

How Exeter Spent



When students and teachers arrived back on campus in September, they brought with them lessons learned in classrooms all over the world, from the beaches of Normandy to a commercial fishing boat plying Alaska's Bristol Bay. Here, they share their tales of a summer well spent.

Plus, reports from the field on how a handful of alumni/ae spent their summers.

its Summer Vacation



Exeter Olympians

Exeter rowing was well represented at the Summer Olympic Games in Athens. J. Sloan DuRoss '95 (third from left) competed as a member of the U.S. men's quadruple sculls; Andreanne Morin '00 and Sabrina Kolker '98 rowed together in the Canada women's eight; and Bill Manning '83 of Harvard University served as a member of the U.S. coaching staff. DuRoss and his mates finished fifth in the B final and placed 11th overall.

Sloan DuRoss '95 (third from left) was one of four Exonians who took part in the Summer Olympics.

Morin, Kolker and the rest of the Canadian eight narrowly missed qualifying for the final round.

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Exeter on the Thames: Crew Teams Race at Henley

When classes ended at Exeter last June, most students packed up and departed for home and the leisurely pursuits of summer. But 28 boys and girls stayed on campus, set aside their books and, if possible, began working even harder—preparing for the experience of a lifetime.

Though their New England seasons were over, the Exeter girls and boys crews trained feverishly for the internationally renowned Henley Royal Regatta. It would be only the third appearance in school history for the boys crew; the girls had never rowed in the Henley Women's Regatta, which is just 17 years old.

"We rowed right through finals week while the rest of the athletes didn't have to practice," says Sarah Hayward '05. "Once classes ended, we were the only ones on campus, trekking down to the boathouse two times a day for practice."

Sarah Vick '05 says the sacrifice was well worth it. "The
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Both the boys and girls crew teams took part in the Henley Royal Regatta this summer—a first-time-ever experience for the girls squad, and only the third time in school history that the boys team had made the trip. "We all learned a great deal about racing, rowing, technique, each other, and about what it takes to make a strong team, both on and off the water," says boys coach Lawrence Smith.



Charting a New Course for Students in Washington, D.C.

On August 2, Jennifer Niles '84 realized a long-held ambition when she welcomed 138 pre-K through second-grade pupils to the



Jennifer Niles '84 and some of her students celebrate the August 2 opening of the Haynes Public Charter School in Washington, D.C., which Niles founded.

Euphemia L. Haynes Public Charter School in Washington, D.C.

It was a moment that Niles, the school's founder and principal, had been working
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Apples for the Teacher

For the past six years, we have owned a small farm in Nottingham, NH. We never meant to be farmers; rather we were smitten by an old house and barn, each loaded with history and located on 10 acres that also contained an orchard of 200 trees. We never considered that an orchard requires constant attention. We simply thought, "An apple orchard! How nice."

What we discovered is that the work of an orchard spans all the seasons, and that almost every month of the calendar year has a chore associated with it. Our work this past summer consisted of moving on a regular basis and spraying the trees when weather conditions (it was a rainy July) or pest populations required it to be done. The demands of the orchard in the summer are not heavy, affording me time to work on our house and barn.

In fact, most of August was spent in anticipation of the work of the fall, because the busy season of the orchard corresponds almost exactly to the busy and exciting start of the school year. All through the fall it is my wife, Katy, who does most of the work in the orchard while I'm on campus fielding questions from colleagues about the harvest. As a farmer, I feel a bit of a fraud. But in spite of my part-time status, the time I spend in the orchard, in the summer and during the school year, is something I love—just as I love teaching. I feel fortunate to have both in my life.



Science instructor Mark Hiza spent part of his summer tending a 200-tree apple orchard at his family's small farm in Nottingham, NH.

—Mark Hiza
Science Instructor

Exeter and the 60th Anniversary of D-Day

By Jack Herney '46, '71 (Hon.)

A one-question quiz: What do the following have in common?

- a) a reenactment of the early June 6, 1944 parachute drop behind Utah Beach by the 82nd Airborne Division
- b) the Bayeaux Tapestry
- c) a runaway Exeter student—in fact, no doubt the longest “absence from the dormitory without permission” case in the history of the school
- d) the magnificent Rubens altarpieces in the Cathedral at Antwerp
- e) an underground German hospital on the Channel Island of Guernsey.

On the face of it, not much at all. But in fact, they are each intimately connected to the somewhat unlikely themes—war and art—that provided the organizational structure behind a two-week European excursion, “America, France and England: A Shared Heritage—Great Moments in History: Caen to London” taken by nine Exonians and their wives last June.

Jointly sponsored by Williams College, the Art Institute of Chicago and the National Trust for Historical Preservation, the trip included 70 participants on board the *Sea Cloud II*, a magnificent three-masted ship with a crew of 60, sailing from the Normandy beaches to various points of historical and artistic significance on both sides of the English Channel. Oh yes, and three lucky lecturers tagging along to provide background and context for what the group was seeing each day. Prior to excursions ashore, myself; Bill Kloss, art historian from the Art *(continued on page 92)*



Nine Exonians and their wives traveled to France last June for the ceremonies marking the 60th Anniversary of D-Day, with Jack Herney, the Robert Shaw White Professor in History, serving as a guest lecturer. Shown here are (first row, left to right) Paul Mueller '48, Jane Mueller, Sue Reckford, Barrie Jordan, Don Forte '39, Joan Forte, Lyn Wardle, Henry Thomas '54; (second row) Bill Weeks '39, Sam Reckford '79, Henry Jordan '54; (third row) Jay Whipple III '75, Sally Whipple, Fin Fogg '58, Jack Herney '46, '71 (Hon.), Elizabeth Irwin, Jim Friedlander III '78.

A Society Old and Very, Very New: History Instructor Amy Schwartz in China

History instructor Amy Schwartz steeped herself in Chinese history and culture during a three-week study tour sponsored by the Program for Teaching East Asia (TEA) at the University of Colorado. The trip took Schwartz and 15 other U.S. teachers to Beijing, Xi'an, Yunnan Province, Nanjing and Shanghai.

