



Princeton Alumni Weekly

February 8, 2012

Alumni compete in
race to the moon

Princeton's changing
restaurant scene

Occupy Princeton

Ellie Kemper '02

How an English major
became one of

**HOLLYWOOD'S
RISING STARS**

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Princeton Alumni Weekly

An editorially independent magazine by alumni for alumni since 1900

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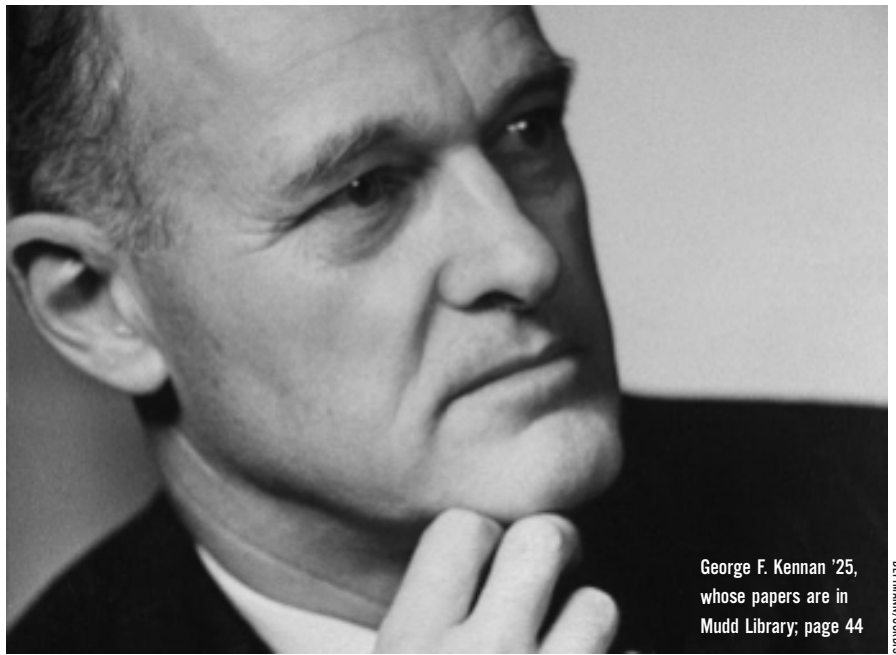
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ON THE COVER: Actress and comedian Ellie Kemper '02. Photograph by Josephine Sittenfeld '02.



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BETTMANN/GETTIS

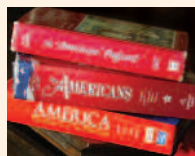
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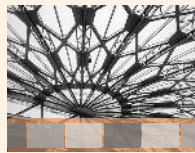
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What's new @ PAW ONLINE



HISTORY QUIZ

Test your skills with five zingers from History Bee founder David Madden '03.



CAMPUS SCENES

View more historical images from the Archives' Grounds and Buildings collection.



INTERVIEW

Read the full Q&A with journalist and North Korea expert Bradley Martin '64.



NEW EDITIONS IN VISUAL ARTS

Students at the Lewis Center create books for their junior-year independent work.

Rally 'Round the Cannon

Gregg Lange '70 looks at a concrete symbol of 20th-century Princeton.



RICARDO BARROS

PAW's Tiger of the Week is posted every Wednesday

@ paw.princeton.edu

“We applaud the students of Occupy Princeton for challenging Princeton’s dominant culture of political disengagement.”

— Aaron Harnly '99, Aaron Michels '00, and others

The University and Wall Street

When we were at Princeton, we often were reminded that Princeton’s motto is “In the nation’s service and in the service of all nations.” Despite this ideal, we realize that to many within and outside the Orange Bubble, Princeton symbolizes something much less noble: greed, privilege, and elitism. We believe that part of this perception stems from Princeton’s strong institutional support for financial-service firms that have manipulated the political systems and economies of nations around the world to the detriment of those societies and the stability of the global financial system.

We applaud the students of Occupy Princeton for challenging Princeton’s dominant culture of political disengagement. Princeton graduates have the opportunity to choose their own career paths. If they do choose to work in finance, they should know they are entering an industry with a reprehensible historical record of breaching public trust and engaging in practices that run directly counter to Princeton’s motto. We believe that the Occupy Princeton protests send an important message to these financial institutions about the University’s values and serve to educate

students considering a career in finance.

The University administration should support those students who are attempting to bring Princeton into a much-needed national conversation about income inequality and economic injustice. Moreover, we urge the administration to stop providing institutional support for recruiting on campus by the worst offenders of the financial industry. Instead, Princeton should redirect its resources to support career options that look beyond the pursuit of profit and allow the University and University graduates to show true leadership and social responsibility, whether in finance or in any other field.

Lastly, we call on fellow alumni to join us in making it clear that “In the nation’s service and in the service of all nations” must include everyone, not just the wealthiest 1 percent.

AARON HARNLY '99
AARON MICHELS '00
and 108 other alumni

Completing both a call to my broker and my third Chivas, I began to consider PAW’s piece, “For most, business as usual despite Wall Street protests” (On the Campus, Dec. 14). Although the drink was excellent, I had forgotten to remove the silver spoon and almost

BUZZ BOX

Kim *93’s reform ideas for schools win support

Every story, letter, and memorial at paw.princeton.edu offers a chance to comment

Readers voiced their support at PAW Online for Earl Kim *93, superintendent of a New Jersey school district, whose role in the battle over education reform was profiled in the Dec. 14 issue.

“Those in New Jersey who don’t like Earl Kim *93 don’t like him because he has the evidence to

back up his argument, won’t be swayed by ideology, and isn’t going to stoop to lower levels in a debate,” wrote **DONNELL BUTLER '09**. “As an early childhood educator, this article had touched my heart,” said **PAULA HOGAN p'04**.

“PAW has finally profiled an education reformer who understands and respects public education,” commented **TOBIN HAHN '94**. “It is a shame that Kim was not granted respect in return, and will be taking his talents to a private school?”

Noting Kim’s plans to become headmaster of a school in Hawaii, **NICOLE VELASCO '08** wrote that the public education system in that state “is one of the worst, and it will require thoughtful analysis by the likes of Kim to take it out of the mire.”



Catching up @ PAW ONLINE



PAW on YouTube

Looking for a video highlighted in a previous issue of PAW? You can find many of our recent offerings on the magazine’s YouTube channel. Follow the link on our website, paw.princeton.edu, to browse the video archives. Readers with suggestions for our new “videos by alumni” list can send links to pawvideo@princeton.edu.



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Letters should not exceed 275 words, and may be edited for length, accuracy, clarity, and civility. Due to space limitations, we are unable to publish all letters received in the print magazine. Letters, articles, photos, and comments submitted to PAW may be published in print, electronic, or other forms.



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choked on it; however, Soames, my butler, saved the day.

Good old Soames! I make it a practice never to encourage intimacy in servants, but unbidden, he advised me not to fret about those dirty hippies with their generalized complaints. "It's simply a circus," he whined, and I felt much better, especially since my grandson, Parvenu III, who doesn't need to work at all, recently secured a posh position (without pressure, I promise!) via the Ivy-to-Wall-Street pipeline, which isn't oily at all.

"Don't let a little something like a protest movement upset you, Master," Soames purred. "After all, you're due at the club soon. Remember that weekly dinner for 60 you're hosting. You haven't much time to taste the '45 Mouton, you know."

That really got me thinking. Should I introduce discussions of poverty and inequality at my dinner? We all, of course, need a little levity in these trying times. But speaking of time, I don't have enough of it to bother with quaint protests by lawless demonstrators, especially if they didn't go to good schools. It's enough to make me wash my hands, one washing the other, as we often amusingly remark.

Taking to the street indeed! How déclassé! Sliding into the Bentley, I poured another drink and sensed how like a surgeon I am, healing fellow club members via commodity allocation, especially when my Comet cognac gets passed around.

RUSS STRATTON '60

Hattiesburg, Miss.

There is something disconcertingly disingenuous in economics professor Elizabeth Bogan rationalizing the desire to participate in "allocation of resources" as a major reason that financial services are among the most popular of employment options for Princeton seniors, while in the same breath — almost parenthetically — she notes that "it is high income." It is her choice of euphemism in using "allocation of resources" instead of "controlling the money" that suggests some suspect level of insincerity. It brings to mind other unrelated but euphemisti-

cally deceptive covert cloaks, such as "collateral damage" and "reduction in force." What is there to hide?

This engaging article by Tara Thean '13 includes the observation that some investment-banking-bound seniors deemed Occupy Wall Street protesters as "not credible enough to be taken seriously." Yet considering that it was those controlling the money who contributed to the tribulation trifecta of our real-estate bubble (the mortgage bankers), our painfully protracted wars (the defense industries), and our market debacle (the investment firms), these protests by no means are totally unfounded and completely without credibility. Something is clearly not right in the scheme of things in this, our great land, and there is nothing to lose and everything to gain through a thorough scrutiny of the instability of our system.

ROCKY SEMMES '79

Alexandria, Va.

What a relief to read the comments by Professor Stanley Katz in the Dec. 14 On The Campus column! However, the same column left one with the unsettling impression that Princeton exists to serve and to perpetuate the 1 percent, and that current undergraduates have no problem with the shamefully worsening wealth gap in the United States. It was déjà vu for me when I read that Princeton is a "far less political" campus these days. When President Robert Goheen '40 '48 addressed the incoming freshmen in 1966, he told us we would be too busy with our studies at Princeton to get involved yet in the wider world. That's not how things worked out.

The previous tradition of apathy at Princeton gave way to intense political involvement in protesting the Vietnam War, Princeton's investments in apartheid South Africa, etc. Yes, there's no doubt that facing the draft awakened some of us from our apathetic slumbers. Still, I don't agree with Vladimir Teichberg '96 (*A Moment With*, Dec. 14) that "all of our institutions have become completely corrupt." Not Princeton!

RICHARD M. WAUGAMAN '70

Potomac, Md.

PAW's Dec. 14 On the Campus column was dismaying enough. How best to respond? Occupy Princeton did it best, delightfully deconstructing Wall Street's crimes in its YouTube video. To Occupy's eloquent statement, I'd add the subheads in investment adviser Leland H. Faust's op-ed, "Wall Street is a raw deal for the 100 percent" (*San Francisco Chronicle*, Dec. 29).

They are: the cult of a Wall Street superstar, gambling disguised as investing, the bail-me-out syndrome, enormous conflicts of interest, leverage on a grand scale, failure of regulators and the reform law, misappropriation of client funds, worthless rating agencies, golden parachutes soaring high, and breakdown of morality.

Perhaps, before graduating, Princeton seniors should take a cautionary refresher course in ethics, to be taught by professors Peter Singer, Cornel West '80, and Robert George.

KEN SCUDDER '63

San Francisco, Calif.

Teichberg '96's politics

Vladimir Teichberg '96 (A Moment With, Dec. 14) may have moved to the United States at the age of 10, but he has somehow managed to develop or maintain a very Russian take on the world. Hey, how's that system working out?

GERRY SHOWSTACK '70

Omer, Israel

Wow! Loved your story on Occupier Vladimir Teichberg. Where do I sign up to join this amazing individual, formerly a mild-mannered derivatives trader and now a fearless fascism fighter? Just imagine how idyllic it could be if we just ditch representative government for Vlad's "people-driven committees" with their "consensus based on complete equality" (I hope that, since this is Princeton-inspired, we'll all be rated above average). I mean, since "all our institutions have become completely corrupt," what else could we possibly do? I promise I'll sit tight and wait for further instructions from the "local assemblies," the



FROM THE EDITOR

Class Notes in this issue includes the last column from the Class of 1930. The final surviving member of the class, Jacob Christian Myers Jr., died Dec. 11, at 103. Before the class leaves our pages, we recall the mark it made.

The men of 1930 arrived at Princeton at the height of the Jazz Age, graduated months after the stock market crashed (though early reunion books make no mention of that), and lost nine members to World War II.

As freshmen, classmates spent evenings at meetings of the evangelical Philadelphian Society, where they "debated on the degree of necking which constitutes sin, and were instructed in the technique of clapper-stealing," the *Nassau Herald* reports. Prohibition did not seem to dampen the mood: The class congratulated itself on establishing "a noble record in the campaign against the 18th Amendment." Nonetheless, Dean Christian Gauss chided the students for being overly solemn.

Ben Hedges '30, chosen "most respected" by his classmates, won a silver medal in the high jump in the 1928 Olympics. That year, students of voting age attempted to cast presidential ballots but were turned away, leading to tension between town and gown and a student disturbance on Nassau Street. Princeton's new chapel opened at the end of sophomore year, though classmates surveyed called for the end of compulsory chapel and chafed against restrictions on women and cars. "We have disregarded a few traditions, but they were ones that only served to make life needlessly hard for the freshmen," the class history recalls.

"Time brings changes to all things," the class concluded, "and many critics of American universities say that our attitude is all for the best."

— Marilyn H. Marks '86

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“national structures,” or whatever.

DOUG SPROULL '72

St. Louis, Mo.

Vladimir Teichberg is “right on.” Money is behind most politics today, and the middle class is being starved out. History tells us, time and again, that the loss of the middle class results in tyranny and loss of freedoms. The Republicans have shown themselves to be “the best that money can buy.” They have abandoned their values of 30 years ago — fiscal conservatism, avoidance of

foreign entanglements, and honesty.

RICHARD WEEEDER '58 p'92

Lawrenceville, N.J.

Just what we need is a Russian former derivatives trader telling us we have to scrap our system of government. Vladimir Teichberg complains that OWS protesters have been “marginalized” and “delegitimized” by the press. How laughable, especially in view of the faux legitimacy given him by PAW in devoting a full page to his anarchist nonsense.

I am sure if you comb through the alumni rolls, you will find flat-earthers, Holocaust deniers, Wiccans, foot fetishists, alien abductees, and cultists of every kind, all of them with beliefs and programs as worthy of attention as Teichberg’s and none of them openly espousing sedition. If Vladimir doesn’t like our constitutional form of government, let him by all means move back home and see how the collectivist movie ends.

JACK OLSON '71

Cedarburg, Wis.

Perhaps this spoiled intellect should spend more time in his homeland protesting the incredible fraud of its leadership and the notion that hierarchies are abhorrent. Yes, they are, but I’m embarrassed that Princeton is catering to this type of mind.

We protested in the late ’60s something that was morally corrupt and universally opposed by the vast majority of our population. Today’s struggles are borne of the notion we are “entitled,” resulting in laziness, unwarranted expectations, and open criticism of those who appear to be “better off” than they are.

Hard work, accepting that not everyone is entitled, and recognizing that without individual initiative, no society has ever prospered: Perhaps Vladimir Teichberg should have studied history of civilizations. Too bad Princeton was used to spread his message — appalling.

JIM BINCH '70

New Canaan, Conn.

Note to Vladimir Teichberg: There is nothing wrong with the form of government that we already have. It has given the world the most representative and long-lasting democracy it has ever known. I agree there is rampant corruption, but the solution is not to replace it with “people-driven committees” (the world has been down that road before: Vladimir, talk to your parents about how that worked for them. If it had, you wouldn’t be in America today). No, the answer is to return to the vision of our Founding Fathers: limited government, a free-market eco-

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conomic system, grounded in a moral vision of self-control and personal responsibility.

As to Occupy Wall Street's vaunted goal of reducing inequality (a goal I am all for), it would do well to examine the drivers of said inequality. Are Wall Street bankers more greedy than they used to be, or are other factors involved? I submit that the government itself has been an enabler of inequality, heavily favoring Wall Street with its bailouts and stimulus packages. And what impact has the influx of millions of unskilled undocumented workers had on the labor market? Might not this be a factor in depressing wages overall?

