, receive, and love, and so made possible all that has found me today in my wife, daughter, and son.”

Tom Fahey ’74: “Tommy was only a mile down the street in college, and I remember hooking up with him after he had his surgery. He told me about the plate in his head, and I could see the obvious deterioration in his facial affect. I can only imagine how much his demise frightened me. I don’t remember how I heard that he was at Children’s Hospital in September 1979, but word came to me, and again I was living only a mile or two away in Brookline. My mother had just died of breast cancer. Her illness paralleled Tom’s very closely. I think I was premature enough that I had been able to process her passing. When I caught wind that Tom was nearby and in need of company, I decided to swoop in and give him a boost. I walked into his room and within minutes I awkwardly excused myself. Sick as he was, he was more collected than I. I couldn’t handle it. He was obviously dying, and it shook me to my core. The next day, I gathered myself and went back, and over the course of the week the group that gathered in that room grew. Everybody knows the rest.”

Gordon Sewall ’67: “I remember Tom as a respectful youngster who was quick to smile even when the chips were down. He was reassuring to peers and adults alike, often building others’ confidence. A ‘happy’ competitor who loved the game and his teammates, he gave all to win but never at the expense of class and dignity. I remember him calming those around him as he fought his illness. Like Kully, he modeled that good values, a love of friends and family, and a determined desire to win could coexist in a person in an appealing way. My last memory of Tom was seeing him during his last days in the hospital when all he had left to communicate with was a squeeze of a hand. A gesture he used to comfort and reassure us that he was going to be OK in those final moments before he slipped gracefully away.”

Final Days

A version of the following remembrance was emailed to Tom’s friends on the 30th anniversary of his death on September 25, 2009. —RAJ

The speech quoted below was routinely recited by members of the 1975–76 Amherst College hockey team led by freshman Tom Warren … usually as a call and response with goodie Jeff Fine … it was sometimes also used as a boost to Jeff before a faceoff in the Amherst zone … with Tommy skating toward the circle, pausing as he looked back to the net while cracking, “What makes the muskrat guard his musk?” Tommy smiled from ear to ear as he whispered, “Courage.” I think of his voice as you read these words … he’d get a kick out of being remembered this way. *Courage.*


The Tom Warren ’75 Memorial 5K Walk/Run will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday of Reunion Weekend, May 8, 2010. All proceeds from the event will go to support the Thomas B. Warren Memorial Scholarship Fund, which the family established in 1979. The cost of the event is $25, which includes lunch in the dining hall, and the first 100 participants will receive a T-shirt. Look for signs and the registration table in the parking area for the lower fields off of Route 40.
Alumni Gatherings

Alumni Basketball Game – Saturday, January 9, 2010

Front row, L–R: Adam Kolloff ’02, Kevin Sullivan ’98, Jeff Sullivan ’01, Ollie Taylor ’09, Mike Cutley, Darryl Cato-Bishop ’09, Andrew Belmonte ’09, and Kevin McDonald ’70; back row, L–R: Jon Clark, Kevin Wiercinski, Matt Kilfoilye ’04, Rahmel Hobbs ’98, Andre Gay ’98, Alan Wakeman ’09, Tristan Haman ’09, Mark Haman, and Jerry Wooding

Alumni Hockey Game – Saturday, January 9, 2010

Front row, L–R: Ben Rogers ’02, Carl Sussenberger ’70, Gus LaBelle ’01, Steve Kennedy ’81, Jarred Gagnon ’03, Rebecca Keller ’96, Bruce MacNeil ’70, Logan Gillis ’09, Devin Gillis, and Sean Shetler ’97; back row, L–R: Landon Fritz ’09, Rob Moore, Dwain Barron ’96, Chris Margraf, MikeRyan ’03, Doug Shuster ’96, Stefan Rozembersky ’99, Al Britt ’98, Catlin Cash ’00, Mike Cataldo ’00, and referee AJ Twogood ’12.

At The Billiards Café, following Winter Alumni Games, our alumni were once again treated to a great time. The café is owned by Calvin (upper right-hand corner) and Annette Moore, parents of CJ ’99, Todd ’01, and Chelsea ’05.
The Atlanta gathering was hosted by Chuck O’Boyle and his partner, Rick Rambuss. L–R: Kevin Potter, Rob and Carol Griffin (parents of Jeremy ‘12), Amer Rathore ’88, Chuck O’Boyle ’82, Skip Davis ’84, Andrew McKown ’88, and Nache Duncan ’91. Behind the camera, Molly Richardson.

Denver

Front row, L–R: David Kimball ’64, Molly Richardson, Jenna Backman ’04, Nina Sheff ’02, Liz Friel ’02, Lindsay Letzlie ’08, Abby Myrte ’10, and Kevin McDonald ’70; back row, L–R: Andrew Klopfer ’00, Ryan Friel ’00, Nathan Bresee ’08, Austin Colby ’00, Matt Reehling ’98, and Dave Mazzu ’01.

Harpoon Brewery

Spring Bullard ’90, Rob Moore, and Chris Nunez ’86.

New York

Jeff Henry ’93 and Alumni Ambassador Ellen Makovsky ’94.

Spring Bullard ’90, Rob Moore, and Chris Nunez ’86.

Tom Casey and Amy Hall Casey ’94, Nicole Ferris ’95, and Joselyn Kaye Kaye ’96.

Amer Rathore ’88, Rob Moore, and trustees Brad Hobbs ’82.

Anna Koulis ’73 and Doug Plumer ’77.

Jon Wolfe ’88, Alumni Ambassador Maria Graceffa-Taylor ’88, and Amer Rathore ’88.

Bridget Burke Kavorkian ’87 and Hae Joon Choe ’04.

Atlanta

The Atlanta gathering was hosted by Chuck O’Boyle and his partner, Rick Rambuss. L–R: Kevin Potter, Rob and Carol Griffin (parents of Jeremy ‘12), Amer Rathore ’88, Chuck O’Boyle ’82, Skip Davis ’84, Andrew McKown ’88, and Nache Duncan ’91. Behind the camera, Molly Richardson.

Gagné 80th Birthday

Dear Alumni,

For this issue of The Elm Tree, I thought it would be interesting to get some input from alumni who are involved with Lawrence either as school ambassadors or by serving on the Alumni Council. I invited Sandy Sweeney Gallo ’75, Val Campolieto Templeton ’89, and Ryan Chase ’93 to share their thoughts on the following question: “Why do you feel that alumni support is important to LA?”