In the latter two cities, the group's focus was on modern Chinese history. “We toured many museums and archeological sites,” Schwartz explains, “and discussed at length the ways in which the past is presented and packaged and used by people in power. Since I teach Chinese history, this was the most fruitful part of the trip for me.”

China's most recent history is clearly inscribed on the Shanghai skyline. As Schwartz notes, “Most of what we now think of as Shanghai has actually been built in the past 10 years. The pace and level of development is simply staggering. It is clear in Shanghai that China has left communism far, far behind.

For example, we visited the house where the Communist Party was founded in 1921, only to find that Mao was actually de-emphasized, while Deng Xiaoping, the man who opened China to capitalism and who wasn't even present at the founding, had an entire three rooms devoted to him! Go figure. To most people under 50 years old, Deng is China's true hero.”

The trip also afforded Schwartz a series of serendipitous encounters, like her visit to Beijing's Temple of Heaven “during one of the most torrential rainstorms I've ever witnessed. When we arrived, we found literally hundreds of Chinese crowded into a long, wood-roofed colonnade. They were singing at the tops of their lungs, in small groups, often seeming to compete with each other, while the rain poured in great, noisy torrents off the peaked roof. I will never forget the sheer volume of sound.”

—Beth Brosnan



Amy Schwartz (right) spent three weeks in China studying the country's history and culture.

A 'Dead' Language Comes Alive During Study Tour of Rome and Naples

In mid-June, Paul Langford took a group of Latin students on a two-week study tour of Italy, the fifth such trip he has led in the past 10 years.

"My hope is that students gain an initial understanding of, and respect for, the long trail of history that precedes modern Western culture," says Langford, the George Shattuck Morison Professor of Latin and chair of the department of classical languages. "Perhaps they will remember to look back and appreciate the vast differences between previous centuries and their own, rather than living solely within their own time and their own culture."

The group spent 10 days in Rome, touring the ancient monuments, the museums and the churches, including Santa Maria Maggiore, where their guide was Father Fernando Felices '71, chancellor of the Archdiocese of San Juan, Puerto Rico, who was in Rome for a year of study. With the help of an Exeter parent whose brother works at the Vatican, the group was also able to visit the ancient cemetery now buried beneath St. Peter's, which not only "contains many well-preserved pagan tombs," says Langford, "but is thought to contain the tomb monument and remains of the martyred St. Peter." The tour concluded with four days in Naples, where students visited the archaeological museum and made side trips to nearby Pompeii, Herculaneum and Capri.

The trip left Nicole Wilson '05 with a raft of memories—of climbing to the top of St. Peter's Basilica; of biking along the ancient Appian Way; of watching the sun set over the Forum—and a fondness for Caprese salads and gelato. But most of all, she

says, the experience gave her "a deeper affinity for Latin. Now that I have actually visited these places, it makes this 'dead' language alive for me."

Adair Gerke '07 says the trip taught him that Romans were "more than just statesmen and soldiers who spent their time delivering speeches, conspiring, conquering and thinking up new and ingenious ways to better mankind. In addition to Rome's grandeur, I saw the markets where they bought fish and cattle; the checkerboard that a bored senator carved into the marble steps of the Basilica Julia; and the graves of the Via Appia appealing to future generations to stop, to read and to remember."

—Beth Brosnan



In Rome, students (left to right) Philip Provencher '06, Adair Gerke '07, Jo Xu '05, Andrew Kuhn '07 and Nicole Wilson '05 received a tour of Santa Maria Maggiore from Father Fernando Felices '71.

Salmon Fishing in Alaska

I've never been one to take your typical summer job. In fact, I haven't had a summer job where I've had to work inside, ever. When I landed the chance to be a deckhand on a commercial salmon boat in Bristol Bay, AK, I didn't have to think twice. Bristol Bay, off the Bering Sea, is home to some of the most productive salmon fisheries in the world.

But wait: What was an environmentalist doing working on a fishing boat? Isn't fishing destroying the oceans? Unfortunately, in two-thirds of the world fisheries, commercial fishing is doing just that. Alaska, however, is a refreshing exception, a place where fisheries are well managed and strictly enforced. It was fascinating to see how that's done, and that three people on

a 32-foot boat could catch 80,000 pounds of fish in only three short weeks (albeit while working as long as 16 hours a day).

So many people never get to see where their food comes from. There were days that wore me down, but the season was strong this year and we made good money. Was it dangerous? Somewhat, but far safer than fishing for king crab, the icon of rugged Alaskan fishing. Did I eat a lot of fresh salmon? You bet. Would I do it again? Definitely.

—Patrick Leslie '97

Environmental Education Fellow

During the three weeks he spent working as a deckhand on a commercial fishing boat in Alaska, Environmental Education Fellow Pat Leslie '97 got to see a well-managed and productive fishery close up. He also helped catch 80,000 pounds of salmon.





It All Adds Up: Exeter Sends Team to 2004 China Girls Math Olympiad

They did math by the hour, toured the Great Wall and won competitions in both aerobics and riflery. Such was the extraordinary summer (or two weeks of it, anyway) for students Emily Bernier '05, Heather Carmichael '05, Sally Pei '06 and Elizabeth Shope '05, who represented PEA at the third annual China Girls Math Olympiad in Nanchang.

"Even though we didn't win the math competition, we had a lot to be proud of—and not just winning the aerobics and shooting competitions!" says Pei of the experience. "It was an honor to represent our school and to be in the company of some really brilliant students from all over China and the world."

Invited by the Chinese Ministry of Education to participate in the Olympiad as a tribute to math instructor Zuming Feng, a well-known and highly respected leader in the world of competitive mathematics, the team from Exeter was not only the first ever to be

Speak Up and Be Heard

Sometimes, it pays to speak up. That's what Michelle Wong '04 learned this June when an email she wrote to the editor of *Seventeen* led to an invitation to visit the magazine's New York offices and to a brief article in the October issue.

It all started, Wong says, on a dreary afternoon last winter when she was hanging out in her Exeter dorm room, flipping through teen fashion magazines with her friend Maggie Hsu '04. The two friends soon noticed something—or rather, the

Michelle Wong '04 was one of six young women from around the country invited to take part in a political roundtable hosted by *Seventeen* magazine and featured in the October issue.

lack of something, says Wong: "Most of the latest spring makeup trends were not applicable to Asian Americans." But instead of tossing the magazines in the trash, Wong fired off an email to the magazines' editors, suggesting that they run more articles reflecting the needs and interests of teenagers of color.