Finally, we should consider the effect of the collapse of intact families. The explosion of out-of-wedlock births and of children living outside of two-parent households has widened economic disparity. Social scientists routinely find that individuals raised in intact families generally are better equipped to thrive in the economy. A growing number of our population have been deprived of a stable and loving family life, compromising their earnings potential as a result.

ROBERT BEEBE '75

Little Falls, N.J.

Base admissions on merit

Racial balancing for incoming molecular biology grad students (Campus Notebook, Dec. 14)? The very idea in saner times would have been considered an outrage — and an injustice to all those better-qualified applicants from “overrepresented” groups who lose out in the racial-balancing game. There was a time not long ago when Americans who considered themselves the most liberal and most advanced segment of the community believed that discriminating against people because of their ethnicity or race was deeply offensive.

It was almost universally believed that our premier research universities, especially in their natural-science programs, should only seek out “the best and the brightest” regardless of race or ethnicity, letting the demographic

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chips fall where they may. If Asians and Jews were grossly “overrepresented,” and other groups substantially “underrepresented,” then that’s just the way it is. In academia as in other areas of American life (cf. professional basketball and professional ice hockey), merit-only selection systems work that way. And that’s why little Caltech, organized exclusively on the merit-only principle, often is ranked ahead of Princeton in rankings of world-class universities.

When are we going to end this madness of racial-quota thinking and return to the naive idea that talent, hard work, and achievement should be the only criteria for advancement in academia?

RUSS NIELI *79

*Lecturer in politics
Princeton University*

Taking advantage of diversity

William Robinson ’51 writes with obvious pride in his leadership in reintroducing Greek life to Princeton and suggests that the University’s “disparagement” of fraternities and sororities in *Rights, Rules, and Responsibilities* “should offend every Princetonian who believes in student freedom of association” (letters, Dec. 14).

Unfortunately, Mr. Robinson fails to recognize that Princeton isn’t just a social community but, above all, an educational institution whose mission is the growth of knowledge and the development of extraordinary young minds.

Mr. Robinson’s clear assumption, with which I agree, is that students prefer to associate with people like themselves. But despite the enormous effort the University has made since the early ’60s to attract a diverse student body, few students take full advantage of it, much to their detriment. It’s a sad statement that pre-orientation is by far the most diverse social experience most Princetonians have in their four undergraduate years.

And why does Princeton care so much about diversity? Because it is through association with people different from ourselves that we grow. I don’t

often quote myself, but what I wrote about selective social organizations on campuses in a forthcoming book, *Growing Up: Limiting Adolescence in a World Desperate for Adults*, seems pertinent: “Walls that exclude are as high from the inside as they are from the outside, and the danger for the insiders is to become decreasingly aware of and ultimately uninterested in any way out, failing to grasp the extent to which social exclusivity arrests them emotionally and intellectually.”

The vaunted freedom Mr. Robinson offers is a Trojan horse. Exercising the freedom to narrow our lives — a right, certainly, but not a particularly good idea — ultimately prevents us from becoming all we might be. That, as the University well understands, is where true freedom lies.

THE REV. FRANK C. STRASBURGER '67

Brunswick, Maine

Another school-reform path

It is with sadness and frustration that I read about privileged Princeton undergraduates taking up the cause of school reform (Campus Notebook, Nov. 16), which now has become synonymous with union-busting, standardized testing, charterization, and the diversion of taxpayer money into charters and vouchers that serve a select few. Training “a new generation of school-reform leaders” to spearhead Wall Street’s attack on teachers no doubt will provide lucrative and prestigious managerial positions for young Princeton alums, but it won’t do a thing for America’s underfunded and understaffed schools.

As an alternative, I’d suggest that Princeton grads who want to make a difference should commit themselves to training real teachers, or better yet — since the pay and benefits are apparently so good — to spending 10 or 15 years themselves teaching in public schools.

JONATHAN GREENBERG *02

*Associate Professor and Director of
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Office of Development

Proving a sexual-assault case

I was happy to read in the Nov. 16 issue (Campus Notebook) that despite the statement of a law-school professor that “preponderance of the evidence is a nonnegotiable standard of proof for all harassment based on sex — including sexual assault,” the University has adopted rules requiring “a clear and persuasive case.”

When I was a young lawyer serving for a short time as a Voluntary Defender of destitute people who had been accused of committing crimes, it was the settled law that sexual assault was a crime and that the degree of proof be “beyond a reasonable doubt.” It is beyond the scope of this letter to discuss what the University should do in such cases, especially in view of the recent events at Penn State, and what right the federal government has to dictate how a university should conduct its disciplinary proceedings, but I am glad that Princeton is at least to some degree standing up for basic rights.

I should add that my wife (*magna cum laude*, Bryn Mawr) agrees with this letter.

GEORGE SCOTT STEWART III '51
Philadelphia, Pa.

Bad drivers in ‘Gatsby’

I very much enjoyed, and was saddened by, W. Barksdale Maynard '88's “Invasion of the devil wagon” (feature, Nov. 16). For a Fitzgerald scholar, it's interesting to see a possible original for Dick Humbird in Hinman Bird 1906 — and to see the campus carnage that was a constant during and after Fitzgerald's time in Princeton, that doubtless informed not only the fatal car accident in *This Side of Paradise*, but the incessant automotive disasters of his finest novel, *The Great Gatsby*.

Cars trump commuter trains as the way to get around in *Gatsby*, are an easy and public indicator of wealth, and who's driving what shapes the course of the novel. From the drunken man who wrecks his car after a party of *Gatsby's*, to *Gatsby's* being stopped for speeding as he sails his car “with fenders spread

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like wings” through Astoria; from George Wilson’s sad, dusty garage to (spoiler alert) Daisy Buchanan’s killing of her husband’s mistress with Gatsby’s “circus wagon” of a car after an afternoon of quarreling and drinking at The Plaza, *Gatsby* is littered with wrecks and wreckage.

Jordan Baker is right: Not only she, and our “honest” narrator Nick, but all the characters in the novel are bad drivers — an integral part of Gatsby’s fabulous fatality.

ANNE MARGARET DANIEL '86 '99
New York, N.Y.

The reality of Social Security

Paul Matten '84 is mistaken when he includes Social Security in his polemic against unfunded entitlements (letters, Dec. 14.)

Can we have a reality check here? Over its history, the Social Security Administration has taken in more in payroll deductions than it has paid out in retirement benefits. That surplus gap is now closing, and it generally is agreed that Social Security has to be amended if it is to remain solvent for future retirees, but it won't take rocket science to do this.

There may be government programs that are legitimate targets for criticism, but by any reasonable measure, Social Security should not be one of them.

STUART G. HIBBEN '48
Swarthmore, Pa.

In praise of proofreading

Judging by the frequent errors in some of the newspapers and magazines I read, I was beginning to think that proofreaders were extinct. Not so: PAW not only has a proofreader (Joseph Bakes), but also includes his name in the masthead — a well-deserved honor. I cannot remember the last time I detected an error of any sort in PAW.

JAMES D. SHEPPARD '50
Greenville, S.C.

Every story, letter, and memorial at paw.princeton.edu offers a chance to comment.

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Origins
Palm Place, A Lilly Pulitzer
Signature Store
The Paperery of Princeton
PNC Bank
Ralph Lauren
Salon Pure
Silver Shop
Spruce
Talbots
Talbots Petites
Urban Grace
The Walking Company
Zoë

Specialty Food & Drink

The Bent Spoon
Carter & Caverro Old World
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Halo Fete
Halo Pub
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Occupy Princeton protests create a stir on campus

After a slow start, Occupy Princeton has stepped up its presence on campus, interrupting recruiting sessions by two investment banks and defending its positions during a Whig Hall debate.

But it's not the only voice being heard on issues of the economy, the influence of Wall Street, and the role of government regulators. Competing opinion columns in *The Daily Princetonian* have offered advice to the protesters and condemned their tactics, while attracting dozens of comments of their own. And the Princeton Corporate Finance Club, which promises to educate students about financial careers and "give you an edge in landing a job," has attracted 400 members since it was launched in March.

The protests at campus information

sessions given by JPMorgan Dec. 7 and Goldman Sachs the next day received widespread media attention, thanks to the popularity of the financial industry as an employer of Princeton graduates and the posting of videos of the events on YouTube. By mid-January, the videos had been viewed more than 125,000 times.

About 20 members of Occupy Princeton attended the sessions, questioning recruiters and conducting a "mic check" at each one: A leader read a series of statements such as "We protest the campus culture that white-



washes the crooked dealings of Wall Street as a prestigious career path," and the statements were repeated in unison by other group members.

After each mic check, the protesters left the event. According to the *Princetonian*, Occupy Princeton was booed by other students attending the Goldman Sachs event.

"We are obviously not going to convince all of the [students at the] info session to agree with us," said Derek Gideon '12, a protest leader. "But we did

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TOP OF THE NEWS

Where the Class of 2011 found jobs

Jobs in finance and management consulting continue to be top draws for Princeton graduates, with 35 percent of members of the Class of 2011 who had jobs six months after graduation working in those fields.

The annual Career Services survey of the graduating class found that the field of finance alone drew 161 graduates. The Class of 2010 had reported 143 members with jobs in financial services three months after graduation (the timeframe for the survey changed this year).

Nearly 62 percent of the Class of '11 entered the working world, while 22.5 percent of the graduates were continuing their education by heading to graduate school or post-baccalaureate programs, roughly the same as last year. More than 10 percent of the graduates still were seeking jobs.

The average salary for graduates who were employed fulltime was more than \$62,000, a 5.5 percent increase from last year. Top average salaries were in computer programming (\$94,700), hardware/software development (\$93,000), and financial sales/trading (\$82,500). Thirty-one percent of those working were in the nonprofit sector, which included

educational, health care, and civic organizations.

Eighteen graduates joined Teach for America, 16 entered professional sports, and six joined the military. *By J.A.*

JOBS OF THOSE WHO WERE WORKING:

Finance	22%
Education/health care	20%
Management consulting	13%
Professional, scientific, and technical services	13%
Services and public administration <small>(Inc. civic/social-advocacy groups)</small>	9%
Information services <small>(Inc. media, Internet, publishing)</small>	8%
Other	15%

OF THOSE CONTINUING THEIR EDUCATION:

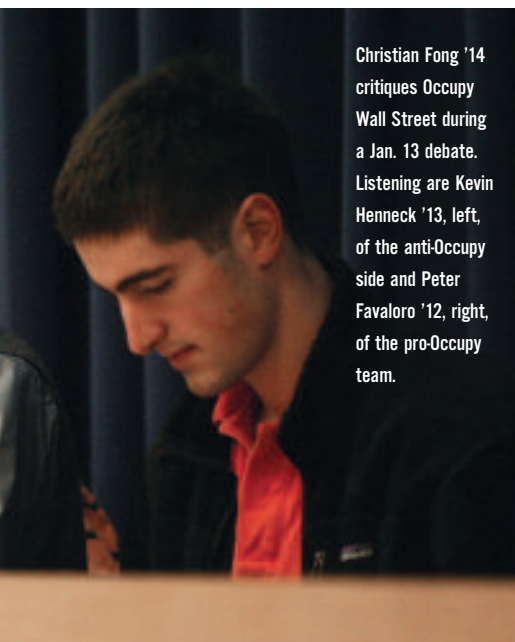
Doctoral-degree studies	29%
Master's-degree studies	25%
Post-baccalaureate, fellowships, and other	18%
Medical school	13%
Law school	8%
Applying to grad school	7%

Figures above include internships.



STEVEN VEATCH

Christian Fong '14 critiques Occupy Wall Street during a Jan. 13 debate. Listening are Kevin Henneck '13, left, of the anti-Occupy side and Peter Favaloro '12, right, of the pro-Occupy team.



present an alternate view that will hopefully change the culture on campus.”

Students quickly weighed in on the demonstrations in the pages of the *Princetonian*.

“It is true that the Princeton students of today traditionally become the Goldman partners of tomorrow, but chanting at them repetitively only serves to alienate them, not to change their minds,” wrote Aaron Applbaum '14. “If we really want to make a difference, what ought to be on the forefront

of everyone’s minds is the impending political race.”

Camille Framroze '12, the executive editor of the *Princetonian*'s opinion section, said Occupy Princeton's impact had been “very positive” in arousing a campus that tends to be politically apathetic, but added that “students are more likely to criticize Occupy Princeton than to support it, particularly after the mic checking.”

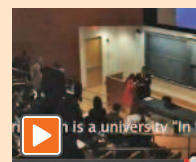
Robert Joyce '13, an Occupy Princeton member, said he hoped that the group's demonstrations had stirred discussions of the ethics of accepting a job on Wall Street. “That’s not to say that no one should go, but they should raise and grapple with the ethical issues before they do,” he said.

Beverly Hamilton-Chandler, director of Career Services, said she was unaware of any data to indicate a change in students' career plans based on the Occupy movement, nor of changes in plans by recruiters to visit Princeton.

Joyce said about 10 Occupy Princeton members also conducted a mic check before an Orange Key campus tour group. The protest targeted the University's investment in HEI Hospitality, an investment group that specializes in hotel turnarounds and that has

MORE ON THE PROTESTS

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VIDEOS: The Occupy Princeton “mic checks” that interrupted campus information sessions by JPMorgan and Goldman Sachs.

ESSAY: Michael Lewis '82 looks at the Occupy Princeton protests against Wall Street firms and offers lessons for the 1 percenters in a humorous essay written for Bloomberg. “That Princeton students are now identifying their interests with the Lower 99 percenters” is an ominous sign, Lewis writes.

drawn protests at a number of college campuses related to working conditions at HEI's hotels.

Politics professor Mark Beissinger said he noticed “significant resonance of the issues raised by Occupy among students, but far less student interest in the movement than this resonance

BEVERLY SCHAEFER

P
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Civil-rights pioneer: Focus on schools

Civil-rights leader Bob Moses, a visiting fellow at Princeton, called on young people to work on unfinished business from the civil-rights era during the University's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration Jan. 16.

Inviting some 90 schoolchildren to join him on the stage in Richardson Auditorium, Moses, who was a key figure in the 1964 Mississippi Summer Project to register black voters, said, “We were able to get segregation out of three areas of the country's life: public accommodations, the right to vote, and the national Democratic Party. But we did not get segregation and Jim Crow out of education, and that's going to be your job. You are going to have to do that in this century.”

MLK Day Journey Awards were presented to Miguel Centeno, a sociology professor who founded the Princeton University Preparatory Program, which helps low-income high school students prepare for college; and Sandra Mukasa '12, who has been a leader in lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues on campus and has worked for women's rights in Africa. By J.A.



Fishy analogy?

A recent Princeton study found that the uninformed voter is a big fish in the political pond. “Why a democracy needs uninformed people,” crowed one headline. “Vote for apathy?” asked another. But the study, led by Princeton biology professor Iain Couzin, was not about voters. It was about fish.

Couzin's decision-making experiments were performed with a schooling fish called the golden shiner. When “uninformed” fish — those not trained to go to any target — were introduced into a group, all the fish increasingly swam toward the majority-preferred target, giving the uninformed fish a crucial role in achieving democratic consensus by diluting the influence of strong minority factions. The findings were published in the journal *Science* on Dec. 16.

The analogy to humans was too fishy for some political scientists, including Larry Bartels, who just retired from Princeton. He penned a piece for a political science blog titled “Silly Science: Aquarium Democracy Edition.”

But Couzin had bigger fish to fry. “I think it's always wonderful for people to take an interest in science,” he said. By J.A.



DENISE APPLEWHITE/OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

ALVIN E. STRAFAN/BETTY IMAGES

Occupy Princeton *continued from page 13* would seem to suggest?”

He said Princeton students are trying to understand the goals of the Occupy movement — not “for the sake of creating a counterculture, but for having some real impact on issues of inequality, injustice, and poverty.” But the group has been hurt by failing to spell out its program clearly and by its leaderless structure, he said.