“Alumni support is so critical to continue the 200-plus years of tradition and history,” Ryan said. Val wrote, “It shows how thankful I am for the high quality of education that I received, and I know that my support will help to ensure that future generations have the same opportunities that I did.”

After not having been on campus since 1980, Sandy returned from San Diego with a few classmates last May to join friends from the Class of ’74 to celebrate their 35th Reunion. Her visit was very emotional; seeing former faculty members reminded her of how “teachers as well as staff watched over us, nurtured our strengths, and helped us to grow and develop into young adults.” Energized by her visit, Sandy is now spearheading the 35th Reunion for her class on May 7–9.

As a follow-up, I asked our ad hoc panel, “What inspired you to serve as a member of the Alumni Council or as an ambassador?” (Ambassadors assist the Council, alumni, and those working in development and admissions by representing LA in cities around the country.)

Many of you remember Val as Campy’s daughter growing up on campus. She was excited about returning to Groton in 1995: “I wanted for years to become part of Lawrence again and be able to give back to the community that gave me so much for 18 years!” As the incoming Council president for 2010–12, she looks forward to “working to get other alumni as excited about the school as I have always been!” Ryan expects to combine his love for Colorado with his positive LA experience by “staying connected to the Lawrence community, even if we are 1,700 miles away!”

I think that Sandy summed it up best when she said, “As an ambassador, I can begin my efforts to give back. I know that there are other alumni out there who, like me, want to show their appreciation for the amazing experience they had as teenagers all those many years ago. It is now our turn to make sure that Lawrence always has a future!”

Well, there you have it! Looking for a way to get engaged with LA? Feel free to contact me at mcdkev@comcast.net or Molly Richardson at mrichardson@lacademy.edu.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. McDonald ’70
President, Alumni Council

Education Matters

Your generous gifts to the Annual Fund DO make a difference. Please make a gift today at www.lacademy.edu/onlinegiving.
‘41
Dick Lawton wrote that he has “fond memories of four great years at LA mounting the ‘Elm Tree’—shaded bill,” as a day student, and especially once when driving to school in a 1931 Model A Ford in the spring of 1941!

‘58
Max Dine has experienced a miraculous recovery after struggling with health issues for a long time. We are all very happy to see him on the mend. He writes that he is now stronger than ever, in mind, body, and spirit! Please contact Max by email at mdine@cox.net to hear his story firsthand.

‘64
Will Brown shared a bit of sports history along with his best wishes in an email to Dick Jeffers. “I was co-captain the year I graduated, and I think that my brother Steve was also one in 1968. We followed the lead of my father (Will Brown Sr., ’39), who was the hockey captain in 1939!” He went on to tell of his “spectacularly unsuccessful hockey career at Brown,” where he could skate with the Canadians and Detroit thugs but couldn’t play with them. Will joined the Marines in his junior year and remained in the Reserves after active duty, finally retiring as a colonel in 1998. He returned to Brown and then went on to Harvard Business School, where he received his MBA and played on the club hockey team. Reflecting on how things have changed, he describes playing against Boston industrial league teams with no helmets and bodies half full of beer—what he called “old-school hockey.” Will became an IT manager for E.D. Wilde & Company for 33 years and, like Will, sent his daughter Lizzie to LA Class Notes.

‘69
Sherm Bedford reports that all is well in Kentucky. “I’m still flying for UPS, currently as a B-757/B-767 captain. I would have retired this coming July if Congress hadn’t raised the mandatory retirement age from 60 to 65. Now, I guess I’ll hang around until 62 or so. It’s a shame that LA is such a long way away, but my flying schedule makes getting to the various functions that I get invited to nearly impossible.”

‘73
Vicki Lamb, an LA trustee, is joining the Peace Corps and left for Ukraine at the end of March for a 3-year tour. Inspired to travel more by a Winterim trip to Cuba with the Scheneks, Vicki has been dreaming of this opportunity for a long time.

‘76
Ian Douglas was elected the 15th diocesan bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut by a majority vote of Church officials and laypeople. Ian is currently the Anglican Dunn Professor of Mission and World Christianity at Episcopal Divinity School and the associate priest at St. James Episcopal Church, both in Cambridge. “I’m less proud and more humbled and honored,” he said in a phone interview. “I’m very excited to be working with the people in the Connecticut Diocese.” Ian will be presiding over approximately 60,000 baptized members of the Episcopal Church throughout Connecticut. He was formally installed as bishop on April 17 in Hartford, though he may informally begin his work early next year.

‘81
Scott Lane and his wife, Caroline, and their daughter Lizzie traveled to Barcelona last summer. He wrote that “the weather was beautiful, the people were welcoming, and the sightseeing fantastic!”

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Learn about gatherings near you and find friends from your LA days by joining the Facebook group named “Lawrence Academy Alumni ALL AGES.” We hope you will also become a fan of Lawrence Academy on Facebook and follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/lawrencespartan.
Mike Cormack loves that LA is on Facebook! He responded to a call for class notes with news of the arrival of his son, George Peter Cormack, who was born on April 18, 2009. “He’s named after my George (who slayed the dragon, you know),” Mike reports that life is good. In November, when he was working in Jerusalem, he visited the Old City and Bethlehem, and he’s setting his sights on Maui in May for a family trip. Chris Harth thoroughly enjoyed returning to LA to deliver the keynote address to the Board of Visitors and seeing the progress the school continues to make. Maria Alia Salinas also brought a new life into the world when Nicholas Andrew Suarez-Salinas was born on February 23, 2009.

Kurt Carter, after almost seven years of being away, made his way back to campus to watch the Spartans face off against Gushing in the winter hockey tournament. He is now coaching the Medway/Ashland varsity girls’ ice hockey team and arranged to schedule a scrimmage at LA against the girls’ junior varsity in February. Mark Sage was promoted to executive vice president of development for Marquis Jets, a private company that developed the idea of the fractional jet card.

