

The CARLETONIAN

June 17, 2010

Humor Page

25th Reunion Edition

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Alums



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Alberg Pedals to Raise Awareness



NORTHFIELD - With his 25 year class reunion on the horizon, Carleton College class of 1985 alum Dave Alberg wanted to give back to the community. Instead of flying or driving to Reunion, he is determined to pedal his bicycle from his home all the way to the Carleton campus. His goal – to raise awareness among his classmates and the Carleton community.

Dave expects to arrive on the Carleton Campus on June 17, just in time for the start of Reunion. He hopes his journey will inspire others to learn more about his cause. “It just struck me as odd that after 25 years there was not more public discussion,” Alberg told reporters recently. “I think we have all expected the government to take a leadership role, but the last several administrations have really dropped the ball. The statistics are staggering. Thousands more

are affected every year in this country alone. Even among those not affected, it seems that everyone has a father, grandfather, or uncle.”

Dave’s trek to Reunion is being financed primarily through private funding. He has set up a website (www.awareness.org) to accept pledges and help donors to follow his progress. Dave’s blog during the trip will be available to elementary school classrooms.

The 5K Fun Run to Raise Awareness starts in the Arboretum on Saturday, June 19 starting at 8:00 AM.

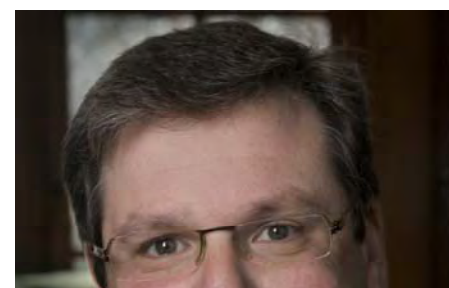
Wherever Dave is along his journey, the support team of his wife Gretchen Hofmeister and their two children will be not be far behind. “I’m really proud of the way Dave has thrown himself into this” says Gretchen. “I think if he can raise awareness even a little bit, it will all be worth it. And it’s setting a great example for our kids.”

In a show of solidarity and support, Allison Unger and David Lefkowitz have pledged to join Alberg on the last leg of his journey. But for now, Dave continues his lonely training regimen. “This is my dream. I invite everyone to dream it with me. Perhaps if we were all just a little more aware of this, we could finally get something positive accomplished for a change.”

Golub: Mysterious Illness Afflicts Class of '85

NORTHFIELD – Dr. Todd Golub is leading a team of researchers studying an unprecedented degenerative medical condition impacting the Carleton College Class of 1985. Symptoms include, but are not limited to, grotesque changes in physical appearance and behavior that render the victims virtually unrecognizable to those they have not seen in two decades. Changes include a general softening and inflation of the corpus; a waning and/or depigmentation of the cylindrical filaments sprouting from the epidermis of the head; a loss of awareness of current popular culture; and a tendency to get sleepy after only one glass of wine.

“We first noticed the signs of this horrifying deterioration at the 15th Reunion, and tragically there were indicators that the prevalence and severity only increased by the 20th,” reports Golub. “The 25th Reunion offers us a unique opportunity to systematically collect data in a controlled setting that will replicate many of the environmental conditions present during the subjects’ enforced cohabitation during the early 1980’s.” Accordingly, the Reunion Planning Committee has engineered a series of experiments disguised as “events” that will allow Golub to collect saliva samples and document behaviors as the subjects attempt to relive their late adolescence over a three day period. Games of Ultimate Frisbee on the Bald Spot are designed to enhance and



See Golub. continued on A2

HIGH END AUDIO

REUNION SPECIALS

CASSETTE TAPES - TURNTABLES - 8-TRACKS

Nakamichi, NAD, Teac, Harman Kardon, JBL, Kenwood, Dynaco, Tascam, Infinity, Toshiba, Sansui, Hitachi, Advent, JBL, Infinity, Eminence, EPI, Wurlitzer, DynaVector, Electro-Voice, ReVox, and Cerwin-Vega Speakers

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EDITORIAL: *Arb Transit Plan Flawed*

By Rod Dent

The Cowling Arboretum Contemplative Transit System is a network that traverses 880 acres of prairie and forest on the Carleton College campus. The Administration is currently considering expansion and improvements to the system. The planning thus far has lacked town hall meetings or other forums for public input. Residents of the arboretum have been effectively disenfranchised from the process. We have three main concerns that must be addressed before we will allow the project to move forward:

1. Vibrations from passing traffic on the proposed Lower Central Line will interfere with state-of-the-art nut-tracking technology. Similar transit systems operating in Portland, Oregon and Boulder, Colorado have been extensively studied by independent researchers. The conclusion is that the proposed system will literally vibrate our

nuts off. Vibrations in structures and trees can be dampened or absorbed with thick rubber foundations, but the planners have refused to authorize the necessary geotechnical and engineering studies to evaluate these alternatives.