Many of the points raised by Beissinger were cited during a Jan. 13 debate in Whig Hall in which five Occupy Wall Street supporters squared off against three students who took opposing viewpoints.

Pro-Occupy speakers attacked corporate greed and growing income inequality, saying that the movement’s goal is to end social injustice caused by a system that favors the rich. “Wall Street has used money to influence government policy in its favor, crippling real legislation that is meant to protect the consumer,” said Maria Krupenkin ’14.

Anti-Occupy panelists and some of the 50 students in the audience called the demands of the protest movement “scattered” and confusing. One audience member complimented the pro-Occupy team, however: “I think what you’re saying is a lot smarter than what the Occupy movement is spewing as a whole,” he said.

The debate was sponsored by the Corporate Finance Club. Anastasia Auber ’13, the club’s vice president of education, said that while she thought Occupy raised valid concerns, the two problems facing the movement are “its excessive focus on Wall Street, as opposed to the government, and its disorganization, which keeps it from accomplishing much.”

Wilson School Professor Stanley Katz, who moderated the debate, said he was encouraged to see how many Princeton students are thinking about the issues raised by the Occupy movement. “I think there is growing concern on this campus over the issue of the asymmetry of wealth in this country,” he said, “and I hope the most concerned students will find ways to put the concern to responsible use.” **■** *By Woody Hines ’12*

Student survey raises ‘red flag’ for USG on mental-health issues

African-American and female students at Princeton were significantly more likely than other students to report feeling depressed, while athletes were less likely to do so, according to the results of an Undergraduate Student Government survey conducted last summer. And students who identified themselves as gay or lesbian, bisexual, queer, asexual, or “unsure” were more likely to report feeling depressed than heterosexual students were.

More than 1,850 students — 36 percent of undergraduates — completed the online survey, which asked students about their mental well-being, social life, academics, extracurriculars, and post-graduation plans.

New USG president Bruce Easop ’13 said that working with the administration to address mental-health issues will be “a top priority.” The survey results represent “a red flag to students and administrators alike that mental health deserves our full attention and resources,” he said.

Anita McLean, director of the University’s counseling and psychological services, said the survey data on mental health reflect the trends seen on most college campuses. Each year about 18 percent of Princeton undergraduates use her office’s services, which include individual psychotherapy, group counseling, and other programs, McLean said.

The survey results are being used as a guide for new USG projects, including a mental-health initiative to address issues such as stress, depression, and sexual assault, said Jess Brooks ’13, who is helping to organize the effort.

AMONG OTHER SURVEY FINDINGS:

- Women lagged behind men in their assessment of their leadership skills: 44.7 percent of women reported feeling “above average” or in the “highest 10 percent” in their leadership ability compared with the typical Princeton student, while 58.1 percent of men chose those responses. Rating their intellectual self-confidence, 30.6 percent of female students scored themselves in the two highest categories, while 56.6 percent of men did.
- Students from rural backgrounds were twice as likely as those from other backgrounds to feel their high school left them unprepared for coursework at Princeton, and were twice as likely to choose their major based on its future financial prospects.
- Students who identified themselves as other than heterosexual were more likely to take a year off from school.
- Athletes, who made up about a third of the responding students and included participants in varsity, junior varsity, and intramural athletics, rated their emotional health, social self-confidence, and leadership ability in the highest 10 percent or above average more often than non-athletes. They were more likely to hold leadership positions in eating clubs, fraternities, and sororities. Athletes also felt more comfortable networking when pursuing internships or job opportunities, and a higher proportion were inclined to pursue business degrees.
- Women were significantly more likely to bicker a club, and to be rejected, than men were. **■** *By J.A.*

Percentage of students within each group who reported feeling depressed “sometimes” or “often” in the past year:

All survey respondents	44%
Black students	59%
White students	42%
Athletes	36%
Non-athletes	53%
Females	49%
Males	36%
Heterosexual students	42%
Non-heterosexual students	64%



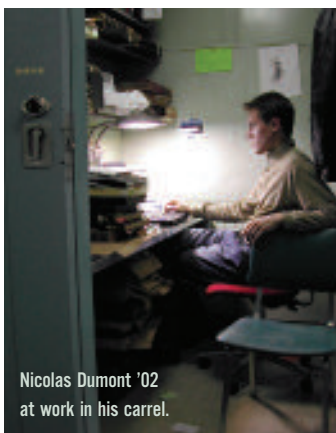
Firestone carrels, circa 1948.

After six decades of thesis use, Firestone removing metal carrels

They were cramped, poorly lit, and, well, kind of ugly. But Firestone Library's study carrels still evoke nostalgia in alumni who spent countless hours toiling inside those metal walls.

More than 140 of the two-person lockable carrels have been removed from Firestone as part of the library's 10-year renovation. Eventually all of the original carrels — there were about 500 when the building opened in 1948 — will be replaced by 500 single-person open wooden carrels with modern lighting and wireless connections.

The new carrels, which will be distributed throughout the building, will not lock or be assigned. Instead, students will be assigned lockable storage units with shelf space comparable to the old carrels that are near the resources they need.



Nicolas Dumont '02 at work in his carrel.

WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?

Share your Firestone carrel memories at paw.princeton.edu or email paw@princeton.edu

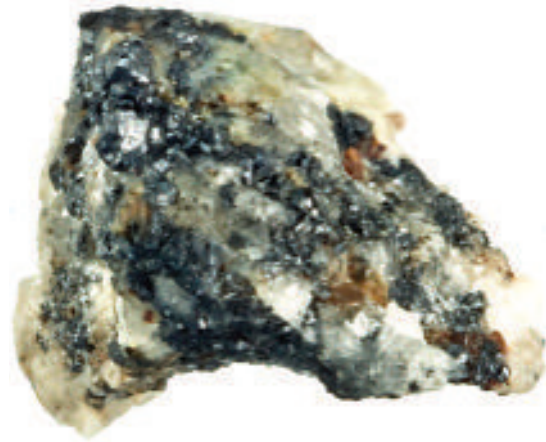
Library staff found in recent years that the carrels were not used enough to justify the “enormous real estate” they required, according to University Librarian Karin Trainer. Currently, 490 seniors and 231 grad students are registered for carrel space, which also includes rooms that hold up to seven people.

A faculty steering committee recommended eliminating Firestone's carrels, which, if kept, would have needed individual smoke detectors and sprinkler heads to conform to modern building codes.

“They [the locked carrels] just are not appealing to contemporary students,” Trainer said, although alumni frequently have “a sentimental attachment and want to see their carrel” while back for Reunions.

There are no plans to remove carrels from any other campus libraries, all of which have some type of individual study space. **By** *EH*.

FYI: FINDINGS



Discovering an extraterrestrial

A rare mineral — the world's only known sample of a naturally occurring quasicrystal — was identified by an international team of researchers led by Princeton scientists. The mineral is thought to be 4.5 billion years old, perhaps older than the Earth itself, and likely traveled to Earth on a meteorite. The rock, which was discovered in the remote Koryak Mountains of Russia, was identified by a team, led by physics professor Paul Steinhardt, among a collection of 10,000 minerals that had been acquired by a museum in Italy. The results of the project were published online Jan. 3 in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Tracking disease from above

It is difficult to track the movements of migratory workers in developing nations, complicating efforts to carry out large-scale vaccinations against measles and other diseases. But new research, published Dec. 9 in the journal *Science*, has found that using satellite images of nighttime lights can help track disease by revealing the population boom that typically coincides with seasonal epidemics. Unlike existing surveys and census data, satellite images were able to provide frequent measures of population density throughout each season and over many years in Niger, the subject of the research, according to lead author Nita Bharti, a postdoctoral researcher in ecology and evolutionary biology.

Off-campus eateries: Here today, chain tomorrow?

There have been many changes to the Nassau Street restaurant landscape, with the 56-year-old Carousel becoming the latest eatery to close. It will be replaced by a chain restaurant, one of several that have opened in recent years. Here's a snapshot of selected eating spots along Nassau Street, past and present. *Compiled by Jennifer Altmann*



RENWICK'S (CLOSED)
50 Nassau St.
1901–1970
Now: Ralph Lauren

1 Known as Wicks – and located at various locations along Nassau Street in its 70-year history – this Princeton landmark started as an ice cream parlor and hosted hamburger-eating contests in the '50s.

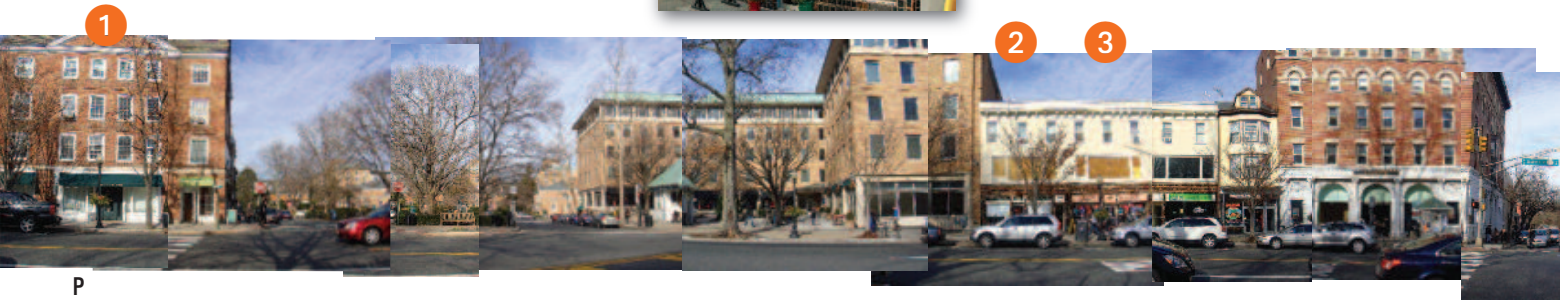
ZORBA'S BROTHER
80 Nassau St.
Opened 2003

2 This classic Greek diner serves salads and souvlaki to its many fans, including members of the University's staff.



THE BALT (CLOSED)
82 Nassau St.
1920s–1963
Now: Paper Source

3 This tiled-wall classic (full name: the Baltimore Dairy Lunch) was a student haunt for more than four decades. Now it's a fancy stationery shop.



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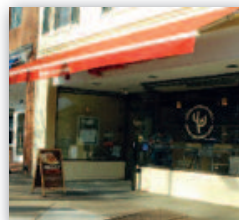
PANERA BREAD
136 Nassau St.
Opened 2001

8 This spot finds students munching muffins and checking email using the free Wi-Fi.



TRIUMPH BREWING COMPANY
138 Nassau St.
Opened 1995

9 Behind the lively bar – a favorite hangout for Princeton staffers – is the seven-barrel, stainless-steel brewery where craft beers are made.



QDOBA MEXICAN GRILL
140 Nassau St.
Opened 2011

10 This newcomer – a national chain – dishes out huge burritos to students on a budget.



PJ'S PANCAKE HOUSE
154 Nassau St.
Opened 1962

11 Students huddle in line under heat lamps on weekends; once inside, they carve their names in the wooden tables, if they can find an empty spot.



NAKED PIZZA
180 Nassau St.
Opened 2011

12 This chain calls its pizza "all-natural" with "no freaky chemicals"; students perch on outside benches, since there's no seating.

WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?

Tell us about your favorite place to eat in Princeton, then and now, at paw.princeton.edu or email paw@princeton.edu



LAHIERE'S (CLOSED)

5 Witherspoon St.
1919–2010
Now: vacant

4 Albert Einstein ate lunch here, and it was the place your parents took you for shrimp cocktail and rack of lamb when they visited. It closed in 2010. No word on what will replace it.

STARBUCKS

100 Nassau St.
Opened 1996

5 The coffee mecca competes with local favorite Small World Coffee on Witherspoon Street.



MASSIMO'S

110 Nassau St.
Opened 1973

6 Decorated in orange and black – and festooned with banners from Princeton and its Ivy League brethren – Massimo's dishes up pizza and pasta to hungry students.

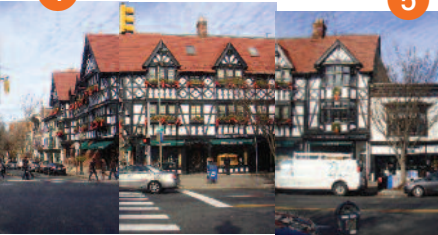


THE ANNEX (CLOSED)

128 Nassau St.
1930s–2006
Now: Princeton Sports Bar & Grill (shown above)

7 The beloved Annex – with its stained-glass roaring tiger and old football-team photos – was replaced first with Italian restaurant Sotto, and is now a burger-and-nacho joint.

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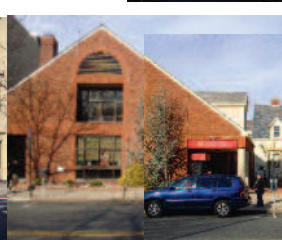
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ON THE OTHER SIDE OF NASSAU STREET ...



CAROUSEL (CLOSED)

182 Nassau St.
1955–2011
Opening spring 2012:
Cheeburger Cheeburger

13 A favorite of Cornel West '80 and other faculty members, this breakfast-all-day diner – known for the carousel horses in the window and originally located farther east on Nassau Street – is giving way to a burger chain with a '50s motif.



GREENLINE DINER (DESTROYED)

179 Nassau St.
1981–1990

This natural-foods restaurant – later known as the American Diner – was destroyed by a spectacular fire in 1990.



ZORBA'S GRILL

183 Nassau St.
Opened 1990

Outdoor tables make this Greek takeout spot a draw on sunny days.

UP NASSAU STREET ...



HOAGIE HAVEN

242 Nassau St.
Opened early 1970s

The ultimate student hangout, known for serving the cheapest, greasiest sandwiches around; there are crowds here at 2 a.m. Says James Paddon '88: "Anyone who does not say Hoagie Haven (is their favorite place to eat in Princeton) should have their degree revoked."

PHOTOS: FRANK WOJCIKOWSKI (RESTAURANTS); MARINNE NELSON/PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY (NASSAU STREET); HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PRINCETON (NEWICK'S, THE BALD); PRINCETON ALUMNI WEEKLY, APRIL 4, 1990 (AMERICAN DINER FIRE)

Exhibition puts Princeton's Gothic revival in context

When Princeton was building its reputation as a modern school of international stature around the turn of the 20th century, its trustees and administrators looked back — at the traditions and architecture of Oxford and Cambridge — to look forward. Key to sending the message to its students that they were part of an academic elite, they believed, was the creation of buildings in the collegiate gothic style.

The exhibition “Princeton and the Gothic Revival: 1870–1930” at the Princeton University Art Museum explores the development of Gothic revival architecture on campus, the changing nature of the understanding of the term “Gothic,” and how the American Gothic revival movement was tied to Princeton’s understanding of itself as the “modern inheritor” of the architectural and pedagogical tradition of Oxford and Cambridge, said curator Johanna Seasonwein.

Most of the 40 objects in the exhibition, on view Feb. 25 through June 24, come from the art museum, Firestone Library, and the University archives, including watercolors and drawings of the Chapel, Holder and Hamilton halls, and



A watercolor of the University Chapel prior to its construction.

the now-gone Marquand Chapel and a biological-sciences laboratory. The exhibit also includes models of stained-glass windows that were in Marquand Chapel and an early watercolor design for the large stained-glass window in Procter Hall.

At the same time the University was erecting buildings in the collegiate gothic style, which revived medieval architecture, the new art museum and Department of Art and Archaeology were beginning to collect art objects from the medieval period. Included in the exhibition are several of these early objects, including an English alabaster relief and two sculptures of the Virgin Mary and Christ child.