Rob Lawlor wrote an article that appeared in the business section of The Lowell Sun titled “The Traveling Tuxedo: The True History of Castle poo.” The article ran in the December 13 edition. Juan Salinas-Bentley and his wife, Tammy, were invited to a private dinner at Windsor Castle hosted by HRH the Prince of Wales to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the British Forces Foundation, of which the prince is the patron. Juan has participated in many charity polo matches in England since the 10th anniversary of the British Forces Foundation, in which he is the co-founder.

Barry Ansin and his wife, Stéphanie, are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Peter Porter Ansin, on January 3, 2010. Peter, who is in excellent health, weighed 6 lbs. 14 oz. and was 20.5 inches long. Barry wrote that they are “honored to have this opportunity to bring this little guy into the world.”

Nearly seven months after being sworn in as the General Service Administration’s chief of staff, Danielle Germaine announced that she was stepping down to explore other opportunities. Danielle resigned from GSA in January to return to the National Academy of Public Administration as the director of its innovative Collaboration Project. Classmate Brioyn Lang is still performing his comedy/juggling act on cruise ships, in casino shows, at corporate events, and in clubs. He is living in Los Angeles.

Chris Bradbury is living in Upper Saddle River, N.J., with his wife, Michelle, and their kids, Christopher, 12, and Julia, 10. Classmate Tiaone Payne Ferreira recently moved down to Dartmouth, Mass., with her husband, Corey, and son Tyler. She continues to love being a professor of biology at UMass-Dartmouth and living so close to the beach. Jeff Serowik was inducted into the New Hampshire Legends of Hockey Hall of Fame. He played nine pro seasons in the NHL, AHL, and IHL, suiting up in 26 of his 28 NHL games for the Pittsburgh Penguins in 1998–99, his best, last, and most bittersweet season. A series of concussions ended his playing days after that year, so Jeff, 42, began expanding his Pro Ambitions hockey camps, something he started as a single camp during his pro off-seasons. He now runs more than 300 camps a year for players ages 6–18 at locations around New England and beyond. Liz Kaplan Wiederhorn has been living in Brooklyn, N.Y., for 10 years with her husband and two kids, Joshua, 7, and Chloe, 5, and is working in real estate. Liz welcomes hearing from classmates via email at elizabeth8714492000.com.

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Anticipating warmer weather are Ellis Dean and Delaney Pynn, twins born to J.D. Sawyer ’86 and his wife, Tawnya.

‘86

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River, N.J., with his wife, Michelle, and
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‘87

Ellis Dean and Delaney Pynn, twins born to J.D. Sawyer ’86 and his wife, Tawnya.

‘88

J.D. Sawyer and his wife are proud to announce the arrival of twins on September 1, 2009. Ellis Dean was born first, weighing 6 lbs. 12 oz., and then came Delaney Pynn, who weighed 6 lbs. 5 oz. Everyone is doing great!

‘89

Nearly seven months after being sworn in as the General Service Administration’s chief of staff, Danielle Germaine announced that she was stepping down to explore other opportunities. Danielle resigned from GSA in January to return to the National Academy of Public Administration as the director of its innovative Collaboration Project. Classmate Brioyn Lang is still performing his comedy/juggling act on cruise ships, in casino shows, at corporate events, and in clubs. He is living in Los Angeles.

‘91

RobinSoloway Farmanfarmaian recently retired after three years as the San Francisco Opera’s BRAVO! Club’s volunteer coordinator. In December, she was a main organizer of TEDx Silicon Valley, and she will be involved with the next one in Silicon Valley. She also assisted with Wonderfest, the Bay Area Science Festival held at Stanford and Berkeley. This spring, she will be involved with a few new projects, one being interviewing high school students and college freshmen to help with grant scholarships. She will also be attending Harvard’s “Women and Power” Executive Program. At her day job, she is still director of marketing and business development for Ad Valorem Appraisal. Chris Ward is excited to announce the arrival of Quinlin Joseph Ward, at 7 lbs. 11 oz. Mom and Quinn are doing great!
‘92
Heather Tobin Abrams and her husband welcomed their son, Tyler Joseph Abrams, into the world on November 21, 2009. They are all doing very well and the parents are enjoying their new bundle of joy! Rob Moran, in a career change, is preparing to apply to physician’s assistant programs in Boston. Katie Baldwin Watts added a baby boy to the family when she and her husband, John, had Sawyer Watts on December 7, 2009, and they are loving every minute of it!

‘94
Faculty member Joe Sheppard reports that Lucy Grace Marro was born to Alis Sheppard Marro and husband, Ethan Marro, at 6:50 p.m. on November 8, 2009. Lucy weighed in at 6 lbs. 14 oz., measuring a strapping 21 inches long. Mom and two grandmas are doing fine. Dad and a new grandpa are still in a state of shock!

‘95
Kim Knox is the new head coach of the Arlington Catholic girls’ hockey team. Kim took over when Ed McDonald, who had held the position since the team’s inception, stepped down after last year. She inherits a team that went 12–9–1 and

Coming Full Circle After 10 Years

Jason Arredondo ’96 proposed to Kristen Hofmann ’97 on the hill overlooking Murbach Field, of all places. “I had planned the whole thing down to the most specific detail,” writes Jason. “We walked around visiting our favorite spots and places where we used to hang out. I also researched the time of day the Sun would be setting in order to catch it in the background. The one problem with the picture is that most people think that this picture [see above] was touched up or staged, but the whole thing was taken in one shot. Kristy actually thought that I had fallen off the rock before she caught on that I was actually proposing. After she said, ‘Yes!’ I took her to Gibbet Hill Grill for a surprise dinner with both sides of the family, who were there waiting for us.”

That was in October 2007. When given the chance, Jason was eager to tell the story of how they came full circle.

Following their graduation from LA, Jason and Kristy dated through the summer and into the next year. She attended Marist College, and Jason went to Santa Cruz, Bolivia, where he played professional soccer. Not happy with a long-distance relationship, Kristy called it off in favor of remaining close friends. When he returned from Bolivia, Jason played Division I soccer at Hartwick College, which was just far enough from Marist to prevent them from visiting each other during the remainder of their college years. “However, we still called to check in on each other and make sure that we were focused on getting through undergrad and noses out to see whom we were dating at the time,” Jason says. “For about 10 years, we kept in contact no matter what was going on in our lives (even if the phone call was for only a few minutes).” When they lost their phones at around the same time, they lost track of each other. Kristy went on to obtain a master’s degree from UNH and moved to Maine. Jason had moved to Monterey, Calif., where he earned a master’s degree from The Monterey Institute, which is affiliated with Middlebury College.