2. We still favor constructing the Spine Line in an underground tunnel along the “northern corridor”. This alignment was rejected early in the process primarily due to cost considerations. Incoming president Steven Poskanzer has indicated a willingness to reconsider this option in light of potential new funding sources and the possibility of naming stations after him and several corporate sponsors. The original vision of the Spine Line was to connect low nut-income squirrels of the Oxbow and Piney Ridge neighborhoods with the relatively fertile and productive areas around Kettle Hole North. If the southern alignment is built, busy commuters will need to make two

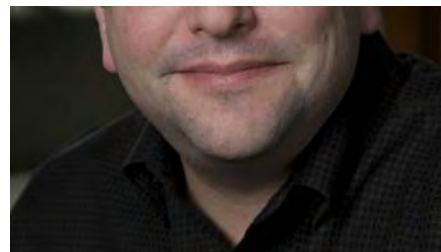
transfers, eroding the time savings and economic benefits promised by the system.

3. We will petition regulators to demand that the college complete an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed alignment. The scoping document must include a study of the proposed bridge reconstruction at Crawdad. The existing bridge, the third oldest in the arboretum, is a cultural resource and a part of history that will be lost to future generations. The new, wider bridge will also serve as a gateway for invasive species (namely, dogs) to enter the arboretum unless effective dog-barrier infrastructure is constructed and perpetually maintained along with the bridge.



Mr. Dent is the Executive Director of the Northfield United Tree Squirrel Alliance (NUTSA)

Golub, continued from A1



accelerate the study by making the symptoms of the disease more apparent to researchers and other observers.

While the causes of this condition are still unknown, Golub retains hope. Of special interest are a few class members who have seemed to escape the severest ravages of this disease, including Randall Findley.

This research is not without controversy. Some speculate that that whole construct of “The Class of ‘85” as well as the collection of specimens of the class at five year intervals is part of a government longitudinal study on the impact of chemical contaminants in the SAGA food supply during the late twentieth century. The study is being funded by the Heywood Society.

Cowling Arboretum Contemplative Transit System



Breaking Wind: Another Energy-Related Disaster

NORTHFIELD - In another episode within a series of energy-related catastrophes of late, the iconic Carleton Windmill was rocked by an explosion on Thursday, spilling thousands of barrels of wind into the environment and trapping dozens of wind workers above ground. After loud noises raged for hours, the rig collapsed and sank onto the soil. Surviving workers were rescued by carts from the nearby golf course.

Officials of WorldWind Corporation, which operates the giant wind turbine above the Carleton campus, insisted that the amount of wind spillage was small, and blamed the Halitosis Corporation, which constructed the concrete base of the installation. Halitosis in turn blamed T-Par-T Ltd., which operates the windmill. T-Par-T blamed the government for all its problems.

The leaking wind has given rise to a growing wind cloud that hovers over southern Minnesota and threatens surrounding wildlife and industries. WorldWind's estimates of wind leakage were disputed by the non-profit organization PeaceMeal, which said the actual rates of wind leakage were five times what WorldWind claims, based on analysis of video taken by a remotely-operated robot, the Breezatron 2000, affectionately known as "Breezy," at the spill site. "Effects from the Carleton Windmill cloud will permeate the environment for years to come,"



said PeaceMeal spokeswoman Elaine Schauer-Kerten. Several Northfield residents noticed windballs washing up on lawns and cornfields, and described the foul breeze as "a nice break from the usual mix of Malt-o-Meal and turkey shit."

At a crowded press conference held in the Carleton Arboretum, Mr. Richard Feder, spokesman for Halitosis, explained the company's safety procedures. "We had a Blowout Preventer preventing the blowout. But then the wind blowed in and the preventer blowed out and the pipe blowed up and the windmill blowed down."