In May, Wong got a phone call from *Seventeen's* features editor, asking if she would be interested in taking part in a political roundtable discussion the magazine was

hosting. One of just six young women from around the country chosen for the panel, Wong was flown to New York a week after graduation. There she learned that the discussion's moderator would be well-known playwright and political activist Eve Ensler (*The Vagina Monologues*). "I was so nervous about what I was going to say," Wong says. "But I relaxed after I remembered that I'd gone to discussion classes for the last four years!"

The roundtable covered a variety of issues, including the upcoming presidential election and low voter turnout rates among young women. "It was easy to be frank and open with Eve and the other panelists, because they were all very laid-back," says Wong, now in her first year at Smith College. "Exeter really helped me in terms of discussion etiquette and how to verbalize my ideas clearly."

—Beth Brosnan

Heather Carmichael '05, Emily Bernier '05, Sally Pei '06 and Elizabeth Shope '05 traveled to China in August to take part in the China Girls Math Olympiad.

invited from the United States, it was also the only international squad to represent a school rather than an entire country or region.

"We knew going in that we would have a hard time competing with teams who are so dedicated to serious training for math

competitions," says math department chair Joyce Kemp, who traveled with math instructor Gwyn Coogan. "The girls on our team are among the best math students we have at the Academy, but they had never participated in an international math competition. Just being invited, however, was an honor we couldn't turn down."

While the team didn't win any medals at the math competition, they did learn lots of new math. "We spent a lot of time driving from site to site in Beijing, and used that time to work on and go over problems and concepts," says Carmichael. "The problems on the competition tests were good and I got a lot out of them, even the ones that I couldn't solve."

Above and beyond all the math, the students also got a chance to experience China on a more personal level. The group toured Beijing, visited a high school in Nanchang and spent time with their fellow math competitors. Pei, a native of Hong Kong, says she especially enjoyed watching her mostly vegetarian peers from Exeter react to native delicacies such as shark fin soup, frog, ostrich, pigeon and turtle.

"The students participated in all aspects of the competition with a great sense of fun, goodwill and grace," says Kemp. "I was very impressed by the way they handled all the challenges they faced—the language barriers, the time difference, the food—and their openness to everyone they met. They were great ambassadors for the Academy."

—Bill Ewing



A Teacher of Science Becomes a Student of History



ZIG WRONSKY '08

To prepare for courses he is teaching in this fall's Stratford Program, biology instructor Townley Chisholm spent his summer reading extensively in English history and literature, two long-held interests of his.

normally teach) and a return to long-held interests.

When I was a senior in high school, I did a year-long independent study on the Renaissance in Italy and England that changed my life, and I have continued to enjoy English history and literature from that period. Preparing for the Stratford Program gave me the opportunity to read extensively over the summer and to fill in gaps. I have particularly enjoyed reading collections of letters from the 15th and 16th centuries for the understanding of daily

life that they provide. Learning about English monastic life not only allows me to understand evocative ruins such as Rievaulx Abbey and Tintern Abbey, but also makes Chaucer's anticlerical comments in *The Canterbury Tales* far funnier and more meaningful. I hope very much to use the letters, literature and remaining buildings and monuments to help Exeter students imagine life in these long-gone centuries. And I hope that they will enjoy the time travel.

—Townley Chisholm
Biology Instructor

Susan Sakash '96 Takes Part in Dublin's ReJoyce Festival

June 16, 2004 was a milestone day for James Joyce devotees: It marked the 100th anniversary of the day in the life of Stephen Dedalus and Leopold Bloom immortalized by Joyce in his ground-breaking novel *Ulysses*. For many years, "Bloomsday" has been the occasion for celebrations honoring the writer and the book, but this summer Dublin pulled out all the stops for its "ReJoyce Dublin 2004 Bloomsday Centenary Festival."

Among the many writers, artists and performers taking part in the festival was Susan Sakash '96, whose contribution was *Wandering Rocks, Revolving Doors*, a two-week public art event held June 10 to 24. Sakash curated and organized the installation of 19 artworks by 22 international artists in public spaces around Dublin City Center. Each artwork was inspired by some aspect of the novel, explains Sakash, and "sought to carry the themes and preoccupations of *Ulysses* into a contemporary context using humor and interactivity. The event as a whole reflected an intent to return Joyce to his (continued on page 93)



James Joyce

Exonians Earn Gold in Athens

Before the Olympic flame was even lit in Athens this past August for the start of the Summer Games, the United States had already struck gold with medals in another prestigious international Olympic event, this one for high school mathematics. Under the supervision of Zuming Feng, Exeter

math instructor and coach of the six-person U.S. math team, Exonians Tiankai Liu '04—already a well-known competitor who was profiled in the book *Count Down:*

Six Kids Vie for Glory at the World's Toughest Math Competition (Houghton Mifflin, 2004)—and Tony Zhang '04, along with Oleg Golberg (a local home-schooled

student who trained with Feng and the PEA math club) all took home gold medals from the 45th International Mathematical Olympiad held in Athens this past July. Incoming student Sherry Gong '07, a lower from Puerto Rico, also earned a silver medal for the U.S. team. A total of 486 high school age students from 85 countries took part in the rigorous six problem, two-day event.

—Bill Ewing



Math Olympians (left to right) Tony Zhang '04, Tiankai Liu '04, math instructor Zuming Feng, Sherry Gong '07 and Oleg Golberg (a local home-schooled student who trained with Feng and the PEA math club).

COURTESY OF ZUMING FENG

'Great Literature Shows the Way'

NITA PETTIGREW AT THE OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

The trip to Ashland and the Oregon Shakespeare Festival from Portland, OR, is itself theatrical. The Willamette Valley begins to narrow south of Eugene, and by the time you get to Roseburg, you're steadily climbing toward the Siskiyou Pass, the highway curving up and into the mountains. At Grants Pass you share the highway with logging trucks and semis, but they have skilled drivers and the road is wide, and together you sweep down toward Medford and the Rogue Valley, where the highway straightens and becomes intent upon getting to California and the high Sierra in the distance.

