



Cap and Gown

April 2003

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Chairman's Letter

Dear Member of Cap and Gown:

There seems to be a four to six week lag between the time your humble scribe pens this Newsletter and it physically finds its way to your mail box. Even with electronic transmission, Club mailings are not high priority with the PU Mailing Department. Yet, as the keeper of the up-to-date mailing address list, they are the only way we can efficiently communicate with our defined constituency. In other words, to attempt to maintain our own list, tracking the peregrinations of our esteemed membership, would be virtually an impossible task. Alas, I therefore wonder what the world will be like in early May when you are reading this. Forgive me if I express today deep and serious concern for affairs outside of Princeton.

But then, that is not the purpose of this letter which bi-annually attempts to share news from 61 Prospect Street. And so to more parochial subjects.

I am confident that the snow will eventually melt and that the flowering trees will blossom in the warm sunshine that will allow us to turn off the furnace and reduce our heating bills. This winter, as is well known, has been one of extreme cold and extra snow. Central New Jersey has been registering more snow than traditional snow belt spots like Ithaca and Buffalo! Princeton in the Spring. Now there is a positive thought.

Bicker and the Class of 2005

I had the distinct pleasure of meeting with most of the members of the new Sophomore Section from the Class of 2005. They were gathered one cold and snowy night in February in the library after dinner to "be polite and listen to the Grad Board Chair talk about the Club". They were both polite and good listeners and I think we were able to help to establish a foundation of the rights, privileges and responsibilities that accompany Club Life at Princeton. Hopefully, too, there was a recognition that there is a lot that has gone on at the Club before the Spring of 2003 and there will be, most likely, many decades of activity afterwards. Each class receives a gift from prior sections that is the fabric of the tradition of Cap and Gown and each class has a responsibility not to break the chain of excellence. That is a responsibility and a privilege. We are proud to have taken an outstanding group of 72 new members from the Class of 2005 and eight additional members from the Class of 2004. Enclosed herewith is a list of the new members together with their home town and place of secondary education.



New Officers Elected by Undergrads.

As is customary in February, the Senior class turns to the completion of their independent work and the task of finding employment (or a safe academic haven for further study) and the membership elects the new officers for the continued operation of 61 Prospect Street. This seems to be an increasing responsibility and it takes a lot of spirit and savvy to take on the job. We are indeed fortunate to have a great group of new officers. See Photo. Hopefully they are able to repeat the excellent job that our outgoing leaders did in 2002-3.

Extra! Extra! Students at Princeton drink before turning 21.

I don't mean to make light of the problem of drinking at Princeton but recently there are some cross-currents and rule changes that are causing headaches more than hangovers. There can be no excuse for dangerous and irresponsible drinking. And there is, at least at Cap, zero tolerance for anything that looks, tastes or smells like coercive drinking or peer pressure gamesmanship involving alcohol.

In recent years, there has been a major effort at "crowd control" with as many as seven bouncers stationed at all entry points on any given night.

Additionally, an ID must be shown which establishes that the person is a member or a guest of a member and is either of age or not. If the person is of age, he/she receives a wrist band which gives access to the tap room and to being served. Otherwise, even though the person is welcome into the building, they are not served.

A part of the problem is, of course, the growth in the University. There are more students and fewer eating clubs, thus fewer venues for fun and games. The Frist Campus Center is a great addition but it is just that, a campus center. The four year colleges when constructed will help. But there continues to be pressure on the handful of eating Clubs that provide a place to dance and socialize on a Saturday night.

Some of you may have noticed a reference to Cap and Gown in the Princeton Alumni Weekly dated March 12, 2003. Unfortunately one of our new sophomores had far more to drink than she could possibly handle and was unconscious in the Ladies Room on the second floor. The student officers did what they have been told to do: call University Health Services and arrange for transport to McCosh Infirmary. A proctor or proctors were deployed who decided that they should call for the town's Emergency Squad. Automatically that creates a police report which then caused the town police to bring charges for "serving minors" and "maintaining a nuisance" against Cap and Gown, as an organization. Matt Groh '03, our Senior President who had only 18 hours remaining in his tour of duty as President, was personally cited as the Club's representative. Although the hearing on these charges has been postponed, the University immediately took action and placed Matt on "probation" for 90 days. This would never have been the result last year or the year before. Getting help should be the first thought that a student has. Of course, prevention and personal responsibility are cornerstones to improving the dangerous situation of underage drinking. But we adults need to talk this through together and establish some safe and workable ground rules for our student population. To randomly and, in my mind, unfairly criminalize responsible behavior is not the right lesson. And why is the town police force taking on the role of disciplinarian? Are they no longer satisfied that the job is getting done across the street?