Accompanying the exhibition in the art museum will be an illustrated catalog (distributed by Princeton University Press) and a mobile tour accessible by smartphones. The tour will take visitors to nine campus

sites. At some of those spots people can listen to audio narratives — for example, Dean of Religious Life Alison Boden talks about her connection to the Chapel, and Rockefeller College master Jeff Nunokawa observes how students interact with the architecture of Holder Hall. **By K.F.G.**

University contributions to borough, township rise

In the wake of zoning approvals from Princeton Borough and Princeton Township for the proposed arts and transit project, the University announced that it would increase its voluntary contributions to the two municipalities for 2012.

The borough will receive \$1.7 million, up \$500,000 from last year, with an additional \$250,000 to prepare for the consolidation of the borough and the township on Jan. 1, 2013. The township will receive \$500,000, up \$25,000 from last year, plus \$250,000 toward its share of consolidation costs.

As part of a separate agreement with the two municipalities that was negotiated amid concerns about the move of the Dinky station, the University will

establish a \$500,000 trust fund to address transit and traffic issues and will spend up to \$450,000 to install three Nassau Street crosswalks.

The University will establish a \$500,000 trust fund to address transit and traffic issues.

The University also will contribute \$300,000 toward expanding the Princeton Firehouse on Witherspoon Street.

A group of area residents filed a lawsuit in early January that seeks to block the zoning approvals for the \$300 million arts and transit project, saying that the University’s financial contribu-

tions influenced the decision by local officials.

Elected officials offered differing views of town-gown relations as the year ended. “The best way to make our community better for all of our residents is to have a collaborative relationship with Princeton University,” said township mayor Chad Goerner.

A contrasting tone was taken by David Goldfarb as he stepped down after 21 years as a borough councilman. Goldfarb said officials should not have “capitulated” to President Tilghman’s “ultimatum” on the arts project a year ago, and that he hoped both sides would work to restore a mutually respectful relationship. **By W.R.O.**

IN MEMORIAM



SIN-I CHENG *52, professor emeritus of mechanical and aerospace engineering and a pioneer in rocketry and aerodynamics, died Dec. 6 in Princeton. He was 89 and had served on the University's faculty for 41 years. In 1956, Cheng published an influential monograph on fluid dynamics and chemistry that advanced the reliability of early rockets just as the United States was entering the space race. He continued research in fluid dynamics and, as an industry consultant, helped develop designs for intercontinental ballistic missiles. An early proponent of using computers to solve problems in aerodynamics and to understand turbulence, Cheng often lectured on computational aerodynamics in China.




CORNELIA N. BORGERHOFF, an assistant dean of the graduate school from 1969 to 1979, died Dec. 19 in Princeton. She was 91. She combined "a strong sense of

fairness with an equally deep sense of compassion for graduate students," said David Redman, associate dean of the graduate school. At a time when black students first were being admitted in significant numbers and there were few women in most fields of study at the graduate school, Borgerhoff supported black and female students through her counseling and encouragement.



MARGARET FELS, a longtime researcher and faculty member who helped create the field of energy analysis, died Nov. 12 in Princeton. She was 70. The first woman

to receive a Hertz Foundation fellowship and one of the first women on the University's engineering faculty, Fels served for 20 years as a research staff member at the Center for Energy and Environmental Studies. She created a still-used system called "scorekeeping" that allows businesses to analyze the effectiveness of energy conservation methods. 

PHOTOS: FROM TOP, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES; COURTESY, BORGERHOFF FAMILY; SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE

BREAKING GROUND

Unlocking the key to 3D sound

THE INVENTION Audio technology that allows the listener to experience true three-dimensional sound. Unlike surround-sound systems, this invention — called BACCH 3D Sound — enables you to hear with precision where each sound on a recording is coming from. Listen to a recording of a fly circling your head, and you can detect exactly where that fly is



located. Listen to a symphony, and you can hear the viola coming from the left and the bass coming from a spot on the back right. The technology works with any pair of loudspeakers, but not with headphones.

THE SCIENTIST The moment he perfected his invention — at 3 a.m. — Edgar Choueiri (pronounced "Shu-WAY-ri") *91, professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering, woke up his wife to listen to a recording of Bach's "Mass in B Minor." (BACCH 3D Sound stands for Band-Assembled Crosstalk Cancellation Hierarchy and is a tribute to Bach, Choueiri's favorite composer.) Choueiri created a way of designing a filter that accurately cancels a sound recording's crosstalk without changing the tonal quality of the sound. Recordings have 3D cues, slight differences in timing and volume between the sound reaching the left ear and the right one. The key to creating accurate 3D sound is canceling the crosstalk, which is the sound meant for the left ear that spills over to the right ear and vice versa, without affecting sound quality.

An engineer who develops plasma rockets for spacecraft propulsion, Choueiri has been an amateur audiophile since childhood, when he lived in his native Lebanon. After dropping in on a conference for audio engineers in 2003, he became captivated by the technical difficulties of 3D audio. His lab was funded by Project X — established by Lynn Shostack in memory of her late husband, David Gardner '69 — which provides funds to Princeton faculty members in engineering who want to pursue unconventional ideas or those outside of their area of expertise.


WHERE YOU'LL BE SEEING IT Choueiri's BACCH 3D Sound is available in a portable wireless speaker called Jambox and will be available in 3D televisions. Sony has given Choueiri \$3 million to fund his lab for the next three years and do research on headphones. Choueiri also is exploring how to adapt the technology for use in hearing aids. *By J.A.*



BRINGING 3D SOUND TO YOUR EARS
Watch a video of Edgar Choueiri *91 explaining how his 3D sound technology works
[@ paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu)

An online trove of historical campus scenes

The newly digitized Grounds and Buildings historical photograph collection of Mudd Manuscript Library makes about 7,000 photographs of the campus available to the public on the Web. Photos range from the late 1850s to the present. Visitors to the site can page through the alphabetized collection or refine their searches by photographer, topic, or genre. It is easy to search for a specific topic or building: Select “Chancellor Green,” for example, and 128 photos are displayed. “This set of photos is consistently the most used of all of the Archives’ photo collections,” said University Archivist Daniel Linke. More than 25,000 photos should be available online in coming years, he said.

To visit the collection, go to the Princeton University Digital Library site at pudl.princeton.edu. Click on the “Collections” tab, then scroll down to “Historical Photograph Collection: Grounds and Buildings Series.”  By *Allie Weiss '13*



THIS PAGE, FROM TOP:

An 1884 photo shows four buildings that no longer stand: the School of Science; the dynamo building, a source of power; the biological laboratory; and the original Dickinson Hall

- Crew members prepare for practice in front of the original campus boathouse in 1875
- An onlooker assesses damage outside East Pyne after a storm in the 1950s

OPPOSITE PAGE, FROM TOP:

- Students play a game of ball behind Witherspoon Hall, circa 1930–50
- A snowstorm circa 1890 keeps horse-drawn snowplows working in front of Blair Arch
- The Dinky station near Witherspoon Hall, circa 1880

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VIEW: More photos from the Grounds and Buildings historical collection @ paw.princeton.edu



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Brown
B/W

ON THE CAMPUS



Mixed verdict for report on women's leadership

By Tara Thean '13

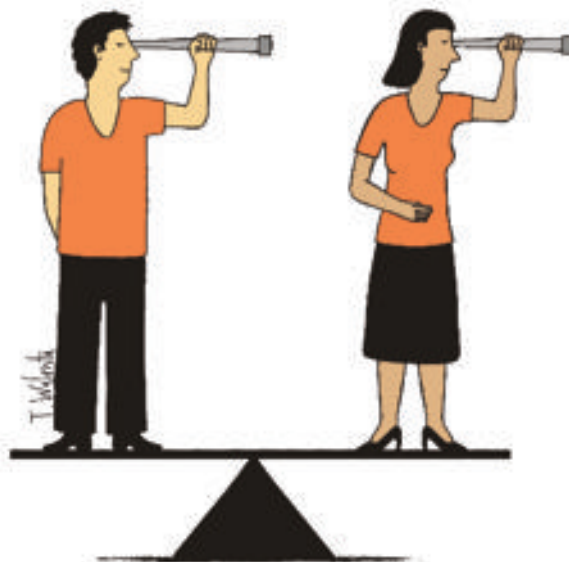
At Princeton, as in many places, big news often has a short shelf life. The March 2011 Steering Committee on Undergraduate Women's Leadership (SCUWL) report, which examined whether Princeton's men and women were pursuing academic and extracurricular opportunities at the same levels, was no exception — the stream of op-ed articles and discussions that followed its release died down in a matter of days. But nearly a year later, some students said they felt the committee's findings still underscore campus dialogue about leadership and gender.

"Even though the newness of the report has worn off, I think that it's still in the back of many people's minds," Allison Daminger '12 said in an email.

Last year, the SCUWL study reported a decade-long trend of undergraduate women at the University being underrepresented as recipients of major aca-

ademic prizes and in the most visible leadership positions. The year that followed marked several noteworthy events in campus extracurricular and academic leadership.

The Quadrangle Club, for example, elected a female president for the second year in a row. In November, male and female candidates vied to become Undergraduate Student Government president, a position not held by a woman in a decade (Bruce Easop '13 defeated Catherine Ettman '13 by 84 votes out of more than 2,000 cast). On the academic side, three out of four Princeton winners of the 2012 Rhodes scholarship were female, as were four of the University's five Marshall scholars.



Marshall scholar Emily Rutherford '12 said the report was an important factor in her decision to seek the fellowship. At a reception in November for Rhodes and Marshall scholarship finalists, she said, "it was definitely on everybody's minds that there had been a change, and a positive change."

Andrew Blumenfeld, the USG's Class of 2013 senator, said he had drawn upon the report's findings in drafting new USG election policies. "At the most basic level, it raised a level of awareness," he said.

This awareness extended all the way

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Zombies, fires, chaos, destruction: Mol-bio videos spoof life in the lab

By Angela Wu '12

If you had walked through Lewis Thomas Laboratory one day last December, you might have seen an unusual sight: molecular biology professor Ned Wingreen taped to an office chair — and on the move. Wheeling him down the hall was his department colleague, Professor Bonnie Bassler.

The two were filming a video for the department's annual holiday party: "Dr. Crime," directed by Zach Donnell GS. In this story of scientific espionage, Bassler discovers that Professor Zemer Gitai has recruited Wingreen to be his mole in the Bassler lab. In response, she gleefully sets the Gitai lab on fire.

"We got to do crazy stuff that we don't usually do as scientists," Bassler said. "Plus, Zach made us the good guys, and we got to conquer the evil villains down the hall."

The video was a hit at the holiday party, an annual gathering with skits and games that attracts hundreds of guests. The main event for years, however, has been student-produced videos that feature undergraduate and graduate students, postdocs and professors, who perform songs, cause chaos and destruction, and poke fun at life in a lab coat. A 2009 video even had a cameo by President Tilghman.

"Sometimes there are deliberate attempts to create jokes that incorporate science in them, but very often the ideas come up naturally," said Alejandro Ochoa GS, who keeps a web database of the skits and videos (<http://viiiia.org/v/molbio/?l=en-us>).

Nikhil Deshmukh GS said he and Donnell "were hanging out one night, and we were like, what if our department were overrun by zombies?" The result: the 2010 video "Molbiohazard."

Deshmukh and Donnell took notes on zombie movies, recruited volunteer zombies (including four professors), and shot the 11-minute film in one afternoon. The experience encouraged Donnell to take a leave of absence to launch a visual-media business.

"It humanizes the department," said Deshmukh. "You get to see professors acting and being silly, being themselves. That goes for the students, too."

to Princeton's newest members — those who first stepped through FitzRandolph Gate in September. "I was impressed that there were a number of freshmen this year who had read the report," said Ettman, who was a member of the SCUWL committee.

That the report has made students more aware of women's leadership as an institutional concern does not mean it has escaped criticism — many students remain unconvinced by the report's findings, or at least find its messages problematic.

Rutherford said the report relied on survey-based and anecdotal evidence for a number of findings, particularly those pertaining to student experiences with leadership on campus, which "could have made people discredit it."

Professor Nannerl Keohane, who led the study group that produced the report, noted in an email that the study had produced a "mixed" reaction: Some students were delighted to have their views of campus leadership patterns confirmed; some paid little attention to it; another group "dismissed it as paternalistic and wrong-headed; others worried that it would make women students sound somehow inferior."

She added that "whatever is happening on campus, it's surely having some impact more generally in higher education," noting that she had been invited to appear at two conferences last month to discuss the report's findings.

Overall, the SCUWL report seems to have penetrated the consciousness of the student body. It "reignites conversation," according to associate dean of undergraduate students and SCUWL subcommittee chair Thomas Dunne. "It causes people to think in more sophisticated ways about how leadership functions on campus — what are the opportunities, what are the challenges," he said.

But Easop, the USG's new president, said he felt that current discussion of the report, while productive, is missing something. "We need to celebrate leaders who don't have traditional high-profile positions," he said, adding that leadership is "all about the contribution you make, and in that sense really anybody can be a leader." ■

From Princeton's vault

Why tigers?



What: Founded in 1912 by the Class of 1894, the Society of the Claw honored prominent Princeton men with real claws from tigers hunted in the British Raj.

When did the tiger first become our feisty emblem? Orange and black team colors (from the House of Orange and Nassau in Holland) preceded it by several years. As late as 1879, a graduating class gave statuary lions to adorn Nassau Hall, a mistake that later needed correcting.

Nobody seems to have thought of us as Tigers until after the founding of *Tiger*, the humor magazine, in 1882. Its name was a play on the nonsensical "Princeton Tiger" cheer from Civil War days: "Hooray! ... Tiger! ... Sh-sh-boom-ahhh!"

The Yale football team had a chance to "beard the tiger in his den," a letter to *The New York Times* said in 1886, in perhaps the earliest off-campus reference.

Online newspaper databases suggest that the feline association didn't start to become universal until 1890 — some years later than usually assumed — with the extensive coverage of the Yale game that year. "The Princeton tigers come running out on the field," said *The New York Tribune*. It's been Tigers ever since.

Where: Collection AC53, Princeton University Archives

By *W. Barksdale Maynard '88*



Niveen Rasheed '13, left, and Lauren Polansky '13 hope to lead their team to its third straight Ivy League title.

Bond of longtime teammates gives women's basketball a bounce

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Long before Lauren Polansky '13 and Niveen Rasheed '13 shared the basketball court in Jadwin Gym, they played against each other as preteens on the California Bay Area's soccer fields. In 2008, they became teammates on a top travel basketball team and realized that playing together was better than facing each other. "From the get-go, we automatically had chemistry," Rasheed said.

Four years later, that chemistry is a key element of the success of the women's basketball team, which entered league play as the heavy favorite to win a third straight Ivy League title. Before the arrival of Polansky and Rasheed, Princeton never had reached the NCAA Tournament.

After missing last season's conference games with a torn ligament in her right knee, Rasheed is back in action this season as arguably the best player in the Ivy League, averaging 17.1 points and a league-high 8.9 rebounds per game. Polansky, who was named the Defensive

Player of the Year in 2010–11, leads the Ivy League in steals. Center Devona Allgood '12 and guard Lauren Edwards '12 also have continued to be major factors in the Tigers' success.

"It's a great experience to come in when a program's low, to turn it around and make it your own," Polansky said.

In 2008, when head coach Courtney Banghart was recruiting Polansky and Rasheed, she suggested they visit campus together. Rasheed never had expected to leave California for college, but soon after Polansky committed to the Tigers, Rasheed followed. "There is no other person I would have wanted to be my point guard," Rasheed said.

An athletic and physical forward, Rasheed led the Tigers in scoring and rebounding as a freshman and unanimously was named the Ivy League Rookie of the Year. In her truncated sophomore year, she averaged 16.4 points per game, a pace she has resumed this winter.