Shortly after Jason had finished grad school, he moved back from California. While undergoing government background checks for a variety of different agencies, he received a phone call from Kristy. “She had had a random [encounter] with a former classmate of ours, Audrey Labarre, while waiting in line at a local bar in Portsmouth, N.H. Kristy, who was ‘desperate’ to reconnect with me, asked if Audrey had my phone number. Shortly after our phone call, we started dating (after the mandatory ‘10-year break’), and within a year, I proposed to her at Lawrence Academy.”

Jason and Kristy, who now live in Bellingham, Mass., were married on September 27, 2008, at Bald Peak Colony Club in Melvin Village, N.H. Matt Cabot was a groomsman and Audrey Labarre also attended. Kristy works full-time for Wayside Youth & Family Support Network as a therapist, and Jason, working for Safety Insurance, hopes to earn a second master’s degree. In her free time, Kristy has been volunteering in New Hampshire at all the all-girls camp that promotes the social, educational, and physical well-being of girls and young women. Jason has been training and competing nationally in Strongman and power lifting meets. He currently holds a couple of national records. He has also begun looking for a soccer team to coach (“I have been itching to get back on the field again”). In signing off, Jason writes; “Our memories of Lawrence have always been special to both of us. I could not think of a better place to symbolize how our lives had come full circle, especially since we were about to move in a new direction together.”

Katie Baldwin Watts ’92 and husband John welcomed their first son, Sawyer Watts, into the world on December 7, 2009.

Katie Baldwin Watts ’92 and her husband are building and selling LEED-certified homes. Using insulated concrete forms, radiant heat, and Venmar Energy Recovery and Air Exchange, they are able to produce healthy, energy-efficient homes in Kittery, Me. Both Kate and John were in the traditional construction business when they realized that it was time to do something more. They had been taking measures at home to live a more “green” lifestyle when they decided to incorporate green practices into their business, too. They have been focused on sustainable architecture for the past two years and have already sold one home to a more-than-satisfied customer. To heat a 2,400-square-foot home, it took her and John a tank of oil and have already sold one home to a more-than-satisfied customer. To heat a 2,400-square-foot home, it took her

On December 1, 2009, Laura Baker ’95 (right) and Sarah Traing, wife of LA trustee Dan Lemehate, were inducted into Hockey Hall of Fame as members of the women’s 1998 Olympic gold medal team.

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lost to Acton-Boxboro, 5–3, in the second round of the Division 1 state tournament. Kim played at the University of New Hampshire, where her team won a national title in 1998. After graduating, she was an assistant coach at Lawrence Academy and Billerica High before accepting the job at Arlington Catholic.

Chuck Rinaldo ’96 and his wife, Sara Czarnecki, cutting the cake

Chuck Rinaldo was married on August 8, 2009, to Sara Czarnecki in Chicago, Ill. The best man was Kevin White, Kelley Duggan Sorrow proudly introduces Madeline Rose Sorrow, who was born on January 26, 2010, weighing 8 lbs. 15 oz. and measuring 19.5 inches long. According to her parents, the first words the doctor said after delivery were, “She’s a church!”

Rachel Newman Ducat shared that on May 15–16, 2010, she will be walking in her 5th Avon Walk for Breast Cancer. This will be Rachel’s first walk in Boston; her first three were in Chicago, and she’s also completed one in the Rocky Mountains. This year, she comes home to walk where her family can come out and support her. Rachel walks for her family, which has been touched by many kinds of cancers, and she walks for all of those who cannot. Please visit her Avon Walk Website at www.avonwalk.org/goto/ducat7. Phoebe Lovejoy and Peter R. Russell Jr. were married on September 26, 2009, at Trinity Church in Boston. Phoebe is active with the Department of Child and Family Services as a volunteer case worker and is an officer for her class at Wheaton College. Phoebe received her graduate degree from The New York School of Interior Design in Manhattan and now runs a Boston-based residential interior design firm, Lovejoy Designs. Phoebe and Peter, who honeymooned in Greece, live in Boston. Catie Floyd McMenamin married Matt McMenamin in South Dartmouth on September 12, 2009. In attendance were Allison Floyd as maid of honor and bridesmaids Laura Cataldo Beckler and Becky Sargent.

Rhianna Cohen recently took time from a busy work schedule to head to Colorado to visit classmate Betsy Colvin Johnson and her family and go skiing in Breckenridge. Ryan Donovan’s fishing team, which included his father, John, and best buddy, Luis, did not place in last year’s tournament, but they did once again catch the biggest fish. While slow-trolling a 101-pound skipjack tuna on the Outer

Alums Livin’ Green

Before being named the first assistant head of school and director of environmental affairs at Hotchkiss School, Josh Hahn ’96 had founded and directed Stone Bridge, Sustainability + Education, a consulting firm that helped over 200 independent schools incorporate fundraising efforts and marketing strategies to promote a more sustainable and environmentally responsible future. In his position at Hotchkiss, Josh hopes to bridge the gap between what is being taught in science classes and how life is being lived on campus. More than just raising environmental and global awareness, he hopes to facilitate a change in school culture so that graduates “go into the world with some sort of public and regenerative purpose rather than a private purpose.” Collaborating with the school’s director of global initiatives, Josh will work to create “an organization that’s going to be adaptable and agile enough to be able to work with whatever is happening in a changing world.” In designing a generator that will be central to the student experience, the school is favoring biomass as the primary fuel source but also plans to incorporate solar and other energy generation technology. In addition to these plans, Hotchkiss just acquired 280 acres on which it grows its own food and learns how to live off the land. In fact, all of the potatoes they are eating this year at Hotchkiss are homegrown by students. In 2006, Josh partnered with people in the Lawrenceville, Exeter, and Northfield Mount Hermon communities to create the Green Cup Challenge, an initiative that both encourages schools to measure and reduce their electricity use and supports campus greening efforts. This year, Lawrence Academy became one of over 200 schools participating in the Green Cup Challenge.

Compiled by Amanda Doyle ’98

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In this year’s alumni basketball game, boys varsity coach Kevin Wiercinski was glad that others were doing all the running. Here, André Gay ’98 brings the ball up the court unnoticed.