The Oregon Shakespeare Festival was established in 1935 when Angus Bowmer talked the town of Ashland into building an Elizabethan stage—shaped like an "O," thatched and open to the stars. In 1963 a college buddy and I bought standing-room-only tickets for *Romeo and Juliet*, made the long drive and stood at the back of that theater utterly charmed. Mesmerized. It was magical.

It's still magical, but today there are three theaters: the open-air Elizabethan Stage, the commodious and technically sophisticated Angus Bowmer Theatre, and the smaller, more casual New Theatre. This summer the festival performed 11 plays in repertory. I was there for three days, four nights, and saw five plays. One afternoon, in the Bowmer Theater, I saw a powerful performance of Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun*, a play I had never seen on stage. I was reminded that this is a play to bring to my students. We may tend to think that it is dated, but it is not. The next afternoon, in the same theater, I saw a production of *A Comedy of Errors*, given a Vegas-like setting—an idea that rather jarred my senses. The audience loved it, though. What can I say? I also saw two new plays. *Oedipus Complex* (Frank Galati) brings Sophocles' play into dialogue with Freud and Aristotle. Dr. Freud is right there on the stage with Oedipus—all in a setting inspired by Thomas Eakins' *The Gross Clinic*. The other new play was *Humble Boy*, by Charlotte Jones. Some of my colleagues in English teach this play, and I can now see why: it parallels Hamlet rather closely.

One night I made my way into the Elizabethan Theater. Easing past the students standing together in the rear, I took my seat with the older folk down front. The play was *King Lear*. Even the starry night seemed to hold its breath. The production was glorious: a traditional setting, a superb cast, a *King Lear* to break your heart. I left the theater that night and Ashland the next morning, driving north out of the Rogue Valley with a keener sense of who I am and where I am in my own life. Great theater, like all great literature, shows the way.

— Nita Pettigrew

The Woodbridge Odlin Professor of English

ELLEN WOLFF AT THE FAULKNER AND YOKNAPATAWPHA CONFERENCE

Mississippi in July. Not everyone's idea of a good time. But for me it was just the thing: a chance to revisit a region that looms large in my imagination and re-immense myself in the work of William Faulkner, at this year's Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference at the University of Mississippi.

Faulkner specifically and Southern literature generally have long been special interests of mine. The obsession took root while I was studying at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and had the chance to work with leading scholars in the field. I made Southern literature a central focus of subsequent research, exploring its connections to literatures commonly called "post-colonial," including Ireland's; Faulkner continues to strike me as close kin to James Joyce.

This year's conference topic was "Faulkner and Material Culture." Examining Faulkner's representations of such objects as horses, hats, handcrafts, mules, food and tobacco, speakers explored subjects such as the role of property, the violence of material production, the consolidation of a Southern middle class and (in Faulkner's words) "the white economy of material waste." The presentation I found most stimulating centered on Faulkner's use of fictional photographs—photos represented in writing—to explore pressing ethical questions in Southern culture. Another highlight of the program was a tour of the Mississippi Delta, a place that stands at the center of other abiding interests of mine: the work of Eudora Welty, the history of the civil rights movement, the phenomenon of the Delta blues.

I came home from Oxford loaded down with new books and teeming with new ideas about Faulkner and other authors. I came home thinking in new ways about Faulkner's connections to a topic that emerged in the Academy's recent curriculum review: Diversity in the United States. I came home full of the energy that immersion in such opportunities always gives me. I'd been granted the luxury of sustained engagement with writing I love by an author I honor in the place his writing made into myth.

— Ellen Wolff

The Eleanor Gwin Ellis Instructor in English



English instructor Ellen Wolff traveled to Mississippi in late July for the annual Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference and returned to Exeter "loaded down with new books and teeming with new ideas about Faulkner and other authors."

BRIAN CROWLEY

A Room of His Own

The *Listening Summertime of the Dead* is a collection of linked stories set out on the South Fork of Long Island during the 1960s and '70s, which I've been expanding and revising for about 12 years. With the help of a professional development grant from the school, I spent one week in late June at the Fifth House Lodge in South Bridgton, ME, finishing the manuscript and revising poems.

The main lodge is a writers' retreat with workshops, individual rooms and workspace. But I wanted complete solitude, a radically different experience than my life in the dorm, and sanctuary from the construction zone the campus becomes in the summer. So, I rented the retreat's small turn-of-the-century cottage that sits about 100 yards away from everything at the top of a low-bush blueberry meadow with a panoramic view of the western mountains. The only interruptions: a few wild turkeys, deer.

Life at the Academy is fragmented, and I ricochet between tasks and responsibilities, unfocused, from hole to hole in the dam. My typical day at Fifth House began at sunrise with coffee, two feet up on the rail of the wrap-around porch, and laptop in place, two hours of work. Breakfast followed, and then I'd ride the momentum of new material until lunch. The afternoons were for reading, revision, and a run or swim in any one of the nearby lakes. After dinner, I'd revise until about 11 o'clock. At one point during the week, I realized that I hadn't spoken to anyone for three days.

With this schedule, I was able to start a new piece and revise the three stories I'd written last year: the 60-page "title" story which anchors the whole collection, the new opening piece entitled "The Seaplane," and the closure, "Arlington." For the first time in a decade, this book began to assume a powerful shape, and I wouldn't have been able to see it, let alone sculpt it, if I hadn't been given the opportunity. The unexpected bonus was cobbling together a draft of a new long poem, "Apologia," a sort of lyric perusal of a misspent youth. (Don't ask.)

—Ralph Sneed
English instructor

Complete solitude is what English instructor Ralph Sneed wanted, and he found it at a writers' retreat in Maine, where he worked on a collection of short stories and some new poetry.