Polansky's talents were harder to pinpoint in the box score: In her rookie season, she scored the fewest points per minute of any player in the Ivy League. But her competitiveness impressed Banghart so much that Polansky was named the starting point guard as a freshman for a team that went undefeated in conference play and finished 26–3 overall. This season, Polansky has shown flashes of improved scoring, netting 12 points in a big win over Marist.

Banghart says she rarely puts Rasheed and Polansky on the same team in practice "because they just win all the time." Their chemistry is enhanced by their complementary styles — Polansky knows where and when to deliver the ball, Rasheed knows how to finish it, and each player will rebound the other's missed shot or cover any assignment on defense.

Facing one of the toughest non-conference schedules in the nation this season, the Tigers went 10–4. There's a long Ivy League season ahead, but the team already has routed Penn 83–48. If Rasheed and Polansky, still juniors, can help Princeton win two more league championships, their class may go down as one of the best in Ivy League history. **By Kevin Whitaker '13**



EXTRA POINT

Wrestlers go from flat on their backs to a comeback

By Merrell Noden '78



Merrell Noden '78 is a former staff writer at Sports Illustrated and a frequent PAW contributor.

The reversal is one of wrestling's sweetest moves. It's even more satisfying when an entire program pulls off a reversal. This year the Princeton wrestling team placed fourth in the Keystone Open; beat Old Dominion, a near-Top 25 team; and placed two wrestlers in the top eight at the prestigious Midlands Championships.

That might not sound earthshaking, but it's a long way from 1993. That was the year the University, citing financial and admission pressures brought on by the implementation of Title IX, announced plans to cancel the sport. Outraged, Princeton's wrestling community sprang into action. The team organized a 24-hour wrestle-athon in Firestone Plaza, and more than 100 wrestling alumni raised \$3 million to fund a bare-bones program. The team was in limbo, and conditions were grim: With the wrestling room in the bowels of Jadwin Gym already converted to a weight room, the wrestlers found themselves banished to Dillon. Each day they had to roll out the mats for practice and put up with volleyballs bouncing over their backs.

The program was scuffling along three years later when iconoclastic feminist scholar Camille Paglia was invited to campus to debate the topic "Wrestling is good for Princeton University." In a swashbuckling performance, Paglia praised the sport for its "pagan principle of the strength of the body" and lauded its "ethnic diversity" which, she said, brings "blue-collar students" to campus. The debate got national press, and the University gave up on eliminating the sport.

When Chris Ayres took over as head coach six years ago, wrestling had little



From left, Garrett Frey '13, Daniel Kolodzik '12, and Tony Comunale '12, co-captains of the wrestling team.

more than club status. A spotty roster meant the team often would travel to meets knowing they would have to forfeit three or four matches. Despite wrestling mostly Division II and III schools, the Tigers lost every meet they contested from 2006 to 2008, winning just 11 individual matches out of 198 in Ayres' first season. That was especially tough for Ayres, who had set a school record for career wins as a student at wrestling powerhouse Lehigh University.

Co-captain Daniel Kolodzik '12 recalls the tough losses in his first years with the team: "Chris would be pretty bummed on the bus ride home. But on Monday he'd come in with all sorts of great ideas. He's really good at focusing on the future."

Kolodzik, it should be noted, didn't even *have* a team in high school. As the only wrestler at Miami Valley School in Ohio, he had to travel to nearby schools just to have someone to work out with. This season he is 18–7, with an eighth-place finish at the Midlands.

It was Adam Krop '14 who stunned the crowd at the Midlands by nearly beating the nation's top wrestler in the 141-pound weight class, Iowa's Montell Marion, and finishing third overall.

Garrett Frey '13 — Princeton's top point-winner for the last two seasons

— is wiry and focused, popping with intensity. "I feel like wrestling is sport at its rawest, purest form," he says.

The coach has sold recruits on the idea that they can be part of a rising program, and it has worked. "A lot of people had written us off. Now, we make people nervous," he says.

Princeton's wrestlers are relentless scrappers, and they are making the most of the program's second chance. ▣

Extra Point explores the people and issues in Princeton sports.

Football star suffers stroke

Football standout Chuck Dibilio '15 suffered a stroke Jan. 19, the University said.

He was taken to Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, where doctors removed a clot in the main artery of Dibilio's brain, according to the student's father, Chuck Dibilio Sr. He said doctors were uncertain about his son's long-term prognosis or the cause of the stroke.

Dibilio, a tailback, was the breakout star of the Ivy League during the 2011 season. He rushed for 1,068 yards, the most by a non-transfer student in Ivy League history.



JOSEPHINE SITTENFELD '02



In the comedy world, where women remain outnumbered, Ellie Kemper '02 gets the laughs

BY MARK F. BERNSTEIN '83

Funny Girl

To hear Ellie Kemper '02 tell it, her rise to fame and fortune began in the front hallway of her childhood home in suburban St. Louis.

When they were little girls in the late '80s and early '90s, she and her younger sister, Carrie, would write skits and perform them for the family. In addition to an annual Christmas extravaganza, there were shows with such titles as “Marcia Clark for the Prosecution,” often done with a boom box tape providing the soundtrack. The girls had an appreciative — and captive — audience. As their mother, Dorothy Jannarone Kemper '72, recalls, perhaps slightly tongue-in-cheek, “Critics raved: Delightful! Interminable!”

Soon, the Kemper girls grew more ambitious, filming skits with the family video camera, forcing their baby brother and a playmate next door to fill out the cast. In their basement “studio,” Ellie Kemper says, they managed to hook up two spare VCRs and do their own editing. (One early horror short, called “The Man Under the Stairs,” is a YouTube hit.)

“I suppose I encouraged them in this,” their mother admits, “if

you don't count my constant admonishments to ‘Be careful with that — for cryin' out loud, it's not a toy!’ ”

Elizabeth Claire Kemper continues to perform in front of the camera, and to the same sorts of rave reviews, albeit from a much broader audience of people who aren't all her blood relations. She is best known as Erin Hannon, the sweet-



WATCH: A young Ellie Kemper '02 in “The Man Under the Stairs” @[paw.princeton.edu](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)



Kemper, second from left, with “Office” co-stars, from left: Brian Baumgartner, Oscar Nuñez, Kate Flannery, Zach Woods, and Mindy Kaling, photographed at an NBC Universal party in Beverly Hills in 2010.

tempered receptionist on the hit TV show *The Office*. Last year, she appeared on the big screen as Becca, the sweet-tempered friend of the bride in the hit movie *Bridesmaids*. (She’ll soon have personal wedding experience — in December, she announced her engagement to writer Michael Koman.) Things have turned out pretty well for both Kemper girls: Carrie now writes for *The Office*, and the two are collaborating on a comic novel.

Mel Brooks, who knows from neurosis, once said that humor is just another defense against the universe. But what to make of someone from a functional, well-to-do family who is building a career playing nice, sweet-tempered characters? And Ellie Kemper is — let’s not mince words here — *nice*. Upbeat. Positive. Easy to work with. Patient with autograph seekers. And no doubt kind to animals. She is, in fact, the first to acknowledge that Erin the receptionist is pretty much just “an exaggerated version of myself.” Sometimes life imitates art, but it works the other way, too.

Don’t mistake sweetness for naiveté, though. If you think Ellie Kemper can’t get a little edgy, you must not be one of the 18 million people who have downloaded the viral Internet video she wrote and stars in, the one in which her character enthusiastically describes to her boyfriend a particular technique for a certain intimate act she would like to perform, one that, um, definitely wouldn’t be enhanced by the use of teeth or sandpaper.

PAW, a family magazine, cannot provide the link, but the video helps to highlight another dimension of Kemper’s

career: She began as, and continues to be, a writer as well as an improv performer. In comedy, at least, it has been relatively unusual for a woman to fill both roles, but that seems to be changing before our eyes. We are living in a Golden Age of women who write comedy as well as perform it: Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Chelsea Handler, Whitney Cummings, Sarah Silverman, Wanda Sykes, Amy Sedaris, Mindy Kaling (Kemper’s *Office* castmate), and *Saturday Night Live*’s Kristen Wiig, who co-wrote *Bridesmaids* with Annie Mumolo, to name only a handful. Is there a distinctive female voice in comedy? Just listen.

On a Sunday night while “The Office” is on a filming hiatus,

Kemper can be found in the tiny theater of the Upright Citizens Brigade in West Hollywood. It may be as unglamorous as theater gets. Kemper is appearing in a show called “Gravid Water,” as she does about once a month. It is a variety of long-form improvisational comedy known as “on book/off book.” An actor (in this case, Kemper), who is “on book,” memorizes a scene from a play that she must recite without any deviation from the script. The other person on stage, who is “off book,” knows nothing about the scene but plays off whatever the actor gives her. And the actor, in turn, must then reply to the improviser’s line with whatever the next line in the script happens to be. From that juxtaposition, the two build a scene.

Kemper, in jeans and without makeup, has just flown back from St. Louis, where she emceed a gala at the Peabody

Opera House. She starts out her scene by declaring that she has just French-kissed a boy. The improviser, Stephanie Weir from *MADtv*, plays it easy at first, trying to figure out where the scene will go. To Kemper, this is the key to successful improv. It is a “yes, and ...” skill. Let her explain:

“If you give me a piece of information, I can never negate it. [Whatever I say] has to help advance the scene.” In other words, if the actor asks about the improviser’s mother, the improviser can’t reply, “My mother is dead.” That puts the scene in a corner it can’t escape. “I think that rule is just good manners,” Kemper continues. “That’s how you make a conversation.”

Even though she has a full-time job on *The Office* and continues to audition for movie roles, Kemper makes it a point to do the occasional improv show, in part to keep in practice, in part because that is where her professional roots are — other than in the front hallway, that is.

Kemper went to Princeton as

a field hockey player, not as a comedy writer or performer. Her major acting experience in high school was a theater class taught by a returning alumnus, Jon Hamm, now the heartthrob lead in the TV series *Mad Men*. “Everyone,” she recalls, “was like, ‘Yay, we get this really handsome, tall theater teacher.’”

She has been asked many times to name her childhood comedy idols but says, “My answer always disappoints me.” That is because she didn’t really have any idols. Like everyone else, she loved *Seinfeld* and watched *Saturday Night Live*, but was never more than a casual fan. Although she admires Woody Allen, she admits sheepishly that the first Allen movie she ever saw was his 2005 drama, *Match Point*, which is something like saying that your first Bruce Springsteen song was “Santa Claus is Coming to Town.”

One comedic role model may have been her mother. In addition to being one of the first women at Princeton, Dotty Jannarone was one of the first women to write for and perform in the Triangle show. She and another female classmate, Carey Davis ’73, contributed lyrics for the 1972 show, *Blue Genes*. After graduation, she performed in amateur musicals at McCarter Theatre and closed her career as Miss Adelaide in *Guys & Dolls* while her husband (now chairman and CEO of Missouri-based Commerce Bancshares) was in graduate school at Stanford.

With those war stories in mind, when Kemper decided to quit sports at the start of her sophomore year, she auditioned for Triangle and Quipfire!, the improvisational troupe, and got in to both. She performed in Triangle as a sophomore, then tried her hand at writing the following year, contributing an all-female skit about curling that, she says, “everybody hated.” The skit was dropped from the show in the last week of rehearsals.

On the other hand, a 10-minute mini-musical, “Where’s Walrus?,” which she wrote with Adam Ruben ’01 (now a molecular biologist who does standup comedy), did make

the show. It’s the story of a boy named Little Willie (played by Jarrod Spector ’03, who since has starred on Broadway in the show *Jersey Boys*), who desperately wants a walrus to protect him from bullies. The skit was a hit even though, Ruben says, neither he nor Kemper had any musical experience, and they later discovered that the tune to two of the three songs they wrote essentially was a variation on *The Beverly Hillbillies* theme.

There were a few women writing for Triangle at the time, Kemper recalls, but she doubts that they brought either a different perspective or a different sense of humor to the show. “It was my first time writing comedy,” she explains. “I felt very intimidated, but I don’t think it was because, ‘Oh, I’m a girl; I’m intimidated by all these guys.’ I think it was, ‘I don’t necessarily know what I’m doing, and I’m around all these guys who

have been writing for a longer time.’”

Tommy Dewey ’01, now a successful actor, remembers it a little differently. He met Kemper in auditions and “knew that she had that special X factor.” In comedy, he thinks, “a girl has to be willing to go to the mat in terms of making a fool of herself;” a recklessness he believes men possess naturally. Kemper, though, was game for anything. “She could be innocent in ridiculous situations.”

In her senior year, Kemper auditioned for her only straight dramatic role, in Theater Intime’s production of the Tom Stoppard play *The Real Inspector Hound*, which conflicted with Triangle rehearsals. She did, however, continue to work with Quipfire!, and that has had a more lasting impact on her career. The group rehearsed weekly in the Wilcox common room and performed at Theater Intime four or five times a year, adding a road trip to Hawaii. Blythe Haaga ’05



Kemper in her role as Erin, the receptionist, on “The Office.”

Kemper won raves for her comedic role in the feature film "Bridesmaids." Here, she walks past the movie poster as she arrives at the premiere in Los Angeles in April.



recalls performing in her first skit with Kemper. "I almost caught myself laughing at how funny she was," she says.

Kemper acknowledges that she is a born performer. She remembers thinking, "This is enjoyable, and I feel like I have a handle on it. That was a great realization."

After graduation, however, she spent a year studying English at Oxford, with the vague plan of becoming a teacher, but decided to return to New York and try the much riskier life of comedy instead. Contrary to what one might expect, she had her family's full support. "I would never have had the gumption to consider theater after college," Dotty Kemper says, "and I can't tell you how much I admire Ellie for her self-discipline, determination, and hard work."

Kemper started taking classes at the Upright Citizens Brigade and the Peoples Improv Theater. Performing with other students in group shows, Kemper did well enough early on that she was able to get an agent who in turn got her auditions for TV commercials. She quickly landed a string of them, for Dunkin' Donuts, Kmart, Cingular, and others, and residuals provided her with enough income to pay the bills and continue doing improv at night. She also

landed an unpaid internship on Conan O'Brien's late-night TV show, writing and performing in a few small roles in skits.

A performer who also can write always has a leg up, Kemper says, so soon after returning to New York, she and her then-apartment mate, Scott Eckert '03, began writing skits and shows of their own. Over the next few years, they put on more than half a dozen shows. On their best days, they felt like Elaine May and Mike Nichols.

"We wrote sketches together that were funny to us," Kemper says. "I don't know if they were structurally correct, but we had so much fun doing that."

"It's paying your dues," Eckert adds, "just performing in small spaces for a few people." The shows would run for a month or two or three, and then Kemper and Eckert would have to come up with something new. "The problem," he adds, "is that no one will pay you until you're a success."

Improv proved a perfect training ground for the kind of performing Kemper is doing now. "How do you find what's up in a scene?" asks Eckert, who continues to write and perform. "How do you take a character and do something with



it? In improv, you have to be very present, and listen to every word your partner says." It is not surprising that many cast members on *The Office*, which sometimes is loosely scripted, come from improv backgrounds.

Kemper also branched into writing for humor publications and websites. After a year of sending badgering letters, emails, and suggestions, she landed a job writing for *The Onion*, and also has been a regular contributor to *McSweeney's* (where her essays included, "Listen, Kid, The Biggest Thing You've Got Going For You Is Your Rack") and *CollegeHumor.com*. (She wrote for PAW, too: Read her "Ode to Wawa" in the Jan. 19, 2011, issue.)

But as she freely admits — and as her mother would have pointed out had Kemper not — her first love is performing. "It's more fun!" she explains. Starting in 2007, she began to land a few small roles in cable series and made-for-TV movies.