"These events just show how the powerful Big Wind lobby thwarts regulation and poses a danger to the public," added PeaceMeal's Schauer-Kerten. U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu admitted that the government had a role in the responsibility for the disaster. "We've been lax in enforcing environmental safeguards at wind generation sites," he confessed. But not everyone agreed; "I don't see how lax has anything to do with it," retorted Carleton Lacrosse Club chairman Steve Broganof.

Speculators fueled an overnight 12 percent jump in wind prices on the Northfield

Exchange. Carleton College Treasurer Porter Weidner noted that "This unfortunate and unexpected rise in the cost of raw materials will directly impact our bottom line profitability. We will certainly need to consider raising tuition or squeezing more money from the Class of 1985. I'll get Sarah Maris on that."

Meanwhile, WorldWind has pledged to pay for the entire cost of the cleanup. To try to seal off the leak it has deployed more robots, diverted from the army of robots it uses to control small wind-producing countries. On Saturday WorldWind engineers tried lowering a giant concrete trumpet over the wind source to try to channel the spewing air, but it soon became clogged with semi-frozen spit and didn't work.

WorldWind reportedly also contacted crosstown rival SaintOCO to ask if they had any robots WorldWind could borrow. SaintOCO claimed that they did not have any robots, other than their student body, although they have been accused of using their windmill and robots to blow some wind away from the Carleton windmill.

The wind cloud is one more instance highlighting the hazards of wind energy production. "America should be switching to safer, more environmental energy sources like offshore oil and coal, you betcha," said one former Alaska governor in response to a question about why she quit her job before her term ended.

Carleton Drops Silent E "It's Too Confusing" Pronounces New President

NORTHFIELD - Carleton College will officially become Carlton College at the end of the 2010 academic year. The move comes at the direction of new college president Steve Poskanzer. The simplified spelling will clear up frequent confusion among those unfamiliar with the college.

"When I first heard about the college, I naturally assumed it was named after Carl Eton," said Mr. Poskanzer. "I was later informed that Carleton was named for Mr. William Carleton, who donated \$50,000 to the new school back in 1871. That's not really a lot of money – currently less than one year's tuition, room, and board. We have not heard from his family for many years,

so we don't think they will have a problem with it." Glen Carleton '85 (no relation) responded by announcing that he will change his name to Gln Carlton.

Research from the new college linguistics department concluded that the "Carlton" spelling is much more common than "Carleton" among English speakers. A study of incoming mail showed that the college's current name was misspelled nearly 11% of the time.

The spelling change will help distinguish the college from Carleton University in Canada, which has been a drag on the college's academic reputation for years.

The new spelling aligns the school with other luxury brands



such as the Ritz Carlton Hotel, Carlton cigarettes, the Carlton Celebrity Room, and the beloved character "Carlton your doorman" from the hit TV series *Rhoda*.

Costs for making the change will be offset by reduced printing and data storage expenses resulting from the dropped E. Costs were also less than anticipated for removing the E from the large stone sign on First Street and pushing the remaining

two pieces back together. A new arrangement with St. Olaf College will generate revenue and reduce landfill waste. St. Olaf college has agreed to purchase all the cast off E's in an effort to appear more pretentious, elite, and selective. The new St. Olaef recently announced the Grande Opening of their new Book Shoppe at the Manitou Pointe condominiums and student center.

Fun Facts!

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Carleton

Today!

Souvenir Calendar



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JANUARY



NOVEMBER



MARCH



FEBRUARY



JUNE



OCTOBER



APRIL



MAY



AUGUST



SEPTEMBER



DECEMBER

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Look for our large print edition coming in 2035.



Intramural Sports Scoreboard

Real 1980's Teams

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Inflatable Dates	47	Carnivorous Buttocks	π
Let's Play Soccer	2	Flies	
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President Clinton Publishes Seminal Biography of John Harris

WASHINGTON D.C. - Random House announced the upcoming publication of *Scriber: John Harris in the Bill Clinton White House* due for release in June 2010. In this groundbreaking work, President Clinton provides a balanced and intimate view of Harris in his role as political reporter for *The Washington Post* during the last six years of the Clinton presidency.

Some question the “coincidence” of events that tightly melded the paths of President Clinton and Harris during the late 90’s. Rumors abound that a primary motivator for President Clinton’s second bid for the White House in 1996 was the promise of continued proximity to Harris. “It is not often that one has access to one of the most charismatic and enigmatic figures of the last 25 years,” writes President Clinton, “and spending time with John was about the best part of being President.”