On their wedding day, Kevin Menard ’98 with his wife, Laura, and his parents.

It was a good time back on the hard-court for Rahmel Hobbs ’98 in this year’s alumni game.
Dana Culgan Goodwin ’99 and Joseph Murray Goodwin, aka Muzzy
Gordo Bank, fishing aboard The Missing Link, they got slammed by a monster black marlin. The 633-pounder they landed was the biggest marlin caught during any of the tournaments last year, they just happened to catch it during the wrong one. “Can’t win ’em all, I guess,” says Ryan, “but as long as we are catching the biggest fish each year, I like our chances.” Jon Knaus is now a realtor working at William Raveis Real Estate in Westbrook.

Jamie Monahan Coppens ’99 and her husband, Michael Coppens.

This was a big year for Robbie Barker: He was named to WMUR’s All-NH Nor’easter Team and shared by Dick Umlie, the coach of the UNH hockey team, and he married Marcelle Grondin, a Keene State College graduate, on August 7, 2009. They were married in a double-ring ceremony by Pastor David Medeiros at Londonderry Presbyterian Church. A reception was held at the Executive Court in Manchester, N.H. The couple spent their honeymoon on Maui and Kauai, Hawaii. Robbie and Marcelle are working at Cardigan Mountain School as teachers and living in Canaan, N.H. Robbie’s classmate Sam Reggio currently lives in Tonashimu, Japan, where he teaches English in the public schools. Sam describes Japan as “a beautiful place, but I should be returning to the States this summer, though sadly not in time for alumni weekend.” Before he left for Japan, Sam had been living in Washington, D.C., but he plans to look for work in the Boston area when he returns. He is hoping to pursue a career in library studies, although he is not yet sure whether in the public or private sector. Robbie Wilkes has completed work on the movie Cauchoy_pag, which he submitted to Sundance, and is now fundraising for his next movie, Thule, in which Chase Hoyt ’99 is to appear. He wrote to us in December, calling on alumni one and all to visit the Website theltemovie.com and consider donations as small as $5. Donations of $25 or more, he promised, will be repaid with a credit in the film and a copy of the DVD. Producing Thule is his final project toward completing work in the directing program at The American Film Institute in Los Angeles, Calif.

This was a big year for Stefanie Middleton Marcoux and Jeff LaChance Marcoux were married on August 8, 2009, at Free Christian Church in Andover. After graduating from LA, Stefanie earned her bachelor’s degree from Union College in Schenectady, N.Y., and her master’s degree from Simmons College in Boston. She is now working as an English teacher at Lynnfield High School. Jeff is employed by the Dolben Company, Inc., in Bedford, Mass., as a property manager. Following the reception at the Bedford Village Inn in Bedford, N.H., Stefanie and Jeff honeymooned in Kauai, Hawaii; they are living in North Andover. Emily Rand wrote to us to say that she is now working as an associate producer for CBS News and living in Brooklyn, N.Y.

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Nate Helming ’02, who now lives in the San Francisco Bay area, refers to himself as a “focused individual.” It certainly takes a lot of focus to have completed 19 triathlons, three of which were ironman races, by the end of 2009. Committed to excel as a triathlete, Nate, who grew up in Acton, sat with the cross-country teams, describing how he trains and answering questions. By the end of 2009, Nate had competed in 19 triathlons.

Nate’s first triathlon while studying in South Africa, however, is what launched him in the sport that calls on athletes in ironman races to swim for 2.4 miles, cycle over a distance of 112 miles, and then run a marathon. “When you do one of these, it puts everything else into perspective, I suppose,” he said, smiling. Perhaps his most memorable race, he says, was an adventure-running race that he did not know included two river crossings. “That was before I was a triathlete and didn’t really swim much,” he chuckled. “That race was really cool.”

Since then, he’s done a lot of exercising—biking, running, strength training, and open-water swimming—and he calculates that he now puts in about 16 hours of training a week when he’s not helping to coach others in his role as personal trainer and triathlete coach with Trifiniti Endurance Performance Coaching. He favors the Olympic-distance triathlons (1 mile in the water, 25 miles on the bike ride, and a 6.2-mile run) and the half-ironman (1.2-mile swim, 56-mile ride, and 13-mile run). In June 2009, Nate completed the Ironman Coeur d’Alene in a time of 9:49:11, running a 3:20 marathon on his way to finishing 9th in his age group and 51st overall. In 2007, he finished the same race in 10:31:06. In commenting on the importance of strength training, he observed, “A lot of people get hurt running because they are not strong enough for the demands of the sport.”

After noting how fast the very best marathoners are racing (under 5 minutes per mile), he explained why he is “coming back” to running 5K races, which is the length of high school courses. Says the former Spartan who now makes his living as a personal trainer and triathlete coach, “You have to be fast first before you can go long and fast.”

Nate was the subject of a profile appearing in the January 16 issue of the Marin Independent Journal. He plays with the cross-country teams, describing how he trains and answering questions. By the end of 2009, Nate had competed in 19 triathlons.

Zeb Couch has graduated from Boston College with a degree in English. After transferring from Hobart College, he heard that he could make “good money” working in real estate on the side in Boston, and the rest, as they say, is history. He is now running Bogot’, a real estate company that he founded to focus exclusively on the student rental market in Boston. Marlo Tersigni will graduate from the University of Durham, United Kingdom, with a master’s degree in developmental psychopathology. She plays lacrosse at the national level for Team Durham.

Annie Hogan, who plays hockey for Northeastern University and is a team captain, wrote to tell anyone who didn’t already know that the Huskies played at Fenway Park in the first-ever outdoor women’s hockey game. Annie’s Huskies (17-8-7) also played in the Beanpot finals this year and entered postseason play against UConn in the Hockey East quarterfinals. Danny Roop writes from Lewiston, Me.: “Bates continues to be an excellent fit, the natural extension from L.A.” This March, he will be published in a scientific journal and received funding from Bates to present his thesis work at a conference in Baltimore, Md. “I certainly would not be where I am today were it not for Mr. Mees and Mr. Karp!”