RALPH SNEEDEN



TONY BAKER

On the Road With Ketch Secor '96 & Old Crow Medicine Show

“Running from the cold up in New England, I was born to be a fiddler in an old-time string band,” sings Ketch Secor '96 in “Wagon Wheel,” a song on the acclaimed debut record by his band Old Crow Medicine Show. Based on an old Bob Dylan tune and penned while Secor was still a teenager living in Dow House, this song was not so much prophetic as it was stating the obvious. Secor, a singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist (fiddle among them), was destined for a career playing old-time roots music since he first took up the banjo at Exeter.

“I spent so much time at Exeter daydreaming about doing exactly what I'm doing now,” says Secor, who spent his summer touring the United States and the United Kingdom. “People from my class will probably remember me sitting out on a bench playing the banjo or mandolin and singing. I was one of those guys who was always walking around with a musical instrument.” His band also played several energetic and well-received sets at the prestigious Newport Folk Festival this past August.

Formed in 1998, the Nashville-based Old Crow Medicine Show started out by taking their music—a rambunctious brew of acoustic roots music (“with a punk swagger” according to *Rolling Stone*)—to the people, busking on street corners and in small clubs nationwide. Momentum grew over time, especially in the wake of the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*, which brought traditional country, blues and bluegrass to the attention of a large, mainstream audience. In the last few years, Old Crow has played the Grand Ole Opry and on “Prairie Home Companion,” and shared stages with Merle Haggard, Dolly Parton, Doc Watson and the Del McCoury Band.

For Secor, the high points of his young career are already too plentiful to mention. Among them, he says, is working with new country standard-bearer Gillian Welch and her guitarist/partner David Rawlings. Rawlings produced Old Crow's record at his studio in Nashville and Welch appears on several tracks; Secor returned the favor by playing fiddle on Welch's new record, *Soul Journey*.

“So much has already happened with this band,” says Secor, “and the best is really yet to come.”

—Bill Ewing

Ketch Secor '96 (second from left) spent his summer touring the U.S. and the U.K. as a member of the acclaimed blue grass band Old Crow Medicine Show.

Racing With Parkinson's— And With a Little Help From His Friends

Marshall Moore has lived with Parkinson's disease for 14 years. When he decided to take on an athletic challenge to show others what can be accomplished despite the disease, he didn't have to look far for support.

Moore, 47, husband of English instructor and girls crew coach Becky Moore (and father of Nick '03, Davis '05 and Tim '08), found plenty of help on the Exeter campus after he set his sights on competing in the USA Masters Outdoor Track and Field Championships last August. Hilary Coder, PEA's track and field coach, became his coach; Joe Bobrowskas, associate director of college counseling, helped with publicity, travel and registration arrangements for the event, held at Millikin University in Decatur, IL; and Chris Wronsky '71, director of planned giving, worked on fund-raising. Helping coordinate everything, including the filming of a documentary about Moore, was Debbie Adams P'02, P'03.

"In the end, this is a story about family and community," Moore says. "This is about the power of the group and how



The team that helped prepare Marshall Moore (center) for the USA Masters Outdoor Track and Field Championships in August included (left to right) PEA track coach Hilary Coder, Exeter parent Debbie Adams, Director of Planned Giving Christopher Wronsky '71 and Associate Director of College Counseling Joseph Bobrowskas.

the world can be so much better by working with rather than fighting against."

A champion rower in college, Moore had little experience as a competitive runner and spent three months training with Coder to prepare for August 5-8 event. Although a pulled hamstring kept him from competing in the 100-meter dash, Moore ran in the men's 45 400 meters and 200 meters, placing 14th and 19th, respectively.

"Some of the great lessons Parkinson's has taught me are about acceptance, patience and belief," Moore says. "I used them all. My team believes in miracles and I couldn't have done it without them."

—Bob Reinert

Addressing Genocide in Darfur

Ever since the Nazi Holocaust, the world has said "never again" to genocide. Yet in the past 10 years alone, the world has looked the other way and allowed genocide in places like Rwanda, Bosnia and now Darfur, in western Sudan.

This summer I worked to call attention to the massive death and displacement in Darfur and to label it by its rightful name—genocide. In my role as president of Refugees International (RI), an independent advocacy organization, I wrote newspaper columns; I met with members of Congress, which passed a resolution declaring that "the atrocities in Darfur, Sudan, are genocide"; and I repeatedly sent my colleagues to Sudan and neighboring Chad to chronicle the rising death and displacement.

Back in February, I traveled to Sudan with two RI colleagues to promote the orderly return of 4.5 million refugees and displaced persons as a 21-year civil war between north and south Sudan was winding down. But this work was soon overshadowed by a new conflict in Darfur.

In February, an estimated 700,000 people had already been displaced from their homes and an unknown number had been killed, generally in coordinated attacks against African farmers by government forces and an Arab-dominated militia. Now the United Nations estimates that the government-sponsored attacks have killed 50,000 people, displaced 1.4 million and destroyed hundreds of villages, most inhabited by Africans. The U.S. government warns that an additional 300,000 people could die of war-related disease and starvation by the end of 2004.

Genocide, ethnic conflict and humanitarian disasters are huge and depressing issues, but you can help address them. First, stay informed. Many major newspapers have good coverage of humanitarian issues. You can also go to <http://www.refugeesinternational.org> or the website of Amnesty International, CARE and other organizations for information. Second, let your elected representatives know that humanitarian assistance and protection of human rights are important to you.

Finally, get involved. Support and participate in organizations like RI, Human Rights Watch, Save the Children or Bread for the World that are working on the front lines to address problems of displacement, injustice and poverty. You can make a difference, and many Exonians do.

—Kenneth Bacon '62
President, Refugees International



As president of Refugees International, Ken Bacon '62 (shown here, left, with a teacher of demobilized child soldiers in Southern Sudan) spent much of his summer working to raise public awareness about the rising death and displacement taking place in the Darfur region of Sudan.