That work earned Kemper some industry attention, but it also forced her to move to Los Angeles because, as Eckert says, "that's where the jobs are." Still, it took a three-cushion bank shot around the NBC casting department to land her part on *The Office*. It

worked this way: In 2008, Kemper auditioned to be a cast member on *SNL*, but did not get it. She next tried for a part on a new NBC sitcom, *Parks & Recreation*, but did not get that, either. She was impressive enough, though, that the *Parks & Rec* people recommended her to the producers of *The Office*, which along with *30 Rock* is the flagship of the network's comedy lineup.

At first, her character was slated to be in only four episodes, filling in when the show's regular receptionist, played by Jenna Fischer, was promoted to sales. Those four episodes were expanded to six episodes, which were expanded to a regular part in the cast. In the fictional purgatory that is the Scranton, Pa., office of paper company Dunder Mifflin, Kemper more than holds her own. One reviewer praised the "infectious joy and sweetness" she brings to the show, while another called her "appealingly goofy." At the end of her first full season, *Variety* named her one of 10 "comics to watch."

Success in her *Office* role enabled Kemper to land her first movie roles, including a small part in Russell Brand's *Get Him to the Greek* and then a much more prominent role in *Bridesmaids*. Her *Bridesmaids* character has some choice

comedic bits, including when Kemper ditches her polite reserve to lock another bridesmaid in a passionate kiss when they think their airplane might crash. On the movie poster and the DVD box, all the bridesmaids strike gangsta poses in matching pink dresses. And there is Ellie Kemper, looking tougher than any of them, front and center.

This has been an adjustment season for "The Office," the first since the departure of star Steve Carell. While she hopes to remain on the show as long as it runs, Kemper says, she would like to broaden her range. She recently finished playing a teacher in a film adaptation of the old TV series *21 Jump Street*, which will be released later this year.

"If and when [*The Office*] ends," she says, "I think I would want to be in a place where I could be in more movies, where I could write some movies, and if possible, do that from New York," where she feels more at home.

With her level of success, it might seem odd to ruminate about the challenges women still face in comedy, but for some reason, women still are less likely than men to forge careers being funny. As recently as 2007, the late Christopher Hitchens wrote a column in *Vanity Fair* titled, "Why Women Aren't Funny." His rather tortured answer had something to do with the biological imperative of women's role as mothers, and men needing to be funny to attract women, but the piece, on the whole, came across as an anachronism.

In a rebuttal article, several female comedy writers explored why women finally may be cracking what author Alessandra Stanley called the "crass ceiling." Nora Ephron attributed the rise of women writers to cable TV, which provides countless more outlets. Fran Lebowitz theorized that today's female comedy writers were lucky enough to come along at a time when the culture had changed. As Tina Fey put it, "You still hear people say women aren't funny. It's just a lot easier to ignore."

Maybe it reflects a generational divide, but if that crass ceiling does exist, Kemper professes not to have seen it, at Princeton or since. "I do think that there are a smaller number of female writers," she acknowledges, "but I don't feel that it's underrepresented, at least in Hollywood."

Eckert says that the odds may be stacked against women comedy writers, but "there are outliers, like Ellie, who defy them. She's a winning performer, very talented on stage, a good writer who can create her own content, and very smart. That combination is extremely rare."

True, being smart can help. Still, although *The Office* relies on a dry, arch, maybe even intellectual brand of humor, Kemper's Princeton degree hardly sets her apart on the set. Just among the show's cast, Mindy Kaling went to Dartmouth, John Krasinski to Brown, and B.J. Novak to Harvard, to say nothing of the writing and production crews. Even the character of Andy Bernard, the new boss played by Ed Helms, went to Cornell.

"It doesn't come up that much," Kemper jokes about their Ivy League background, "but we all understand a capella." ■

Mark F. Bernstein '83 is PAW's senior writer.

Fly me to the moon

Princetonians compete for a lunar landing – and the \$20 million that comes along with it

BY KENNETH CHANG '87

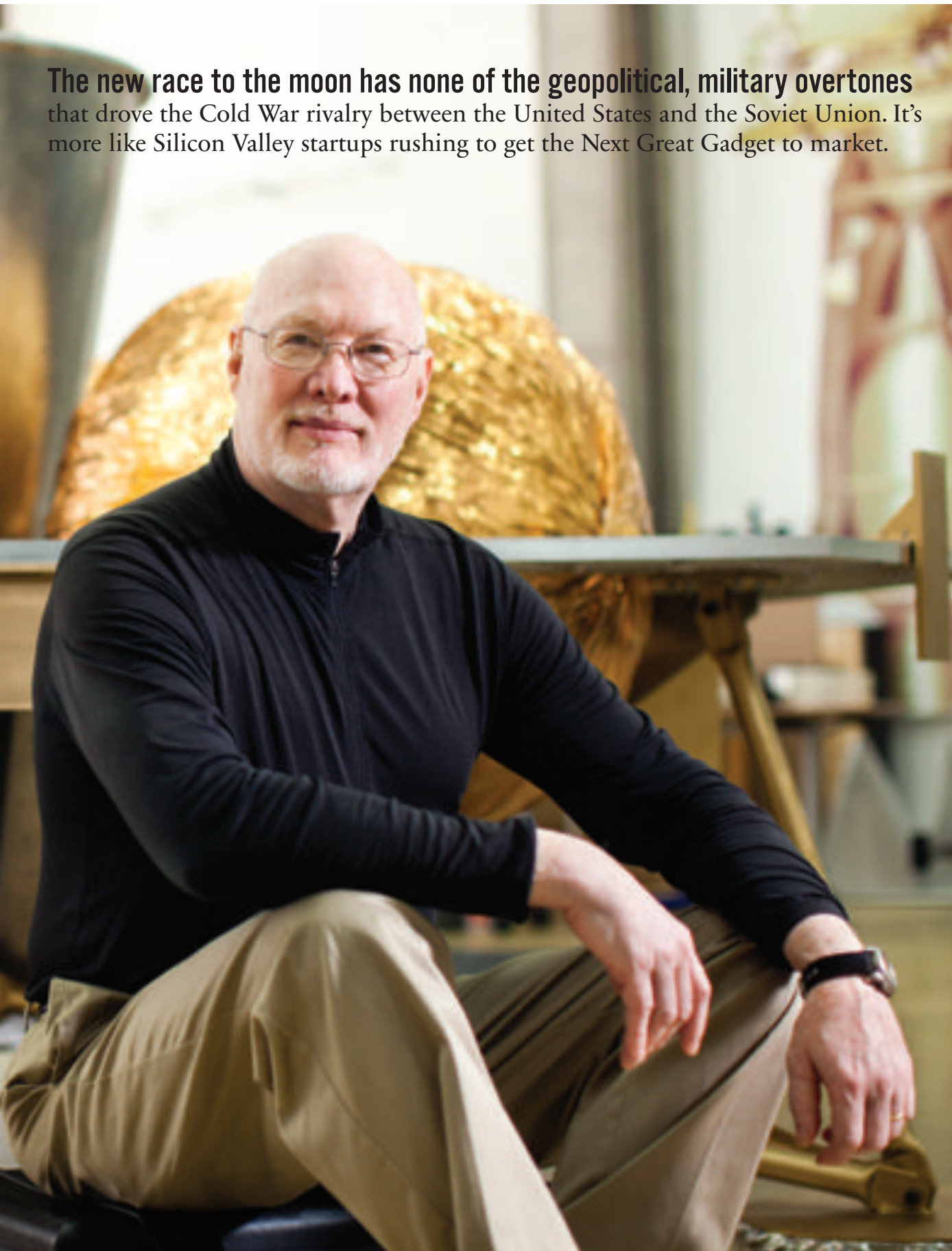
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GETTING TECHNICAL
Videos from three Lunar X Prize teams explain their plans in detail
[@paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu).

William L. "Red" Whittaker '73 sits in front of the lunar lander in his lab at Carnegie Mellon University.

The new race to the moon has none of the geopolitical, military overtones that drove the Cold War rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union. It's more like Silicon Valley startups rushing to get the Next Great Gadget to market.



Twenty-six teams from around the world — with Princetonians playing key roles on a couple of them — are chasing a \$20 million grand prize put up by Google to become the first private company to land a spacecraft on the moon.

This time, there won't be any footprints. No astronauts. Instead, it'll be tread marks. The robots are going.

Which is fine for William L. "Red" Whittaker '73, a professor of robotics at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, who has little interest in the current debates over the future of NASA's astronauts. Over the past four decades, Whittaker's robots have cleaned up the Three Mile Island nuclear reactor in Pennsylvania, discovered meteorites in the icy expanse of Antarctica, mapped dark and dangerous tunnels of abandoned mines, and navigated an obstacle course to win a million dollars. Now he wants to win Google's \$20 million and then establish an Earth-to-moon transportation system.

"I have a very robot-centric view of the universe," he says. "My life is robots, robots, and robots."

Eighty-five years ago, a promised \$25,000 reward spurred

Charles Lindbergh to fly nonstop from New York to Paris; several other aviators had died or were injured in their attempts to win the money. Similar prizes helped fuel design advances that made the airline business profitable.

Already, the X Prize Foundation, which is running the Google Lunar X Prize contest, has a track record of spurring new commercial ventures into space. A decade ago, the first X Prize offered \$10 million to the first private company that could send someone into space — officially defined as more than 62 miles above the surface — and repeat the same undertaking within two weeks.

Burt Rutan, a legendary aerospace engineer, designed a space plane called SpaceShipOne, which was financed by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen. A Princetonian, Brian Binnie '78, was at the controls for the second, X Prize-clinching flight in 2004.

Richard Branson, with his Virgin empire of airlines and media companies, invested in SpaceShipOne to create a new company, Virgin Galactic, that built a bigger space plane, with room for half a dozen passengers; commercial flights to the edge of space might begin this year. "Clearly the X Prize accelerated the state of the art in space transportation by at least 10 years," says George Whitesides '96, president and chief executive of Virgin Galactic. (Read about Whitesides and other space entrepreneurs in the April 27, 2011, PAW.)

In 2007, the X Prize Foundation — which also offers prizes in the fields of education and global development, energy and environment, and the life sciences — announced a follow-up space competition, financed by Google. The Google Lunar X Prize would go to the first team to put a spacecraft on the moon, move it 500 meters along the surface, and send back video images. (The prize drops to \$15 million if a government-funded mission beats the X Prize teams back to the moon — and both Russia and India have spacecraft headed to launching pads.) The second team to accomplish that goal will win \$5 million. Another \$5 million would be divided and allocated for achieving specific

benchmarks, such as visiting one of the Apollo landing sites or surviving a frigid two-week lunar night.

For the competitors, getting to the moon will not be easy, but technology is not the biggest hurdle. After all, both the United States and the Soviet Union landed robotic spacecraft on the moon more than 40 years ago. The harder part is squeezing the technology into a shoestring budget. For a NASA mission, just the rocket to lift a spacecraft to space costs well over \$100 million.

One of the hopes of the X Prize Foundation is that the competition will draw young engineers into the space industry the way that Apollo and the moon landings once did. And indeed, most of the work at Carnegie Mellon is done by undergraduates and graduate students.

Last summer, Peter Davison '12, a Princeton senior majoring in mechanical and aerospace engineering, was an intern assigned to a Lunar X Prize team called the Rocket City Space Pioneers, based in Huntsville, Ala. Davison and several other interns were asked to design a system that would mimic the lesser gravity of the moon in testing the algorithms that are to safely guide the lander to the surface. (Because of the round-trip delay of about 2.5 seconds for radio signals going between the Earth and the moon, a spacecraft has to make quick decisions on its own.)

During the 10-week internship, the students came up with something that brings to mind an air hockey table on an angle. "We think it's a really sound, really good idea," says Tim Pickens, the leader of the Rocket City Space Pioneers.

Whittaker was not the only Princeton alum to take up the

challenge. Mike Brown '87 is competing, too. Brown is not a roboticist. He had never designed or built a spacecraft. He is an astronomer at the California Institute of Technology best known — infamous, actually — for discovering Eris, the iceball in the outer solar system bigger than Pluto, which set off the domino of events that culminated with astronomers kicking Pluto out of the planet club.

Two years ago, Fred Bourgeois, the leader of Lunar X team FredNet, visited Brown to recruit him. Brown was skeptical that this group — which bills itself as an "open source" collection of scientists and engineers — could compete against more experienced and well-financed teams. "I had heard about this Google X Prize and I thought, there's no way you could do this," Brown recalls. "It's ridiculous."

But Brown, who has known Bourgeois since his high school days in Huntsville, warmed up as Bourgeois explained it. Huntsville was where Wernher von Braun and the early rocket scientists built the Saturn V rocket. Brown's father, an engineer, had worked on those Apollo missions. Bourgeois already had enlisted a small company called Masten for the lander. He wanted Brown to put together the rover.

Brown agreed. He is undaunted by a late start or the fact that other teams can tap into decades of aerospace expertise that he doesn't have himself. "It's either going to be a very well-thought-out team," he says, "or it's going to be a bunch of really scrappy people with baling wire and bubble gum."

Brown clearly sees himself as a baling-wire guy.



Mike Brown '87 holds his lunar rover on the roof of Caltech's historic solar observatory.

"It's a fun experiment in doing things that seem impossible and deciding you're going to do it," he says. "It may not work. I would say there's a good chance it won't work." But he also convinced himself that success is not completely impossible: "If it were totally wacko, it's not worth your time."

Brown's attempt to build a rover got under way in a Caltech course, "Roving on the Moon," which met for the first time at the end of September. The goal for the seven class members — a mix of undergraduates, graduate students, and fellow faculty — was to have a working prototype by the end of the quarter, or in just two months.

Brown wanted to build the smallest, simplest rover to meet the X Prize requirements. "If we sent my cell phone to

the moon with wheels, it would satisfy the conditions for winning the X Prize," Brown says.

A month into the class, Brown had his design — a closed sphere so no moon dust could get in to foul up the gears. It looked like a hamster exercise ball. It *was* a hamster ball — more precisely, a hollow, plastic exercise ball, built for a slightly larger rodent, like a chinchilla.

To get the sphere rolling, the class first used a radio-controlled car, "not a particularly great solution," Brown says. Then, the team worked out a more sophisticated design, tearing apart the radio-controlled car and reusing the parts. Members added an axle through the hamster ball, with a motor hanging on a rod from the axle. When the motor turns, it swings itself and the rod upward; gravity then pulls the motor down, and the sphere rolls. To turn left or right, the rod tilts to the side, which tilts the ball. At each end of the axle is a clear bubble to house a camera.

Brown has been using it to chase around the cats at home.

The class never did build its final prototype by the end of the semester because the students wanted to attempt something more ambitious: an inflatable roving sphere. (Think of a beach ball on the moon.) That would allow the rover to be larger — 3 feet in diameter instead of 8 inches — and more capable of rolling over obstacles while still fitting into the tight confines of

the lander. "If we can make it and make it work robustly, it would be a great solution," Brown says.

The students will keep working on the prototype, though they no longer will get course credit. Brown said in December that he would argue they should return to the less-ambitious hamster-ball design, so that FredNet would have something to use in the competition. (He was considering invoking his veto power, if needed, over the students' choice: "I also learned not to try to design by democracy.")

And Brown figures that it will take up to two years and millions of dollars to build a space-worthy version, with radiation-hardy and vibration-tested electronics and structures. "In the end, none of this will happen without any

funding,” Brown says. “I’m not that guy to figure out how to do funding. I’m a scientist.”

Brown’s team, FredNet, ranks eighth among the Lunar X

Prize competitors on a list compiled by writer and technologist Michael Doornbos, who has been keeping a scorecard based on criteria including funding, innovation, and progress to date. Leading the pack is Astrobotic, the company founded and led by Whittaker for the competition.

Growing up in a small town in central Pennsylvania, Whittaker spent much of his childhood rummaging through a junkyard for parts for his projects. He built a treehouse. He resurrected radios. He scavenged an engine and built a go-cart. “It was a lot faster than it should have been for safety,” he recalls.