Layla de la Parra, now a junior at Muhlenberg College, has joined a sorority (Alpha Chi Omega) and, for fun, continues dancing with a contemporary dance club. Tom Brescia, a Clark University junior majoring in international affairs, participated in the 56th Annual National Model U.N. Conference held at Harvard University: “I helped represent Kuwait in the General Assembly functional committee on Disarmament and International Security, where we discussed the issue of nuclear terrorism.” At the end of the session, while leading a voting bloc of Arab nations, he played a central role in producing an amendment to the passed resolution “which called for nations to follow the example set by the Gulf States (in particular, though it wasn’t mentioned explicitly, the UAE) in creating regional cooperation in fighting money laundering organizations as a means to cut off funding to terrorist groups.” During a much smaller U.N. simulation held earlier in the semester at Clark, Tom was one of two students recognized as an “outstanding delegate.”
City of Bones Performed at LA

Days before Lawrence Academy students left school for winter vacation, Chris Leon ’05 performed a one-man show titled City of Bones, which he had designed in his final year at St. Lawrence University. He moved easily between roles based upon seven characters appearing in the works of Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright August Wilson, who is perhaps best known for his 10-play cycle that chronicles the African-American experience of the 20th century. Chris had first performed these roles as part of an ensemble production, based on that experience, he developed his own one-man show.

He opened the show in the Black Box Theater as Stool Pigeon from City of Bones, and carried his audience through a wide range of monologues while performing the roles of the king himself, Holloway in Two Trains Running; Levee from Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom; both Floyd and Red Carter in Seven Guitars; and Herald Loomis in Joe Turner’s Come and Gone. (Chris also included his portrayal of Wendell, a blind Haitian slave boy, who is the subject of a YouTube video.)

Chris was first exposed to the work of August Wilson while attending the “Tell Your Story” conference, hosted by the University of Maryland, during the spring semester of his junior year at St. Lawrence. He participated in acting and scriptwriting workshops, as well as watched performances of Wilson’s plays and attended lectures by scholars on the African-American playwright’s work.

He was inspired by watching Charles Datron, who made his Broadway debut when he appeared in a 1984 production of Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom, perform Acting August Wilson, a medley of Wilson’s scenes and characters. Chris decided to challenge himself with a similar project based on Wilson’s work. “I think that his work challenges me mentally and physically. The characters that Wilson creates are well layered and they challenge me to tell their stories with my heart.”

As an actor who finds more than one way to hold sway over his audience, Chris drew praise from LA’s current theatre director, Joel Sagerman. “Chris is a performer of amazing intensity and range, and his immersion in each of the characters he portrays is complete and convincing. He has composed this piece beautifully and is able to touch the audience and communicate ideas as clearly with movement as he does with words.”

A talented football player at Lawrence Academy who would go on to play for three years at St. Lawrence, Chris got his start on the stage at Lawrence Academy after enrolling in an acting class taught by former theatre director Jeff Teitler. “That is where I caught the bug,” Chris says. “I learned that playing other characters was a great way to come close to knowing who we really are.” Performing for the first time in a one-act titled Opusino, he went on to play the lead in Othello in his senior year.

While majoring in performance arts and communications at St. Lawrence, Chris performed five different roles in a production of The Long Christmas Ride Home; was in the ensemble performing in Wit; and went on to perform the roles of Orgon in Tartuffe, Orsino in Twelfth Night, and seven different characters in an ensemble production of City of Bones.

Chris moved to California upon accepting a job offer, but he intends to continue performing, City of Bones, especially at schools. He hopes to use the work of playwright August Wilson to introduce students to the experience of being an African-American man in the 20th century.


1944

Robert W. Giblin, of Walpole, formerly of Belmont; Barrington, R.I.; and Westwood, died on July 25, 2009. Robert is survived by his wife of 54 years, Jeanne M. (Caggilan) Giblin; daughter Jeanine Giblin Rafferty and her husband, David, of Walpole; son Robert T. Giblin; his wife, Susan, of Hingham; and five grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his sister, Ruth Mollica, of Concord, N.H., and was predeceased by a brother, Edward Giblin.

1945

William H. “Bill” Craven Jr., 83, died on Saturday, January 23, 2010, at the Leonard Morse Hospital in Natick following a brief illness. Bill was born in Boston on January 17, 1927, to Miss Caroline Spurr O’Reilly and Dorothy L. (Williams) Craven. A resident of Wayland for the past 50 years, he also resided in Brighton and Brookline. He spent his formative years in Dino Beach and was a graduate of the Boston Latin High School and Lawrence Academy. He served his country proudly as a Private First Class with the U.S. Army during WWII, and he earned his bachelor’s degree in business administration at Suffolk University in Boston. Bill had a long and distinguished career as a commercial engineer with the New England Telephone and Telegraph Co. of Boston and Framingham, retiring in 1986. He was also a member of the Pioneer Club of N.E. Telephone and Telegraph and was an avid golfer. Bill was a longtime communicant at St. Zepherin Church and served as a communicant at St. Zepherin’s men’s golf team. He did a job that he dearly loved even though his health was failing. An avid gun collector and historian, Norman was a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association and served on their firearms regulations committee. He was a founding member of the Anchorage Gun Collectors Association and served in similar organizations across the country. He was a consultant for the National Firearms Museum Selection Committee in Washington, D.C., served as an expert firearms witness in state and federal courts; and was a nationally recognized firearm judge. Norm was one of three Alaskans to receive the prestigious NRA Gold Medallion for promoting gun collecting, an award of which he was particularly proud. Norman is survived by his loving wife of 37 years, Nancy; daughter Kay Lynn Walz (Skip); son Michael Russell; daughter Heather Kirwin; two grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and a great-great-granddaughter. He was a realtor. In addition to his wife and his in-laws, Norman is predeceased by his parents, Francis P. and Alice Boyden Mutrie of Wellesley, Mass.