The drunken student is fortunately in good health. Presumably, she has learned a valuable lesson about personal responsibility.

After Dinner Speakers Series

The Senior Officers arranged two winter fire-side chats after dinner within the past eight weeks and as both were highly successful it is planned to continue with several more similar meetings. The first speaker was the very popular Professor Cornell West who challenged a packed audience in the Library to an evening of pointed discussion and debate. Next in the series was President Shirley Tilghman who spoke on her scholarly interests in molecular biology and apparently avoided discussing the challenges of Nassau Hall.

Alumni Dues and Voluntary Giving.

By now, those of you who have not yet celebrated your 30th Reunion will have received a "dues" letter from our hard working Graduate Treasurer Drew Forbes '82. Please remember the pledge you made when becoming an undergraduate member and send in your dues check. These funds are vitally important to the financial operation of



Top left: President: Lizzy Biney-Amissah '04, Community: Kris Williams '04, Computers: Matt Stack '04, Treasurer: Tim Releford '04
Middle left: Intramurals: Chris White '04, House: Josh McCaughey '04, Bicker: Pete Schwaikert '04, Vice-president: McGregor Johnson
Front: Social: Akila Raman '04

the Club and help us to keep our charges to the current Undergraduates down to the best extent possible. And for all of us, we've enclosed another envelope for our Cap and Gown voluntary giving effort. Funds contributed to the Prospect Foundation, Cap and Gown Fund are tax deductible. Checks just written to Cap and Gown are welcomed into our building maintenance funds and will be expended on one or more projects around 61 Prospect to improve/maintain the living standards within our aging structure.

Reunions

Reunions is always a good time to visit the Club House and to renew old friendships and to make new ones. Following the P-rade there is always a gathering of the Clan in the Club House and all are welcome. There will be again some refreshments and guaranteed good companionship. The Club will, however, be closed and locked each night of Reunions weekend at 1:00 a.m. We do not mean to be unfriendly but the Board adopted this policy out of necessity last year and it will be strictly enforced again in 2003. Please note particularly that no person, other than our undergraduate officers, will be permitted to sleep at the Club.

Sincerely,

Michael S Mathews '62

Michael S. Mathews '62
Chairman



Andy McCagg '05 during Club karaoke night.

Sophomore Section

Kristel Adler '04, Belleville IL, Belleville East HS
 Jennifer Austin '05, Warwick RI, Wheeler School
 Alejandra Barbosa '05, Rowland CA, Bishop Amat HS
 Solomon Barnett '05, Ruidose Downs NM, Ruidose HS
 Briana Bennett '05, Warwick RI, Philips Exeter Academy
 Jon Berger '05, Bryn Mawr PA, Radnor HS
 Branden Benson '05, Puyallup WA, Auburn HS
 Aaron Bianco '05, Richmond CA, De La Salle HS
 Alexandra Brown '05, Los Altos CA, Los Altos HS
 Scott S. Bynum '05, Summerville SC, Summerville HS
 Jennifer Byrd '05, Virginia Beach VA, Norfolk Academy
 Tristan Campbell '04, Cambria Heights NY, Lawrence Woodmeere Academy
 Ryan Carpenter '05, Kenilworth NJ, St Joseph HS
 Jennifer Cox '04, Upper Darby PA, Archbishop Prendergast
 Carolyn Cross '05, New Canaan CT, New Canaan HS
 Nicole Davida '05, Closter NJ, NVRHS Demarest
 Michael Dey '05, Kentfield CA, Redwood HS
 Brandon Devers '05, Lexington KY, Lexington Catholic HS
 Adam Farren '05, East Chatham NY, Phillips Exeter
 Kristina Fontanez '04, Poughkeepsie NY, Ketcham HS
 Shern Fredrick '05, Cocoyea Trinidad, Presentation College
 Andrew N. Geant '05, Scarborough NY, Scarborough HS
 Courtney Green '05, Eden Prairie NM, Edina HS
 Wallace A. Green III '05, Va. Beach VA, Princess Anne
 Christianne Greer '04, Washington DC, Naharal Cathedral
 Brea Griffiths '05, Burlington Ontario Canada, Nelson HS
 Blythe Haaga '05, La Canada CA, Polytechnic HS