He received a civil-engineering degree at Princeton (he left to serve in the Marines, then returned and completed his degree) and continued in graduate school at Carnegie Mellon. But even as he was winding up his thesis on soil mechanics, Whittaker was spending more and more time talking with colleagues about an intriguing new field: robotics.

At that time, 1979, robotics still was more the realm of science fiction — *Star Wars* and R2-D2 — than reality. The partial meltdown of the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant that year led to Whittaker’s submitting a grant proposal to build robots that would be able to safely clean up the radioactive contamination. He won the grant. He built the robots. They cleaned up Three Mile Island.

For Whittaker, the robotics field offered challenging research problems coupled with the opportunity to build machines just like in his childhood junkyard days. “We are not just academics,” he says. “We are craftsmen.”

A sign in Whittaker’s office reads: “Still plays with trucks.”

When Whittaker signed up for the Lunar X Prize competition Sept. 13, 2007 — the day the contest was announced — his Carnegie Mellon team had just won \$2 million in a challenge by the federal government’s Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, or DARPA — for an automated car that could navigate a 60-mile obstacle course through an abandoned Air Force base, while avoiding other vehicles and obeying traffic laws. (A Princeton team also competed.)

The Planetary Robotics Laboratory at Carnegie Mellon looks like a huge garage with a built-in crane. A 15-foot model of the Falcon 9 rocket that Astrobotic plans to use stands next to a wall. Hanging nearby is a poster of a smaller rocket that had been under consideration. Like Brown, Whittaker first thought that small, cheap, and quick would be the winning strategy.

But after trying that approach for a couple of years, Whittaker came to believe that while the plan worked on paper, it called for several risky maneuvers and would not be useful for much other than winning the prize. “Everything about it was either hard or unrealistic,” he says. He tore up the plans and decided on the opposite strategy: Build big.

On the floor of the laboratory is the basic structure of the lander that is to go to the moon, which already has passed the shake tests to ensure it will survive the rough vibrations

of liftoff. Big beachballs covered in gold foil are temporary stand-ins for the fuel tanks.

The large lander would be able to carry 240 pounds of payload, and if Astrobotic can successfully sell that cargo space to scientists and space agencies for a planned \$820,000 a pound, that’s \$200 million in revenue, which would more than pay for the lander, the rover, and the Falcon on which Astrobotic already has made a down payment. Whittaker’s is the only team that already has booked a rocket.

The Astrobotic rover looks like a pyramid on wheels. Solar cells will cover the sloping sides. The challenges have been designing a rover to handle the temperature extremes of the moon — hotter than 200 degrees Fahrenheit at high noon, colder than minus-200 in the depths of the two-week night — and to keep the moon dust from clogging the wheels and gears.

But before it can reap the profits, Astrobotic needs investors, like Matt Griffin ’73 and Bill Lewis ’74, former Princeton roommates who live in Seattle. Griffin admits he has not dissected Astrobotic’s business plan in detail. His investment, he says, is “about the jockey and not so much about the business plan. I look at Red as that kind of guy.”

Space is one of the few frontiers where Red Whittaker has

not yet found success. None of the missions he has proposed to NASA ever got a green light and money. Partly, he believes, that is because some of his ideas were too far ahead of their time. For example, he wanted to send a rover into a lunar lava tube — a tunnel formed by an ancient lava flow. But no one had seen a lava tube on the moon, so NASA did not quite see the need for a rover to explore one.

Two years ago, scientists looking at lunar images taken by a Japanese orbiter spotted a hole — a “skylight” — leading into a lava tube.

Even as NASA turns away from the moon — with the Obama administration’s cancellation of the program to return to the moon, NASA now is focusing on asteroids — the Google Lunar X Prize could open the possibility of low-cost scientific missions headed to the moon without NASA.

Whittaker acknowledges that “one of the great concerns in this prize is whether there’s any winner at all.” Still, he’s confident. “We’ll get the lander on the rocket, on the moon,” he says. “Our business plan has to succeed with or without winning the prize, because there’s no way to predict with surety that you’re going to be a winner.”

He is, of course, thinking about what he would like to do on post-Lunar X Prize moon missions. One idea is to circumnavigate the moon. He imagines a rover that would keep pace with the sun overhead so that the solar cells continually could generate energy; in a month, it could make it around the moon. He is looking for what he calls “Magellan routes” — obstacle-free paths where the rover could keep pace with the spinning moon and thus remain in sunlight as it goes all the way around the moon.

He hasn’t found one yet, but he probably will. ■

Kenneth Chang ’87 reports on science for The New York Times.



First Response Action board member and legislative liaison Kate Finn '06, third from left, at the White House as President Obama signs the Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act of 2011 into law Nov. 21.

KATE FINN '06

An advocate for victims

Kate Finn '06 was a Peace Corps volunteer in a village in Costa Rica, teaching children and working with women's groups, when a man raped her in 2007. The attacker's family worked on the local police force, so she didn't feel she could report the crime safely.

Her Peace Corps handbook had no helpful information on how to report an assault, she says, and she lived seven hours from the nearest Peace Corps office. Eventually she made the long trip to the capital, San Jose, and spoke with a Peace Corps medical officer,

whose first question, says Finn, was, "Should I feel sorry for you?" The officer offered no counseling or medical assistance, says Finn, and at that point, "I knew that my story was not going to be treated with sensitivity or compassion." Finn decided to leave her post and return to the United States.

Several years later, she read an article about First Response Action (FRA), an advocacy group founded in 2009 that was working to promote a stronger Peace Corps response to volunteers who are victims of physical and sexual assault. She quickly joined FRA and is

one of six board members. "I knew that I needed to speak up to make sure that other women didn't have to have that same response," she says, and to ensure that "other women were able to speak their stories and know that it wasn't just them."

Finn realized that the Peace Corps' response to assaults on volunteers could be a systemic issue. According to the Peace Corps' data, says Finn, in the last decade more than 1,000 volunteers reported being sexually assaulted. A 2010 survey of Peace Corps volunteers found that nearly half of sexual-assault victims that year had not reported the attacks, she says.

Finn and the other FRA board members have put a spotlight on the issue — meeting with Peace Corps officials, attracting media attention, and lining up allies in Washington who wrote legislation, the Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act, that was signed into law by President Barack Obama Nov. 21. It includes a

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STARTING OUT: EMMA BEDARD '11

Field engineer for Schlumberger, an oilfield-services provider. Princeton major: chemical and biological engineering.

What she does: In mid-December, Bedard was in the middle of a five-week assignment as part of a team responsible for drilling an oil well in British Columbia, Canada. On the 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. shift, she worked closely with the directional driller and prepared, monitored, and helped to troubleshoot a tool that tracks and helps steer the drilling machinery as the hole is being drilled and takes measurements to

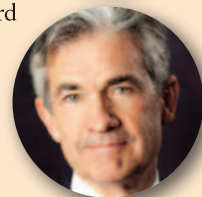
ensure that drilling is done in the most efficient way.

The challenges: If the tool fails or surveys prove to be inaccurate, then the directional driller and the representative of the company that owns the oil well are "breathing down your neck until you fix it," says Bedard, who had an internship with Schlumberger in the summer of 2010 in Prudhoe Bay, Alaska, and then was offered a full-time position.

What she likes most: "The unpredictability, the fact that it's not a desk job (for the most part), and that every day/night is never the same as the previous shift."

NEWSMAKERS

In December President Barack Obama nominated Democrat **JEREMY STEIN '83**, top, a Harvard economist, and Republican **JEROME "JAY" POWELL '75**, a former financial executive, to the board of the Federal Reserve. Stein, who teaches finance at Harvard, took a leave in 2009 to advise



PHOTOS: FROM TOP, HARVARD UNIVERSITY, BIPARTISAN POLICY CENTER

COURTESY EMMA BEDARD '11

Tiger profile

David Madden '03

History Bowl founder

requirement that the Peace Corps establish clear guidelines for reporting assaults, set up a sexual-assault advisory committee, improve training for Peace Corps volunteers and staff members so that they will better understand rape trauma and reporting requirements if an assault occurs, and implement a confidentiality policy to protect the identities of those who report crimes. The bill was named after a Peace Corps volunteer who was murdered after reporting a crime.

The bill “provides a great foundation for victim assistance in the Peace Corps” and will help the organization to make sure that its response is “consistent and comprehensive worldwide,” says Finn. As the FRA’s legislative liaison, she kept track of the bill as it moved through Congress and connected congressional staffers with experts in sexual-assault education, prevention, and response. (Finn’s day job also involves work with victims: She is program coordinator for the Victim Services Network at the Denver district attorney’s office.)

Most Peace Corps volunteers return with “amazing stories from their Peace Corps experience,” says Finn, but “my story ended so dark and so abruptly.” Even though the bill has become law, FRA’s work is not done, she says. The group will keep track of how the law is implemented, continue to be a resource for victims, and look at how it can support the Peace Corps in making the required changes. **P** *By K.F.G.*

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and serve on the National Economic Council. Powell, a visiting scholar at the Bipartisan Policy Center, served as undersecretary of the treasury for finance under President George H.W. Bush. ... Two alumni were recognized by *New York Times* columnist David Brooks with 2011 Sidney Awards for their magazine essays: **PETER HESSLER '92**, for his *New Yorker* essay, “Dr. Don: The life of a small-town druggist,” and **ALAN LIGHTMAN '70** for “The accidental universe: Science’s crisis of faith,” in *Harper’s*.



David Madden '03 has established history competitions for students.

HISTORY OF THE HISTORY BOWL While working to become a history teacher through Princeton’s teacher-preparation program in the fall of 2009, David Madden '03 organized a high-school history competition, “almost for the fun of it,” he says. “I spent hundreds of hours writing questions and contacting 500-odd schools in the New York area,” he says. He pulled off the Tri-State History Bowl, with 140 students on 34 teams, in May 2010 at his former high school in Ridgewood, N.J.

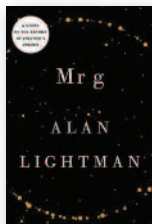
BIGGER AND BIGGER He realized that he was on to something. He put his teacher-training program on hold and dug into expanding the competition. He organized 32 tournaments during the last school year, incorporating a history bee for individual competitors with the team-based bowls. A producer at the History Channel soon found out about Madden’s competitions, and representatives attended the national championship last spring. Madden says they told him that the average viewer wouldn’t be able to relate to the students because the questions they were answering were too hard, so he added a middle-school bee (with easier questions), whose finals — with a \$50,000 scholarship grand prize — will be televised in the spring. The winner of the high-school bee will earn a trip to the French Riviera to compete in the championship of the European division he launched in 2011.

PUTTING THINGS IN CONTEXT Many of the questions in the bowls and bees are paragraph-length, moving from obscure to familiar facts about the topic as the question progresses. Competitors can buzz in at any time. This “pyramidal” format rewards students who can place facts in a historical context, so those who study broadly gain an edge. Madden hopes studying history for the competitions opens students’ eyes to new subjects. “History is so much more than names and dates and battles and trees,” he says. **P** *Graham Meyer '01*

Résumé: Executive director and founder of the National History Bowl and National History Bee. Nineteen-time Jeopardy! champion. Former bicycle-tour guide, freelance genealogist, and art researcher. Master’s degree in international relations from the Free University of Berlin. Woodrow Wilson School major at Princeton.

 **READ MORE:** Test your history knowledge @ paw.princeton.edu

FRANK WOODBRUNSKI



READING ROOM: ALAN LIGHTMAN '70

Channeling God in a new novel

The main character of Alan Lightman '70's latest novel, *Mr g: A Novel About the Creation* (Pantheon), wakes from a nap in the Void and decides, out of boredom, to create the universe: First time, then space, and eventually countless universes, but he focuses on one universe in particular. While Nephew — as Mr g is called by his Uncle Deva and Aunt Penelope, the other celestial beings in the Void — has set everything in motion, he is not all-knowing and doesn't anticipate all the consequences of his actions.

"Most religious people will not be comforted by the

novel because it presents a view of God that probably does not accord with the views of most religions," says Lightman, a physicist and novelist who is an adjunct professor of humanities at MIT. But his novel, he says, does present a view of God that is compatible with science, because Mr g does not intervene in the universe, though at times he wants to do so out of compassion.

WHAT HE'S READING NOW: *Tao Te Ching*, an ancient Chinese text about Buddhist philosophy.

What he likes about it: "It's a thoughtful commentary on how to live in the world."

Lightman, whose novel explores the intersection of theology and science as well as philosophy and morality,

has had a longstanding interest in bringing together science and the humanities. (Lightman, who calls himself a "spiritual atheist," wrote an essay for *Salon* in October titled "Does God exist?" that explored the meeting



JENI LIGHTMAN

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ground of science and religion.)

Mr g, the novel, was inspired in part by *Cosmicomics*, a collection of short stories by Italo Calvino about events that happen on a cosmic stage. Lightman was fascinated by the author's use of celestial beings that view creation on a grand scale yet "care about the small details of being human."

The God of Lightman's novel doesn't have any grand ideas at the beginning, sometimes learns by trial and error, and has human qualities. "My God is a more humble god than the gods portrayed in most religions," he says. Mr g worries that if he creates intelligent beings, they will suffer. And he feels sorry for them when he observes their anguish — particularly when a young woman is faced with a moral dilemma after her mother asks her to steal food for her family. Uncle Deva and Aunt Penelope urge Mr g to give his creatures some awareness of him. And Mr g has interesting discussions about good and evil, free will, and whether the end justifies the means with a mysterious, intelligent, and somewhat sinister stranger he meets in the Void.

The novel raises longstanding theological and philosophical questions: Does an individual life have meaning? Do you need to have evil to know goodness, or ugliness to know beauty? Why is there suffering? If there is a God, does he intervene in the material world? Those kinds of questions — with no definitive answers — reflect a theme that runs through Lightman's work: that science probes questions that are knowable, while the humanities often raise questions that we never will be able to answer. **By K.E.G.**

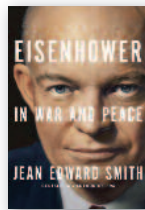
MORE ALUMNI AUTHORS
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The Lives of Margaret Fuller
by John Matteson '83



AMY ZIELINSKI

NEW RELEASES BY ALUMNI



"With the exception of Franklin Roosevelt, Dwight Eisenhower was the most successful president of the 20th century," argues **JEAN EDWARD SMITH '54**

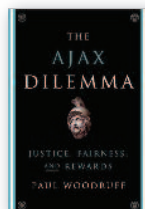
in *Eisenhower in War and Peace* (Random House), which *Publishers Weekly* called an "engrossing biography." A senior scholar in the history department at Columbia University and the author of *FDR* and *Grant*, a 2002 Pulitzer Prize finalist, Smith traces Eisenhower's life from his youth in Kansas to West Point, to his service in the Army and during World War II, and through his two terms as president. ... **MICHAEL GRABELL '03**, a reporter for ProPublica, looks at



what happened to the taxpayer-financed stimulus package — the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 — in *Money Well Spent? The Truth Behind the Trillion-Dollar Stimulus, the Biggest Economic Recovery Plan in History* (PublicAffairs). He examines the program's effects on the economy by focusing on three cities:



Elkhart, Ind.; Aiken, S.C.; and Fremont, Calif. ... **JONATHAN M. LADD '06** explores why the public has grown to distrust the media and how that attitude affects voting decisions in *Why Americans Hate the Media and How It Matters* (Princeton University Press). An assistant professor of government and public policy at Georgetown University, Ladd observes that as recently as the 1970s the news media were among the United States' most trusted institutions, but by the 1990s that trust had dissipated. ... A philosopher at the University of Texas at Austin, **PAUL WOODRUFF '65** examines how to

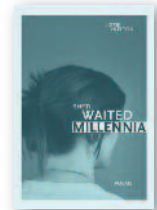


distribute rewards and

public recognition to people without damaging the social fabric of a community in *The Ajax Dilemma: Justice, Fairness, and Rewards* (Oxford). He explores questions such as whether the superstar with great ideas should be rewarded instead of the worker bee. While there will never be a perfect system for distributing rewards, he says, respect and compassion among community members encourage a sense of justice. ... Few Americans have ever heard of Franklin D. Roosevelt's plan to install a military government in France at the end of World War II, yet many French are aware of it and believe that an Allied occupation was imminent, writes **CHARLES L. ROBERTSON '59** in *When Roosevelt Planned to Govern France* (University of Massachusetts Press). A retired professor of government at Smith College, Robertson explores whether Roosevelt really did intend to occupy France, why the plan never came to be, and why Roosevelt objected to de Gaulle's being in power. ...