First drafts of history are only as good as their informants; those interviewed here are thoughtfully candid and often anonymous. “The closer people were to Harris,” President Clinton reflects, “the more voluble they were as sources.” Accordingly, President Clinton’s unusual decision to deliver the 2000 Commencement address at Carleton has now been revealed as a fact-finding mission, allowing President Clinton unprecedented access to Harris’s formative influences.

As a result, *Scriber* includes perhaps the definitive account of one of the most accomplished, controversial, and polarizing publications in American history, *The Carletonian*. In particular, President Clinton highlights the mastery of the 1984 – 1985 *Carletonian* Humor Page and reveals the impact it had on the future success of Harris. “There is nothing wrong with the Humor



Page that cannot be cured by what is right with the Humor Page,” writes President Clinton. Also, “I did not have sexual relations with that Humor Page.” Finally, “It depends on what your definition of ‘humor’ is.”

Clinton has been elusive about a confidential source of information about Harris. Was there a “Deep Throat” secretly

leaking key details about Harris to the president? Speculation has focused on former Secretary of State Alexander Haig, former White House Senior Advisor Tom Freedman (’85), and former Carleton/St. Olaf van driver Leo.

Achievement Feud Escalates

NORTHFIELD - In the long-running feud between Carleton’s class of 1985 and the class of 1986, the class of ’86 staged a massive pre-emptive strike this spring. In an unprecedented attempt to tarnish the achievements of the class of ’85 on the eve of their 25th reunion, ’86 alum T.J. Stiles was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for his biography of robber baron Cornelius Vanderbilt.

“This audacious gesture will not go unchallenged” challenged Class of ’85 Achievement Kommissar Kaarin Marx-Smith. The ’85 Reunion Committee which is comprised of the entire class except for Peter Cowdin, went into high alert, meeting late into the night at Tunie Howland’s secret remote emergency headquarters somewhere in the California desert to develop a strategic plan.

Meanwhile, other ’85ers took matters into their own hands. In a bold retaliatory move, Kirk Weidner headed to Jesse James Lanes and bowled an impressive 217. Admitting his efforts came up short, he mused “Its quite respectable, but its no Pulitzer. We still have some work to do.”

Another blow came later this spring, at the DFL convention in Duluth, where Minnesota House Speaker Margaret Anderson

Kelliher received the party endorsement for Governor. If she wins in the fall, the class of ’86 will have a representative in the Governor’s Mansion, as Dave Kelliher ’86 would become Minnesota’s 1st Gentleman.

But the class of ’85 remains undaunted. Plans are in the works for the entire class to apply collectively for a Lofgren

Business Fellowship to attend one of those motivational seminars featuring Rudy Guillian, Brett Favre, Zig Ziglar, and that tall guy with the enormous jaw. “I’m pretty pumped,” quipped the frequently reticent Joan Scarborough, “With motivators like that, what can’t the class of ’85 do?”



Author T.J. Stiles (’86) sharing a quiet moment in the library with the subject of his award-winning biography, “Mr. Commodore” Vanderbilt.

For more information about why the photo of T.J. Stiles and the Mr. Commodore mascot is funny, please contact David Lefkowitz at dlefkw@carleton.edu.

Reunion Room Draw Successful

NORTHFIELD - Wouldn’t it be great to stay in your old dorm room during reunion? You could relive all those fun nights of not studying at your desk, running to answer the phone in the hall, or missing phone calls because no one would answer them. Finally you and your boyfriend/girlfriend (now your husband/wife) can have sex in your room without worrying about someone walking in. (Reunion tip: Never set anything directly on the mattress.)

Chris Larsen ’85 was thrilled to learn recently that she will be staying in her senior year room for this Reunion. Actually, it was a room in an off-campus house now owned by Carleton art professor David Lefkowitz and his family. “I just requested that room on the official Reunion room draw webpage. Somehow the administration made it happen” said Larsen.

Chris and her husband, Scott Peterson ’85, will be sleeping in the bunk beds that are now in her old room. There is no word on where Emmett and Carter Lefkowitz will be moved for the weekend. “The house has really changed a lot from what I remember” Larsen lamented. “I don’t know why they got rid of the couch.”