Andrea Hafeman '05, Hillborough CA, Menlo School
 Taryn Haladay '05, Lake Oswego OR, Lakeridge HS
 David Huestis '05, Columbus OH, Columbus Academy
 Clare P. Hunt '05, Pointe-Claire Quebec, Trafalgar School
 Caroline Joei '05, Tenafly NJ, Horace Mann School
 Rebecca Jones '05, New York NY, Horace Mann School
 Michael J. Kopp '05, Kings Ferry NY, Southern Layuga
 Elizabeth Kennedy '05, Delran NJ, Delran HS
 Ashleigh Kreider '05, Blue Bell PA, Wissahickon HS
 Amy C. Krilla '05, Tinton Falls NJ, Red Bank Catholic
 John Langford '05, Roswell GA, Lassiter
 William Miller Leahy '04, Chevy Chase MA, Landon School
 Chris W. Lebeis '05, Northville MI, Northville HS
 Adam Alexander Leive '05, Bryn Mawr Pa, Radnor HS
 Kristin Lueke '05, Valencia CA, William S. Hart HS
 Kristin C. Lynch '05, Vija La Cuesta CA, Santa Margarita
 Paul W. Lyons '05, Norwood Ma, Roxbury Latin
 William K. Lytle '05, Fremont OH, Fremont Ross
 Joel Mancl '05, Rhinelander WI, Rhinelander HS
 Andrew McConnon '05, Brampton Ontario, St. Michaels
 Julia E. Miller '05, Ann Arbor MI, Ann Arbor Pioneer
 Avi Millman '05, New York NY, Collegiate School
 Sylvia Morelli '05, San Francisco CA, St. Ignatius
 Tony Mungovan '05, Country Club Hills IL, Bremen HS
 Megumi Nakamura '05, Park Ridge IL, Maine South
 Joseph J. Nardello '05, Berlin NJ, St. Joseph HS
 Creighton Page '05, Louisville KY, St. Xavier
 Lauren Palmer '05, Toms River NJ, Toms River HS East
 Claire Pearson '04, Princeton NJ, Peddie School
 Carolyn Pichert '05, Nashville TN, M L King Magnet HS
 Elizabeth Pillion '05, Villanova PA, Episcopal Academy
 Morgan E. Prewitt '05, Laurel PA, Worcester Preparatory
 Lauren Quinn '05, Watertown PA, Watertown HS
 Lawrence A. Reicher '05, Wayne NJ, Wayne HS
 Thalia Anne Ries '05, Madison Lake MN, Mankato East
 Blake Robinson '05, Aliso Viejo CA, Santa Margarita Catholic HS
 Blaire Russell '05, San Francisco CA, Convent of the Sacred Heart HS
 Chandra Russell '05, San Francisco CA, Convent of the Sacred Heart HS
 Ashley Sennett '05, Albion ME, Winslow HS
 Nevena Simidjijyska '05, Brookline MA, Princeton HS
 Kent R. Siri '05, Plano TX, Greenhill School
 Sarah Skinner '05, Seattle WA, Lakeside HS
 Leigh Slonaker '05, Summit NJ, Oak Knoll School
 Charles Austin Smith '05, Midlothian VA, Midlothian HS
 Timothy J. Sullivan '05, Cockeysville MD, Loyola Blakefield
 Michen Tah '04, Montgomery Village MD, Watkins Mill HS
 Alexis Somme Tingan '05, Beaumont TX, Monsignor Kelly Catholic HS
 Ini Udo-Inyang '05, Grosse Pointe MI, U of D Jesuit HS
 Katherine Wall '04, Columbus IN, Columbus East HS
 Michael Weishuhn '05, Brighton MI, Pinkney HS
 Kevin Wong '05, Newark DE, Archmere Academy
 Allison A. Yewdell '05, Silver Spring MD, John F. Kennedy
 Daria Zamolodchikov, East Brunswick NJ, East Brunswick