1949

Norman Belcher Grant Jr., 78, died on January 16, 2010, from lung disease at Stevens Hospital in Edmonds, Wash. Norman was born on October 23, 1931, to Norman B. and Catherine Grant in Groton, Mass. During his formative years, Norman played hockey under the tutelage of his father, a teacher and coach at Lawrence Academy. His love of the game continued throughout his life, resulting in his playing for 53 consecutive years. Upon graduating from Harvard University, he worked, as an insurance adjuster for Crawford and Co. In 1960, he was transferred to Alaska, where he would eventually meet his wife, Nancy. Over his 47 years there, Norman’s love of the Alaska wilderness, hunting, and guiding blossomed. In 1971, he authored a book titled Alaska Big Game Trophy. A true entrepreneur and man of many talents, he owned several businesses and had a successful career in real estate. In his later years, he became a substitute teacher in the Anchorage School District, a job that he dearly loved even though his health was failing. An avid gun collector and historian, Norman was a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association and served on their firearms regulations committee. He was a founding member of the Anchorage Gun Collectors Association and served in similar organizations across the country. He was a consultant for the National Firearms Museum Selection Committee in Washington, D.C., served as an expert firearms witness in state and federal courts; and was a nationally recognized firearm judge. Norm was one of three Alaskans to receive the prestigious NRA Gold Medallion for promoting gun collecting, an award of which he was particularly proud. Norman is survived by his loving wife of 37 years, Nancy; daughter Kay Lynn Walz (Skip); son Michael Russell; daughter Heather Kirwin; two grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; great-granddaughter Cadence; and those known as his “Alaskan grandchildren.” Though in failing health, Norman showed dignity and grace to the end and kept his sense of humor and love of life. A celebration of Norman’s life will be held this summer in Anchorage. As requested, his ashes will be scattered across the mountains of Alaska.

1958

John Sherman Spurr, 70, of Reading and Cape Porpoise, Me., passed away peacefully at home on November 15, 2009. Sherman was born in Reading on October 10, 1939, the son of Jack and Frances Spurr. He was educated at New York Military Academy, Lawrence Academy, and Dean College. An avid car collector, he owned a dragoon with his brother Greg and at one time was the driver. He was a lifetime member of the Orientals Hot Rod Club of Reading, and he served as president of the Inter-Town Baseball League organization in the Cape Ann area. Sherman’s other passions were cooking, hunting, and his dogs, Magic and Emma Louise. He loved bringing his wife down the Batten River to Goose Rocks and surrounding islands. Sherman was a self-employed businessman in Newburyport for 26 years and had been very active in the business community. He is survived by his wife, Mary; sons Ken (spouse, Reba); Heath; Heather Kirwin; two grandchildren and many nieces and nephews; and his brother Gregory Spurr. Sherman was predeceased by his brother, Kenneth Spurr.

1959

Charles B. Mutrie, 69, died Sunday, January 10, 2010, in Portsmouth Regional Hospital after a sudden illness. A graduate of Babson College and a U.S. Army veteran, Charles owned the Copy Center of Hampton. He was formerly a partner in the family business, Mutrie Motor Transportation Co., and some local real estate ventures. He is survived by his wife, Beverly (Perkins) Mutrie, of Hampton Falls, son Callen; two brothers, Francis P. Mutrie Jr. and Richard D. Mutrie; sister, Mary MacBey; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, Francis P. and Alice Boyden Mutrie of Wellesley, Mass.

1964

Stephen C. Kupetz, 63, died suddenly on Friday, September 5, 2008, at his home in Gilford, N.H. Steve was born on April 28, 1945, to John L. and Janet (Ilg) Kupetz Sr. in Boston. Steve attended Norwich University and served in the U.S. Marine Corps. Residing in the Lakes Region since 1960, Steve was employed at Woodward’s Chrysler-Plymouth GMC as a salesman for over 30 years, and he served on the Laconia City Council from 1982 to 1986 in addition to spending many years on the Laconia Planning Board and the Belknap County Conservation Commission. He had been a member of the Jaycees and Laconia Kiwanis. He enjoyed sailing, fishing, gardening, and carpentry. He loved the ocean and the coast of Maine. Survivors include his wife, Cynthia (Flanders) Kupetz of Gilford, N.H.; son Trevor C. Kupetz and his wife, Roxana Kupetz, of Tannsworth, N.H.; son Tyler E. Kupetz of Brook, N.H.; stepdaughter Kimberly (Koe) and her husband, Robert, of Kezar, N.C.; step-granddaughter Julia; brother John L. Kupetz, Jr. of East Burke, Vt.; brother Robert B. Kupetz of Sylvia, Ohio; sister Deborah Hart of Haddond Heights, N.J.; and several nephews and nieces. He was predeceased by his parents. Steve was interred at the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery in Bowscawen.

1969

Frank A. East, 58, of St. Petersburg, Fla., died suddenly at home on November 29, with his wife of 28 years, Judith, at his side. Frank was born in Brighton, Mass., son of the late Dr. Frank A. and Ellen G. East, and grew up in Natick and Mattapoisett. He attended Lawrence Academy for two years (1965–67), graduated from Xaverian Brothers High School, attended Boston College, and completed his degree at Northeastern University. In 1987, Frank and Judy settled in St. Petersburg, where he was a realtor. In addition to his wife and his in-laws, Frank leaves behind his four sisters; 13 nieces and nephews; five great-nieces; and one great-nephew. A celebration of his life took place in St. Petersburg, this summer. Frank’s ashes will be scattered over the waters of the Gulf of Mexico, where he loved to sail, water-ski, and dream about thatizzy’ Cherry. They were.

1975

Mark A. McClellan, 52, of Rockland, Me., died on December 20, 2009, following an iceboating accident on Chickwawa Lake in Rockland. Born on June 6, 1957, in Ayer, Mark spent his childhood in Pepperrell, later moving with his family to Kalamazoo, Mich.; Hot Springs, Ark., and Valley, Neb. He graduated from Lawrence Academy and from the University of Massachusetts, where he studied wood technology. Mark had a deep love for the outdoors—in particular, the sea—and in wooden boats. He built his first of many boats while a teenager in Hot Springs. Mark settled in Rockland in the early 1980s. With his extensive knowledge of the characteristics and capabilities of wood, he worked at various shipyards in Maine, including Renaissance Yachts in Thomaston, Goody & Stevens in East Boothbay, and Rockport Marine in Rockport. An artist with wood, Mark actively designed and constructed furniture in his own workshop, working collaboratively on projects for commissions in the United States and as far away as Australia; some of these pieces are now in museums. On September 27, 1997, Mark married Ann (Nuesse) McClellan at Grey Havens in Georgetown, Me.
He and Ann shared a love of the islands of Maine, as well as of travel, kiting, hiking, and sailing. An avid sailor, Mark was captain of the schooner Simplicity, designed by William Hand, and the motor vessel Sunshine, by Baltair-Jonesport. Both were enjoyed primarily as charter vessels in Penobscot Bay, though Mark ventured extensively with friends and family, from coastal Maine as far south as the West Indies. He is survived by his wife, Ann; daughter Amelia (Molly); son Thomas; his mother, Constance R. McClellan; of Harvard, Mass.; brother James L. McClellan III and family, of Harvard, Mass; brother Peter H. McClellan, of San Miguel de Allende, Mexico; and brother Andrew R. McClellan and family, of St. Louis, Mo. In addition, he is survived by his first wife, Margaret Barclay, of Camden, Me. Mark was predeceased by his father, James L. McClellan Jr.

