



## EXONIANA DO YOU REMEMBER?

Can you identify the location of this timeless mystery photo? Memories from any era are most welcome. Answers and/or reminiscences will be published in the next issue. Mail to Exoniana, c/o *The Exeter Bulletin*, Phillips Exeter Academy, Communications Office, 20 Main Street, Exeter, NH 03833.

### ANSWER TO THE LAST ISSUE:

Exonians not only remembered the E & R laundry bags sitting in Wheelwright Hall, but also reported that many of you are still using them. One of you even remembered E & R deliveryman “Snooky” Gamble.

### AND THE WINNER IS:

**STEVE MANDEL '74 OF GREENWICH, CT**, who received a Phillips Exeter Academy cheese-and-beverage picnic pack for two. “The photograph depicts returned laundry bags from E & R in the right front entrance to Wheelwright. The laundry may be slightly damp and partially folded, as I recall. I lived in Wheelwright as a lower before it was converted to a girls dorm. My daughter Katie '03 lived there for three years, using the dorm washers and dryers after they were installed.”

### BROKEN BUTTONS

The picture is of laundry day when our shirts came back with broken buttons and inexplicable creases. I would guess it is in Wentworth (or it could be Webster or Wheelwright.)

*Bill Hoyt '58  
Hamilton, MA*

## TWO CONTEST WINNERS EVERY TIME!

**There will be two prizes awarded for the correct answer to the Exoniana contest. One prize will be for the first correct answer received via delivery by the U.S. Postal Service. The rest of the correct answers will be placed into a drawing and one winner will be chosen at random.**



### SKI BAGS

The photo shows the hallway in the lowest level of Wheelwright Hall where the laundry used to be placed for pickup. This hallway was at the bottom of the north stairwell of the building. A large common room is located off this hallway to the left and a smaller common room is just off the hallway to the right. I still have my old laundry bags, which I put to great use when we go skiing.

*Elizabeth (Lissa) Clifford  
Robinson '79  
Falmouth, ME*

### ETCHED IN STONE

The “WH” on each laundry bag stands either for “Wheelwright” or for “Wentworth Hall.” More than 20 years after my own graduation in 1982, I still use the laundry bags that E&R laundry issued to me when I moved into

Dow 4 in September 1980. The cloth bags are indestructible and I suspect that the indelible ink that they used to write my name on each bag is more permanent than the etching in stone above the Academy Building door! One of the kindest people around the school was “Snooky” Gamble, the E&R laundry man who made the rounds at the Academy. I bumped into him everywhere, from my friends’ dorms to the gym. Occasionally I would be out on a training run on Route 108 and I would see him driving his truck back toward the Academy and he would wave and call out some encouraging words. I haven’t met a more friendly man in the cleaning business since.

*Judd Kruger Levingston '82  
Philadelphia, PA*

*Editor’s note: Congratulations to Judd Levingston '82 for winning the second prize. All names except for the first one received were placed into an envelope and Judd’s name was drawn. Enjoy your picnic pack!*



*“Snooky” Gamble, the E&R laundry man, in the spring of 1982.*

## TELLTALE MARKS

Once again, the Exoniana quiz brings back a set of memories. Since the laundry bags in the photo are fairly well organized, I'll wager that the picture actually depicts a clean laundry drop-off; my recollection is that we students tended to toss out outgoing wash in a rather chaotic pile when racing off to breakfast or our first classes. I recall that each year, each student was given two laundry bags marked with their name and dorm room. Prescient students, anticipating the bags' general usefulness for non-laundry tasks, would save their bags from year to

year, using each whenever possible—extra vacation luggage, moving home or to college, etc. I also recall that E&R would print a laundry mark on each clothing item sent them. At great risk of personal embarrassment, I'll admit that even after graduating—for a shameful number of years after!—I'd occasionally pull something out of the drawer with that telltale laundry mark, an inarguable reminder not only of the general aging process, but also of my stuck-in-high-school fashion sense and my desperate need to go clothes shopping again. (I

think I can safely say that at long last, I have no E&R laundry marks in my wardrobe today.) As always, thanks for the sojourn down memory lane.

Ali T. Kokmen '88  
New York, NY

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SETTING THE RECORD  
STRAIGHT ON A RECORD-  
BREAKING SEASON

I write you about a small error in the fine article about Exeter fall athletics in the winter 2004 *Bulletin*. The article about the 2003 undefeated Exeter football team stated that the last time the Academy achieved similar success was 1957.

I believe the year should be 1956. I arrived as a lower middler in the fall of 1956, and will never forget watching Exeter roll over one opponent after another. Its smallest margin of victory was 26 points. The team outclassed every opponent from the UNH freshmen to Andover,

good was that 1956 was Bill Clark's last year after two decades of coaching. The Exeter team included several superb PG players, or as they were called in those days "non-returning uppers." So players like Charlie Ravenel '57, who later went to Harvard, and Dick Edmunds '57, who later went to Princeton, Dick Eustis '57, John Trimpey '57 and Will Sawyer '57 joined an already good team to make it great. My only regret is that the team played just seven games that year, versus the 10 played by the unbeaten team last fall.

Donald C. (Jeb) Stuart III '59  
Princeton, NJ

magazine) made a generous donation to the paper to make the transition possible.

Bob Gambee '60  
Rye, NY

## REX MCGUINN: A ROLE MODEL

Congratulations on the consistently high readability of your winter 2004 issue. I especially enjoyed Katherine Towler's feature on the past and present of *The Exonian*. I roomed with Alec Clowes and Greg Wolfe in college, yet don't recall their ever boasting about the high level of journalism they practiced in stopping the presses to cover President Kennedy's assassination. Thanks to the *Bulletin*, I have learned of their achievement.

Capturing the breadth and depth of faculty member Rex McGuinn's personality in prose is a daunting task, yet the writers of Rex's "In Memoriam" have done wonderfully well. I think of Rex almost every day. He is my model of patience, wit and quiet exuberance. Exeter has been blessed with many great teachers. Rex McGuinn is among them.

Years ago, when I served as editor of the *Bulletin*, I made a reference to Rex that I would like to set straight. After his JV basketball team scored a near-miraculous overtime upset against Andover, I wanted to compare him to a highly successful college coach. I chose Indiana's Bobby Knight. This must have been early in our friendship, when I didn't know better, because surely I meant Dean Smith of Rex's beloved University of North Carolina. Typically, Rex never corrected me.

David W. Johnson  
Milledgeville, GA



From the 1957 PEAN

winning that traditional match-up 45–6.

The entire student body was sent by special train to Andover to watch the season-ending contest. We were so excited and making so much noise before the kickoff, we never heard the Andover band playing the national anthem until the last few bars.

One of the reasons why the team was so

## EXONIAN MILESTONES

I enjoyed reading about the history of *The Exonian*, especially since my father ran the publication in 1919. Two major events occurred in 1999 that should be noted: The format increased from its old tabloid size to a full broadsheet and the paper changed to an all-color format.

These ideas were those of David Roman '00 and his co-editor, Rachel Dry '00, as part of

a broad vision they brought to the paper to overhaul its format, its role on campus and its presence among alumni/ae.

David Roman also had the idea of charging parents for a subscription (which they could elect to decline). In the process, revenues rose from \$15,000 to \$60,000, and the paper became profitable.

In addition, six generous alumni (led by Bruce Hallett '67, then president of *Time*