LIZZIE HUTTON '95 explores the "various identities of childhood, adolescence, and motherhood," she says, in her debut poetry collection, *She'd Waited Millennia* (New Issues Press). "Rose Gold and Poppies," one of the poems, won the Wabash Prize from the *Sycamore Review*. Hutton teaches at the University of Michigan. ... A health journalist, **ROBERT J. DAVIS '86** looks at the veracity of some of the most common diet and nutritional claims — ranging from "green tea promotes weight loss" to "milk is necessary for strong bones" — in *Coffee is Good for You: From Vitamin C and Organic Foods to Low-Carb and Detox Diets, The Truth About Diet and Nutrition Claims* (Perigee).



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PAW ASKS

Bradley Martin '64:

Might relations between the two Koreas improve?

Few Western journalists have written as much about North Korea as Bradley K. Martin '64, who has made numerous reporting trips to the country since 1979. He is the author of the 2004 history Under the Loving Care of the Fatherly Leader: North Korea and the Kim Dynasty, and holds the Snedden chair in journalism at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Martin spoke with PAW's Mark F. Bernstein '83 about the death of Kim Jong Il and the succession of his son, Kim Jong Un. Read the full interview at PAW Online.

So far, the North Koreans have been saying very loudly that they won't deal with the South Koreans. They are trying to influence the South Korean people to elect a more congenial replacement for the current southern president, Lee Myung-bak, who is anathema to the north. The South Koreans are due for a presidential election in December. In any case, until North Korea builds up its economy, it would be virtually impossible to reunify those countries. The difference in living standards is so wide that the North Koreans would have to be reduced to being servants of the southerners, and they would never stand for that.



COURTESY BRADLEY MARTIN '64



READ MORE: [The full Bradley Martin '64 interview @ paw.princeton.edu](http://paw.princeton.edu)

Max Gomez '73 brings adult stem-cell research talks to Rome



Max Gomez '73 and Pope Benedict at a conference held at the Vatican in November.

A few years ago, Max Gomez '73 received an unusual phone call. An official at NeoStem, a biopharmaceutical company, told him that the company was considering partnering with the Vatican to promote adult stem-cell research.

"I said, 'No, really — you're kidding, right?'" recalled Gomez, who is on the board of directors of Stem for Life, a nonprofit foundation sponsored by NeoStem aimed at educating the public about adult stem-cell research.

To some, the Vatican might seem like an unlikely partner. But while the Catholic Church is a strong critic of embryonic stem-cell research, which it considers unethical because it requires the destruction of human embryos, church officials say adult stem cells offer the same promise, without the ethical drawbacks.

The Vatican recently donated \$1 million to the Stem for Life Foundation, which convened a meeting on stem-cell research in November at the Vatican. Gomez, a television medical reporter, was asked by NeoStem to coordinate the event and, where neces-

sary, to translate the technical material for a general audience. Gomez recruited speakers, put together the agenda, and served as moderator of the conference.

For three days, close to 250 scientists, theologians, and church officials gathered in Rome to discuss the future of adult stem-cell research. The keynote address was delivered by Tommy Thompson, the former U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the discussion ranged from the philosophical to the densely scientific. One panel looked at the uses of stem cells derived from bone marrow and umbilical cords, while another conversation centered on the question, "Will the Advancement of Life Sciences Change Our Vision of Man?" Speakers from both Catholic and secular institutions attended.

A former PAW board member, Gomez acknowledged that "there was some wariness" among some scientists when he first began recruiting speakers for the event. In the days before the conference, some scientists criticized the Vatican for what they perceived as an attempt to draw away support from

LOSGENATORE ROMANO

embryonic stem-cell research. Sean Morrison, a stem-cell researcher at the University of Texas, told NPR that “until we do the research, we won’t know” which form of research will lead to medical treatments.

“[P]atients in this country won’t take any comfort from the idea that people are trying to close off avenues of research that could potentially help them,” Morrison said.

While hesitant to speak for the Catholic Church, Gomez said he believed the church wants “a voice at the table” and that its financial and moral commitment to the issue

will lend respectability to the field of adult stem-cell research. (Gomez is working with NeoStem and the Vatican on a book about adult stem-cell research.)

The November conference is part of a five-year collaboration between the Vatican and the Stem for Life Foundation. Among the goals is to promote adult stem-cell technology, Robin Smith, the CEO of NeoStem, told the *National Catholic Reporter*. Based in New York, NeoStem finances stem-cell research and allows individuals to bank adult stem cells for future therapeutic use. **P** *By Maurice Timothy Reidy '97*

Alumni Day packed with events

Alumni Day is expected to draw about 1,200 people to campus Feb. 25, with programming that ranges from the lighthearted to the heart-felt: faculty lectures, athletic events, exhibitions, performances, and the annual Service of Remembrance in the University Chapel.

The centerpiece of Alumni Day is the luncheon and awards ceremony in

Jadwin Gymnasium. This year, FBI director Robert Mueller III '66 will receive the Woodrow Wilson Award, the highest honor given to an undergraduate alumnus, and Environmental Protection Agency administrator Lisa P. Jackson *86 will receive the James Madison Medal, the University’s highest graduate-alum award. Mueller has headed the FBI since 2001 and has been a leading figure in the nation’s fight against terrorism. Jackson, who has held her post since 2009, is New Jersey’s former commissioner of environmental protection.

Jackson will begin the day’s events with a 9 a.m. talk in Richardson Auditorium. Mueller’s lecture, “Leadership, Humility, and Service: The Princeton Tradition,” follows at 10:15 a.m. in Richardson.

Six faculty members will speak on topics that include immigration, children’s literature, and motorcycle design. Family-friendly events include rock-climbing and bouldering workshops sponsored by Outdoor Action, chemistry demonstrations by University lecturer Kathryn Wagner and her students, and Dean of Admission Janet Rapelye’s popular talk on the college-application process. Entrepreneurial students will present their ideas and compete for seed money in the annual TigerLaunch Startup Challenge, and undergraduate teams will vie for the Class of 1876 Prize in a debate focused on current events.

Alumni, faculty, and staff members who have died during the past year will be memorialized in the Service of Remembrance, which begins at 3 p.m. in the Chapel.

For registration information and a complete schedule of events, go to alumni.princeton.edu. **P** *By E.H.*



Robert Mueller III '66



Lisa P. Jackson *86



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Contending with Kennan, personally: A writer encounters the famous diplomat at Mudd Library

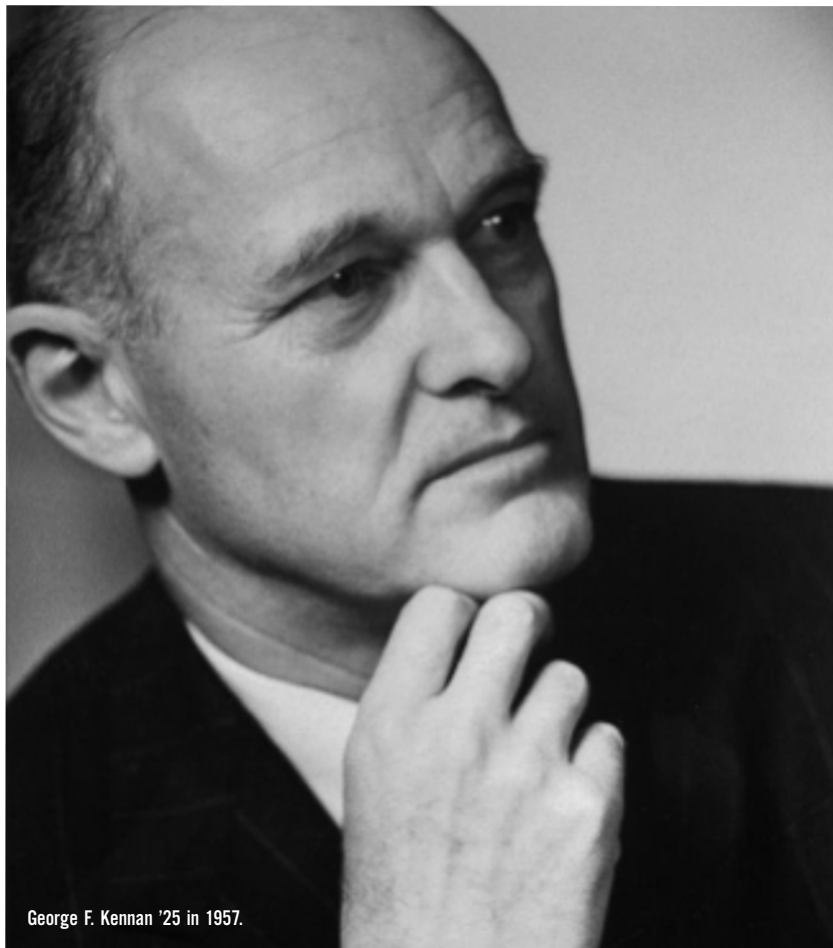
By Todd S. Purdum '82

Todd S. Purdum '82, a former chairman of PAW's advisory board, is national editor at *Vanity Fair*. His article about George F. Kennan '25 is available at www.vanityfair.com/politics/2012/01/Todd-Purdum-on-National-Security.

It would be nerdy hyperbole to say that the afternoons I spent researching my senior thesis in Mudd Library 30 years ago this spring were among my happiest times at Princeton. I'm sure there were other moments — singing with the Katzenjammers, clowning in Triangle, or talking far into the night with roommates — that made my heart leap higher. But it is no exaggeration to say that the hours I spent rummaging through the Dulles and Eisenhower papers for my thesis on the McCarthy-era State Department's loyalty-security program helped me appreciate the art of long-form storytelling, and gave me the notion that I might have a future as a writer, even if I didn't completely believe it at the time.

The cool hush of the Mudd reading room, with its sturdy light-oak tables, rolling carts laden with archival treasures, and quietly friendly staff, was an oasis of calm in the onrushing storm of a Princeton senior year. Poring over documents that were then just 30 years old — some of which had been opened only recently for review — gave me a thrilling sense of the immediacy of historic events, proof of Faulkner's maxim that "the past is never dead — it's not even past." There was no such thing as a laptop then — at least not in my life — so it didn't seem a particular sacrifice to have to take notes in pencil on paper, and I don't know whether I'm chagrined or chuffed that all these years later, those notes are still in my basement, safe in a plastic storage box along with the copy of the manuscript that I typed on a self-correcting IBM Selectric rented from an office supply store on Route 1. (My second reader, professor — later dean of the college — Nancy Weiss Malkiel, gave me a generous grade but was moved to comment, "There are rather a lot of typographical errors.")

I had occasion to ponder these pleasant memories when I



George F. Kennan '25 in 1957.

returned to Princeton — and to Mudd — last fall for a couple of days to do research in the voluminous papers of George F. Kennan '25, for an assignment from my employer, *Vanity Fair*, about the dangerous durability over the past 50 years of the American military-industrial complex. While I am always eager for any excuse to return to Old Nassau, I was wary of making this particular foray. For me, Kennan, who was very much alive and working at the Institute for Advanced Study during my undergraduate years, was a towering figure, an intimidating Olympian presence as diplomat, scholar, writer, and thinker. He was the father of the doctrine of "containment" of the Soviet Union and one of the principal architects of the Cold War. Tackling the huge range of his intellectual output as it concerned America's role in the world, and our enduring shortcomings both at home and abroad, was the work of better, brighter men than I, I felt sure.

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Perspective *continued from page 44*

After all, it was my classmate and friend Bart Gellman '82 who, as a mere undergraduate, had undertaken a comprehensive critical analysis of the Tao of Kennan. He won that year's thesis publication prize, and the insights in *Contending with Kennan: Toward a Philosophy of American Power*, the book that resulted, drew the admiration of the great man himself, as Professor John Lewis Gaddis of Yale notes in his sparkling new authorized biography of Kennan. "I don't in the least mind the critical reflections," Kennan wrote Bart. "I am grateful to you for having put forward such a brilliant effort to make sense out of my scattered and so often cryptic utterances, and congratulate you most heartily on the success of that formidable effort."

So who was I, all these years later, to paddle around in the waters where my old friend Bart, by now a Pulitzer Prize-winner, long ago had made such a splash? But when, with the help of University Archivist Dan Linke, I finally waded in to the contents of the 330 boxes in the Kennan files (after reading extensively in his shelf-full of published works), I made a surprising and heartening discovery: Kennan was not always a figure ready-made for the Hall of Fame. He was once a lonely and comparatively impoverished Princeton freshman, a motherless son from Milwaukee who endured some miserable times in the Jazz Age Ivy League in which he suddenly found himself. He was a compulsive, and often quite depressed, diarist who confided his darkest innermost thoughts to ordinary stationery-store datebooks in lieu of therapy, only to buck himself up at the end of most entries as if to say, "Come, now, let's get on with life!" He lasted so long, dying at 101 in 2005, that he found himself apologizing to Gaddis, who had signed on to write his biography in 1981 but promised to publish it only after his death, for continuing to live.

Kennan spent much of the last half of his life regretting the uses (and abuses) to which his notion of containing the Russians politically had been put in American military enterprises from Korea through Vietnam, and on to Iraq and Afghanistan. He also could be plain wrong — a refreshing thing to learn about a leg-

end — as when he wrote on a flight to California in the 1950s, "My only thought, as we approach it, is: throughout the length and breadth of it not one single thing of any importance is being said or done, not one thing that gives hope for the discovery of the paths to a better and firmer and more promising human life; not one thing that would have validity beyond the immediate context of time and place in which all of it occurs." Two guys on the ground named Hewlett and Packard who were doing some pretty important things might have begged to differ, just for starters.

But Kennan also loved poetry, sailing, Russian literature, and the guitar; enjoyed the life of a gentleman farmer near the improbably named town of East Berlin, Pa.; and forged an enduring marriage and a gratifying, if sometimes complicated, family life. And, of course, he spent fully half a century living in Princeton, the scene and source of such youthful ambivalence, so something about the place must have comforted him, after all. In sum, it would be hard to imagine a more human figure.

It could be argued that Kennan was, by virtue of his long life alone, something like the essential Princetonian of the 20th century. His firsthand acquaintance with Russian leaders ranged from Stalin to Gorbachev, and his huge correspondence files are a who's who of the great and merely fascinating figures of his age. Could anyone have known all this when he arrived at Princeton? I doubt it.

In the 30 years since my own graduation, I never have stopped being grateful for my Princeton education. I sometimes have wished I could do it all over again, because I can't shake the feeling I somehow would appreciate it more, or have a better idea of the courses to take. I certainly often think that I might well have accomplished more, given the huge advantages I've received.

But part of contending with Kennan, for me, has been the realization that even the greatest of men are not all great, all the time, and that there remains hope for any of us who keep an inquiring mind, and a right spirit. 📖



Todd S. Purdum '82

Final scene

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Oval with Points Blair Hall, as seen through Henry Moore's famous sculpture after a January snowfall.
Photograph by Ricardo Barros