A Sample of the Exeter Spirit

George Hayward '07 says he often looks back and wonders where he would be without the Sampler program, the four-day, on-campus orientation session designed to help students who have never visited campus or who have done so only briefly make the transition to Exeter and to boarding school life. This fall, he returned to school early to serve as a Sampler leader and gained insight into what makes the program so special:

"Just last fall, I nervously climbed the steps of Jeremiah Smith Hall. In just those few steps I crossed from one world into another. And I felt it. Overwhelmed but resolved, I stuck out my hand and introduced myself. I entered the Sampler program not knowing what this foreign place had in store for a 14-year-old who had never really been away from his parents before. Within a few minutes my parents had left and I was introduced to the other Sampler students. I looked into their eyes and could see the same fears I was feeling. As we got to know each other, I discovered we had a lot in common and I felt better. I met the Sampler coordinator, Mr. Willis, the director of admissions, Mr. Gary, and many future teachers and friends. It wasn't long before I felt like I was part of the family—a true Exonian.

One year later, I relived my first days at Exeter by watching the new Sampler students. I saw the same look in their eyes that I had a year ago. As they asked the same questions I had, as they tread the same paths I had, as they climbed the same fateful steps in Jeremiah Smith I had, I saw what makes Exeter so exceptional—Exeter is a family. As these new students realized the same thing I



Nine students who returned to campus early to assist with the Sampler program include (left to right) Warithuddin Taha '05, Shuo Hong '07, Yun Jeong Kang '06, Zhi Hao Poon '06, Jean Pierre Valette '06, George Hayward '07, Sarah Lee '06, Jessica Diehl '05 and Joseph Blount '06.

did, the look of fear in their eyes became one of excitement.

"It is this cycle of giving, this nurturing environment that makes me so proud to be an Exonian. As Sampler 2004 came to an end, I saw the new students mingling with old students, and I knew Sampler had done its work. I realized that Sampler doesn't really end: Every time an Exonian helps someone new, every time an Exonian gives advice to someone, every time an Exonian welcomes someone new or old to Exeter, the Sampler Program continues. I am honored to be a part of it."

—George Hayward '07

Recent Grads Turn the (Harkness) Table

Kalina King '04 was one of several members of her class who returned to campus after graduation to assist with both the Access Exeter summer program for students entering grades eight and nine and the upper school for students grades 10 and above. "A few things stick out in my mind about the transition from student to teaching assistant," says King, now a freshman at Princeton University. "I was helping out Mr. Wolfson's B format precalculus class in my spare time. At one class early in the summer session, Mr. Wolfson left the classroom for a moment. Immediately the power seemed to shift to the students. The intern working with me asked everyone to move on to the next problem, and the nervousness in her voice was tangible. Students began to joke quietly to each other and one boy leaned back and put his feet onto the Harkness table. I was watching all of this with an almost detached amusement

when I realized that I was now supposed to be on the side of the teachers! I motioned for him to put his feet back



Several members of the class of 2004 returned to campus after graduation to work at the Exeter Summer School, including (seated, left to right) Hazel Cipolle, Julia Golomb; (standing) Madison Condon, Kalina King, Elisa Chen.

down on the floor and was half-amazed when he sheepishly followed my directions and we returned to discussing coordinates in a unit circle. After that class, he came up to me and asked how old I was. I told him I was 18 and in college—only to be corrected by Mr. Wolfson, who informed him that I had just graduated from Exeter. It turned out that he was actually older by several months!"

Then there was the evening when King was proctoring a study hall. "I was trying to make sure they studied in near-silence, when one of the boys groaned loudly and banged the spine of his book on the table in Grainger. I raised my eyebrows in warning and strode over. 'Ms. King,' he exclaimed, 'It's so sad. Matthew just died!' He held up the offending book—*Anne of Green Gables*—making me swallow my words, and we ended up discussing children's literature for several minutes."

—Janice Reiter

says Orszag, still chuckling at the memory. "He asked two or three questions, we answered them and he went out and gave his statement. I thought that was pretty cool."

Eight years later, Orszag is the managing director of Competition Policy Associates, Inc., an economic and public policy firm he founded with several others, including his older brother Peter '87. They work on a variety of issues involving antitrust, regulatory and financial market issues, and it can be said Orszag keeps a keen eye on when the Democrats may move back into the White House.

As an economist, what for you are the most important issues facing the country?

In the short-term, putting our fiscal house in order and bringing under control the very large long-term budget deficits are the most important economic issues facing the country. To do so, it is going to take a lot of will, effort and discipline on the part of the next president, something the current president has yet to demonstrate when it comes to budget issues. It will also be important for the next president to tackle long-term fiscal issues, such as Social Security and Medicare, which become particularly important as baby boomers begin to retire. It is wrong to say these programs are in a crisis, but they do face long-term problems that need to be addressed sooner rather than later. The sooner we address these issues, the easier it will be to deal with them. The right time to do that is now.

What constitutes real leadership?

Being a leader means taking a principled stand on an issue, a stand that may not be popular but that is something that you are willing to do. On economic issues, Clinton was unbelievably good at doing the right

thing even though it was not popular. Take the Mexican peso crisis. The idea of lending money to Mexico was not a very popular decision, but he knew it was the right thing to do and he did it. It was the same thing with the Asian financial crisis and supporting free trade. It would have been easy for him to support imposing tariffs or quotas on steel and appeasing labor unions, but instead he said, "No, that is not the right thing to do, and I am not going to do it."

What factors contribute to our polarized political landscape?

The media drives some of the polarization—probably a large portion of it—with its 24-hours news cycle and the success of programs where people spend most of their time yelling at each other instead of debating the issues in a more civil way. This format lends itself to crazy and outlandish statements because they make for good television. The folks who become popular are the polarizers, not the folks who work to build coalitions. When you think about the members of congress who are always on television, it is rare that you see conciliatory types. They often don't make it onto television.

How does an economist view the debate over security versus other priorities?

Economists like to say there is no free lunch—for any policy. If you decide you want to spend money on a war in Iraq, that is money you cannot spend on homeland security. Or if you want to spend the money on homeland security, it means running a deficit and leaving a debt to our children and grandchildren. So with every budget decision, there is a trade-off. ●

Exeter at Henley

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month I spent in preparation for and competing in the Henley Women's Regatta undoubtedly improved my rowing in ways never to be matched," Vick says. "Instead of having to balance school work and athletics, I could focus on crew. I'll be able to use the skills I

Closmore, Vick, Genevieve Joy '05 and Liz Hathaway '05, defeated Haberdashers Monmouth B in the first round and lost to eventual champion Rochester (MN) Rowing Club by five boat lengths in the semifinals.