1999

L. Grant Ducharme, 29, died peacefully on December 17, 2009. Grant was born in Worcester to Lawrence and Laurie Ducharme on March 30, 1980. He resided in Bolton, among his entire extended family. He attended both Lawrence Academy and Salisbury School before matriculating at Northeastern University, where he was enrolled until starting his own business, Duke Excavating, Inc. Grant spent many years as a full-time resident of Martha’s Vineyard and was a familiar figure to many on the island. He had an uncanny ability to excel at any physical pursuit he attempted, but nowhere was he happier than on the water. Regardless of the season, he could be found out on the beach, tires deflated and rods in the racks. His many photographs of the Vineyard capture some of its finest moments and most amazing beauty. Grant possessed an incredibly generous heart. His love towards those closest to him never faltered, nor did his quick wit and biting humor. Grant was a passionate animal lover and was rarely seen without his dogs, who would even accompany him in his pursuit of a winning Derby catch. He is survived by his parents, Lawrence and Laurie Ducharme; grandparents Paul and Barbara Weatherbee, of Bolton; and Elizabeth Ducharme, of Clinton; sister Melissa Airey Perkins and her husband, Weatherbee, of Bolton; and seven nieces and nephews. He also leaves behind Shamus Kelley, formerly of Oak Bluffs, and Dana Faughnan, of Edgartown and Newton, who loved him immeasurably.

Former Faculty

Robert Hayden, 88, formerly of Swampsport, Mass., died on January 23, 2010, at Grosvenor Park Nursing Home after a brief illness. Born in Salem to the late Maurice L. and Mildred (Doty) Hayden, he attended Salem schools. After graduating from Harvard University in 1944, he went on to earn a master’s degree in education from Boston University. He served in the U.S. Army as a translator in northern France and Central Europe during WWII as a ‘Technician 5th Grade with Company K, 315th Infantry Regiment. Mr. Hayden was employed as a teacher in Ayer, at Lawrence Academy, and at Swampsport High School, where he taught French and Spanish from 1955 until he retired in 1984. He was a member of The First Church in Swampsport, Congregational, where he sang in the choir for over 50 years; a 50-year member of Wayfarers Lodge in Swampsport; and a member of Philanthropic Lodge in Marblehead. He bowled in the Swampsport Teachers bowling league. He enjoyed watching sports and was an avid Red Sox fan. Mr. Hayden is survived by his wife of 66 years, Edith E. (Saint) Hayden; three sons; seven grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. He was also the brother of the late Richard D. Hayden and grandfather of the late Blake Adair.

Parents of Alumni

Richard S. “Dick” Goehringer, 67, of Groton passed away suddenly on November 4, 2009, surrounded by his family at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, Mass. He was the father of Heather Goehringer Caussy ’89.

Yahoodips

Earlier this year, we announced that Laura Moore, the chair of the English department and teacher of creative writing at Lawrence Academy, had a book of poetry selected for publication and that we would provide more information as it became available. Finishing Line Press is now accepting orders online for copies of Ms. Moore’s chapbook collection of poems. Due out July 9, the book of poems was written in memory of her father, who died on December 15, 2007. “It is called Yahoodips, which is the word he used to call out to us from his hiding places so we could find him when he was playing hide-and-seek.” Because the press run is determined by prepublication sales, we hope you will visit finishinglinepress.com and click on New Releases and Forthcoming Books. Scroll down until you see the book, and then place your order for only $12. After May 14, shipping will cost an additional $1. Ms. Moore’s daughter Katherine ’06 created the cover art and produced the author’s photo for the collection.

Paul Schoote ’89 Scholarship Fund

Following the loss of Paul Schoote ’89, who died of kidney failure, his family is establishing a scholarship fund in his name so that a deserving student in need of academic support may better afford a college education. Paul spent his life teaching and making a difference in the lives of his students. For more information regarding this fund, please contact his mother, Joan, at Felicity777@embarqmail.com. Please join other alumni during Reunion Weekend 2010 as we celebrate Paul’s life during a remembrance at the Memorial Garden. He was cremated and his ashes were scattered on Cape Cod on Saturday, August 15, 2009.
Two Spartan teams make it big this year!

Football Team Finishes 9–0, ISL Champs

On November 13, 2009, Lawrence Academy’s undefeated football team triumphed over another unbeaten squad, from Buckingham Browne & Nichols School, in a thrilling 28–26 win to capture the Independent School League championship. The following week, the team celebrated a 41–12 victory over the previously unbeaten Wildcats of Kimball Union Academy in the Samson-Lorden Bowl to cap a 9–0 season, something unprecedented in school history. Coached by LA parent Mike Taylor of Harvard, Mass., Lawrence Academy football ended its season ranked first by the Massey ratings for high school football—public and private—in Massachusetts. Its prolific offense finished atop those ratings, and its stingy defense finished fourth overall.

Undefeated Spartans Win NEPSAC Class C Title

With a record of 29–0, the Lawrence Academy boys’ basketball team ended the season as ISL and Class C New England champions. The Spartans lived up to their #1 seed in the NEPSAC tournament by defeating Rivers (73–41), Holderness (67–59), and Sr. Mark’s (55–43). In the final game, tournament MVP Shabazz Napier ’11 led the team with 23 points (including 10 for 12 from the line), eight steals, and eight assists. Seniors Denzel Brito, Sarkie Ampim, and Nick Hamel finish their careers with two ISL and NE championships, a 58–2 league record, and a 102–11 overall record. Coached by Kevin Wiercinski, LA has appeared in the finals for seven of the past nine years, winning in 2002, 2007, and 2010.