The New England champion Exeter eight of coxswain Caitlin Mixer '04, Courtney



DAVID DUNFEE

The boys crew team made its first appearance at Henley since 1993.

learned in all of my future rowing seasons."

The Exeter girls got to Henley before the boys. "When we arrived, the town was pretty

Emerson '05, Kim Strovink '04, Maddy Hartzell '04, captain Savannah Sachs '04, Eva Glasrud '05, Shannon Guy '04, Jenn Gorman '04 and Catherine Johnson '06 lost in the opening round by a foot to St. Paul's School of Concord, NH, in the closest race of the

"Our returning athletes will be able to show the next generation all that they learned."

quiet," says Susan Closmore '05. "We trained rigorously that week. As the week progressed, crews from around the United Kingdom and a few U.S. crews showed up."

In the intense competition on the Thames River, the Exeter four-with-cox, which included coxswain Hayward,

regatta. "We cried," says Johnson of the eight's result. "And I have to say that the first thought on my mind after we crossed the finish line was that I'm ready for next year."

Girls' coach Chandra Glick '96 agrees that the Henley experience will pay future dividends for Exeter. "As far as I'm

concerned, girls crew at Exeter will never be the same,” Glick says. “I think that the legacy of this year along with the leadership of some strong, genuine, powerful young women will carry us forward. Henley was the icing on the cake.

“Our returning athletes will be able to show the next generation all that they learned. Those 14 girls who went had to work through distraction and pressure in intense racing, but they also had to come together as a team in new ways off the water.”

The Exeter boys, making their first appearance at Henley since 1993, also entered an eight and a four-with-cox. Racing in the Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup, the eight won easily in the opening round against St. Peter’s School. In the second round, Exeter lost to Hampton School by 1 3/4 boat lengths. Crew members included coxswain Joe Politi ’04, Solon Wayne Aposhian ’04, Legare Smith ’05, captain Sam Dodson ’04, Andrew Collard ’05, Eben Jose ’06, Brandon Peck ’04, Chris Courtin ’06 and Evan Daley ’05.

In the men’s student coxed fours competition, the Exeter crew of coxswain Martin Yates ’04, Justin Burns ’04, Greg Fenner ’05, Ryan Dunfee ’04, and Nathan Bruker ’05 qualified but then lost to Grand Valley State University in the first round. “It’s exciting to be racing head-to-head against another boat in a narrow lane of wooden booms about 10 to 15 feet away from hundreds of spectators,” Bruker says. “All the men wear coats and ties, while the women wear dresses and hats. It’s surprising to think that all these people are getting dressed up for a rowing event.”

According to boys coach Lawrence Smith, Exeter faced a high level of rowing at Henley. “The competition was intense,

and the crews at Henley were all fast,” Smith says. “We all learned a great deal about racing, rowing, technique, each other, and about what it takes to make a strong team, both on and off the water.”

—Bob Reinert

Charter School

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toward since the early 1990s, when she decided to become an educator. “I loved being a teacher, but knew that I wanted to help fix the system. I kept asking myself, ‘How can our urban schools make sure that all children, regardless of circumstances, reach high levels of student achievement?’ Creating such a school is one small piece of the puzzle.”

The Haynes Public Charter School boasts a student body as diverse as Washington, D.C., itself: 45 percent of the children are African-American, 25 percent are Latino, 20 percent Caucasian, 5 percent Asian and 5 percent other ethnic and racial groups. The school’s focus on math and science serves a pressing need, Niles says, because recent testing suggests that only 6 percent of Washington’s fourth- and eighth-grade public school students are grade-level proficient in these subjects.

Niles’ road to running her own school led her from her first job as a science instructor at the Harvard-Westlake School in Los Angeles to a series of administrative posts, including heading the charter school office for the Connecticut State Department of Education and directing education initiatives for the Ball Foundation in Illinois. She’s also an alumna of the Yale School of Management and the New Leaders for New Schools training program for urban school principals.

After receiving the go-ahead

from the D.C. Public Charter School Board in August 2003, Niles began hiring her staff last January. “June was devoted to ordering new furniture and supplies,” she says, “and July was consumed by a four-week long program of professional development for teachers and staff.” Her goals for her young students? “I want every single one of them to be prepared for college and beyond.”

—Janice Reiter

D-Day

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Institute of Chicago; and Henry Catto, former ambassador to Great Britain under the first President Bush, spoke, respectively, on D-Day and World War II, art, and current geopolitical issues confronting the Atlantic allies.

For many on the trip, most of whom had vivid memories of World War II, the emotional highpoints came early on, during the initial few days when we participated in events commemorating the 60th anniversary of D-Day. And make no mistake, participating was in some ways no easy matter, given the heightened security for the celebratory events, including as they did Presidents Bush and Chirac, Queen Elizabeth, Prince Charles, Chancellor Schroeder and other dignitaries. Yet since our trip originally included Walter Cronkite as a lecturer (unfortunately, he had to drop out at the last minute due to family illness), the right phone calls to the right security personnel produced magical passes that opened doors, or more importantly roads, that were blocked to others.

Thus it was that, on June 5, when all roads leading to Ste. Mère Église behind Utah Beach were blocked by miles of stopped traffic, Tour Director Jim Friedlander ’76 leaned out the door of the lead bus, flashed

the “Well-if-Walter-Cronkite-is-in-your-group” pass and away we went—past miles of traffic; past parking lots miles from the dropsite full of parked cars and busses; past miles of pedestrians hiking in to the site. We pulled into a small parking lot, right at La Fiere bridge over Le Merderet River, exactly where General Gavin and the 82nd Airborne parachuted in early on June 6. We had ringside seats to watch a reenactment by today’s 82nd Airborne, including Brigadier General Richard Rowe ’69, and we arrived right at the moment when the first plane appeared. Nice timing, Jim.

No such Cronkite interventions were necessary for the D-Day Commemorative Ceremonies at the Normandy American Cemetery at Colleville sur Mer on June 6. Despite crowds of thousands and the presence of Presidents Bush and Chirac, everyone attending was in their designated places well before the arrival of dignitaries, of whom there were plenty. It’s been said that the British are superb at orchestrating ceremony—coronations, royal weddings, tragic funerals. This American/French event was dazzling as well, from tiny American and French flags at every one of the 9,387 headstones to a howitzer salute to a flyover. But at the center were the veterans who had returned and were seated in the front rows, at what most acknowledged was the last such ceremony we shall see of its kind on that sacred spot. No Rubens portrait or cathedral nave seen on the rest of the trip, impressive as they were, could summon the emotion or reverence or awe that those few hours did at the Normandy beach.

Yet that was not the end of the D-Day and WWII sites seen in the next few days: not only the somewhat macabre under-

ground German hospital on Channel Island of Guernsey, which was occupied by the Nazis throughout the war, but also the embarkation harbor of Portsmouth and the Cabinet War Rooms in London, to name a few. Together, these grisly reminders of war interspersed with transportingly beautiful art and architecture provided an especially vivid itinerary of history's cruel realities balanced with examples of humankind's creative genius.

But what of our Exonian truant, mentioned above in the quiz? In an attempt to give my lectures a bit of Exeter relevance, I had enlisted the aid of Ed Desrochers, the Academy's archivist, to assemble the names and military affiliations of any Exonians who had participated in D-Day. In the course of that little exercise we uncovered the unlikely story of one François Laclache '44 (who later changed his name to Francois de Valombreuse and who by coincidence my wife, Susan, and I had met in France a few years ago). At that time François never mentioned his WWII experiences; his Exeter file, uncovered last spring, was much more forthcoming.

It seems that in the fall of 1941 the enterprising lower-middler, wanting to help his fellow French in their fight against Hitler (but somewhat confined, to say the least, by 8 o'clock check-ins), conspired with an itinerant band of French sailors temporarily stationed at nearby Portsmouth. After meeting the sailors at an exhibition soccer match, François learned from them where to find the nearest Free French enlistment center. And thus, on a cold winter morning in 1942, the 15-year-old left Wentworth Hall, never to return, and slipped off to the train station down by Gerry's on Lincoln Street. There he boarded a Boston-bound train and

made off, via Boston Airport, for Montreal and one Commander Quedrue. Many other adventures ensued—training in Nova Scotia; evading pursuing parents and school personnel; traveling clandestinely across the Atlantic; more training—but the important point of the story is that young François was among the Free French soldiers who participated in the D-Day invasion and Battle for Normandy—all at the age of 17!

Thus was provided one small story, among many, that together comprised the three lectures on D-Day. And of such small stories, the history of D-Day was made—a bit of Exeter in that largest of all invasions.

James Joyce

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rightful place in the streets of Dublin, interacting with the citizens and visitors to this city, which served as a receptacle for his memories and indignation."

Sakash began studying Joyce as a freshman at Wesleyan University, and her senior thesis was an installation event based on the various incantations of sound and music found in the "Sirens" episode of *Ulysses*.

"The past year has been an incredible learning curve for me—this being my first major undertaking of this size and international scope," she says. The success of *Wandering Rocks, Revolving Doors* was evidenced, she adds, not only by local and international media coverage, but also by the continuing relationships and collaborations that evolved between the participating artists and the art community in Dublin.

Now back in the States, Sakash is currently working on a CD-ROM catalogue for the WRd project as well as future curatorial and creative projects. *Wandering Rocks, Revolving Doors* can be viewed online at www.WrRd.org.

—Julie Quinn

Finis Origine Pendet

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hours in the dining hall after everyone else had gone back to their rooms. By June, when it was time to return to California, I still didn't know in which direction the ocean sat.

Returning was fine with me, incidentally—or so I thought. I have claimed that it takes five years to feel comfortable in any place, and no residency is long enough to become part of the scenery. So we came "home" and rented a condominium and returned to being very Californian. And I fell into a funk, a pretty miserable funk. I drove my wife mad with complaints about California—the idiocy of the Motor Vehicles Department, the high cost of everything, the number of people around us all the time, things that had not bothered me before. I began idealizing our time in the East, and I plotted our return, graduate school or a faculty position or the even farther-fetched notion of another residency.

I also went in search of Robert Frost's *New Hampshire*, a book that won Frost one of his four Pulitzer Prizes and the first appearance of "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening." It proved remarkably hard to find. Each time I walked into a used bookstore I would scan the poetry section, but it was not until two years later that I found a copy. It was not a first edition. Those run something like \$500 or \$600, and I couldn't have afforded one anyway. The copy I found cost \$25, less than your average new hardcover book, but I keep it in a plastic baggie as if it were an original of the Magna Carta. It keeps company with my copy of *North of Boston*.

But I live south of San Francisco now, quite a ways south, actually, on the Monterey Peninsula. It has been seven years since we left New Hamp-

shire, and I ought not to complain. If I wanted, I could go and watch the otters playing in the kelp or spend the afternoon on the beach; there is never any shortage of fresh vegetables, and there are more restaurants around here than I can count. Besides, we won't be going back to New Hampshire anytime soon. We have children, and there is insurance to think about, and pay raises, and play groups. That doesn't stop my mind from wandering, though.

Last night, for instance, the baby woke early. She was sick and needed comfort. It took over an hour of rocking before she went back down... and then I couldn't sleep. It was nearly 5 in the morning before I drifted off. And I had the most amazing dream. I dreamt that I rose from the ground, almost like a balloon, and when I reached the tree line I began to soar upwards. Racing against me were dry yellow leaves—definitely New England leaves. It was wildest sensation, a most authentic feeling. I mean to tell you, I was really flying. Who knows where I was going?

But this morning, when I sat at my desk to write, the first thing I did was to hold that rock from Frost's farm in Derry. Part of it is blanched from the sun, and it must weigh a good pound or so, plenty for the paperweight it has become. Of course it is more than a paperweight. It is a link to a place. A piece to a puzzle. A symbol of what matters most.

At the very least, that rock is the only tangible thing I took from New Hampshire. ●

Brian Rogers was the Academy's Bennett Fellow during the 1996-97 school year. He recently received the Faulkner Society prize for Best Novel-in-Progress.