COMMENCEMENT 2007

A FEW RAIN DROPS fell as faculty processed toward Penn Hall on Sunday morning, May 20, to start the College’s 172nd Commencement exercises, but the skies quickly cleared and the weather remained perfect until President Katherine Haley Will handed the last two graduates, co-vealedictorians Jenna Marie Deaven and Erin Eileen Podlesny, their degrees. Harold Prince, theatrical producer and director, addressed the 599 graduates, saying: “If we remain inactive, accept the loss of principle, compromise our values, and redefine our responsibilities, our nation, and everything unique and idealistic that it stands for, is perishable.”

One of America’s best known producers and directors, Prince received a National Medal of Arts in 2000 from former President William Clinton for a career spanning more than 40 years. The recipient of more than 20 Tony Awards, he was also a 1994 Kennedy Center Honoree.

Prince directed the premiere productions of Cabaret, the original Sweeney Todd, A Little Night Music, The Phantom of the Opera, She Loves Me, Company, Evita, and other musicals. Before becoming a director, his productions included The Pajama Game, Damn Yankees, West Side Story, Fiddler on the Roof, and A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum. He has also directed numerous plays. He has prepared a new version of The Phantom of the Opera, which is running in Las Vegas at the Venetian Hotel, and is directing the new musical LoveMusik, which recently premiered on Broadway.

Shoshana S. Cardin, chair and founder of the Shoshana S. Cardin Foundation, gave the Betty M. Barnes Memorial Award in Biology. Jenna Marie Deaven, of Ono, Pa., and Erin Eileen Podlesny, of New Tripoli, Pa., graduated as valedictorians of the Class of 2007. All graduated Phi Beta Kappa and summa cum laude.

President Katherine Haley Will delivers greetings to the Class of 2007. "If we remain inactive, accept the loss of principle, compromise our values, and redefine our responsibilities, our nation, and everything unique and idealistic that it stands for, is perishable." —Harold Prince, to the Class of 2007

Jenna Marie Deaven, Ono, Pa., and Erin Eileen Podlesny, New Tripoli, Pa., graduated as valedictorians of the Class of 2007. Nicole M. Gogluizza, of Hamburg, Pa., Christopher M. Hoffman Jr., of Wassaic, NY, and Layne Kathryn Pavol, of Carlisle, Pa., were salutatorians. All graduated Phi Beta Kappa and summa cum laude.

Deaven received a bachelor of science degree with a major in physics and was awarded the Miller-Mara Senior Prize in Physics. Podlesny earned a bachelor of science degree with a major in chemistry and was awarded the Stine Chemistry Prize.

Gogluizza received a bachelor of science degree with a major in biology; Hoffman earned a bachelor of science degree with a major in chemistry; and Pavol received a bachelor of science degree with a major in biology. Hoffman was awarded the John B. Zinn Chemistry Research Award, and Pavol was given the Betty M. Barnes Memorial Award in Biology.

Maribeth Black ’07, who will work for the Peace Corps in Madagascar this fall, signs the class book.

Valedictorians and salutatorians: Jenna Deaven (left), Nicole Gogluizza, Maribeth Black ’07, Erin Podlesny, and Christopher Hoffman Jr.

Members of the Class of 2007 make their entrance at Commencement, marching toward Penn Hall to receive their diplomas. Several members of the class have family who are also graduates of Gettysburg. Their picture, and others, can be viewed on the College’s website, www.gettysburg.edu.
The Way We Were

Gettysburg College Celebrates 175 Years

50 years ago: Between 1907 and 1957 Gettysburg College grew considerably, adding some 15 new buildings to the campus. The President’s House was built in 1915 (originally as Prof. Stahley’s house; now the Eisenhower House, home to Admissions). Huber Hall was added in 1917, with Alumni Hall (formerly Alpha Tau Omega and now the home of the Eisenhower Institute) following. Weidensall Hall was built in 1923, then Stahley Hall in 1924 (originally Phi Kappa Psi, then math and education).

Both Breidenbaugh Science Hall and Eddie Plank Memorial Gymnasium were constructed in 1927, and Schmucker Library in 1929. The College Book Store followed in 1939. After World War II numerous residence halls were built: Hanson Hall (1950), Stine Hall (1951), Paul Hall (1957), and Rice Hall (1957). Christ Chapel was built in the same era, 1953.

In 1957 full tuition, room, and board at Gettysburg College cost $1,425 a year, with an additional $50 to $70 required for books and supplies. Enrollment stood at exactly 1,400 with 1,072 men and 328 women. About 56 percent of the students came from Pennsylvania. There were about 107 faculty members.

In those days Glatfelter Hall housed the College administration and the departments of Mathematics, Latin, Psychology, Bible, History, Philosophy, Greek, English, Political Science, Economics, Education, and Biology, as well as classrooms for Military Science & Tactics. Penn Hall, or “Old Dorm,” contained 85 rooms for students.

There were 12 national fraternities, one local fraternity, and five national sororities — with housemothers in all fraternity residences. Both Army and Air Force R.O.T.C. were on campus. Class attendance was required, as was Chapel attendance twice a week. That year the Honor System was introduced.

175th Anniversary Celebration Ends

Gettysburg College closed the celebration of its 175th anniversary the same way it began — with a bang! A fireworks display on Reunion Weekend signaled the finale of a year-long tribute to the College’s rich history. From special events and lectures to one-of-a-kind performances and presentations, this past anniversary year was packed full of events that celebrated 175 years of Gettysburg history.

We hope you were able to celebrate with us near or far — dressing in as much orange and blue throughout the year as possible. Here are a few pictures that give a sampling of what happened on campus this spring.

Visual comedian Pete Guist performed two shows at the Majestic Theater as part of Gettysburg College’s 175th anniversary celebration. “Guist is funnier than a congress of clowns,” said Jeffrey Gabel, executive director of the Majestic Theater. Both performances, part of a college-community celebration, were free to the public.

In celebration of the College’s 175th Anniversary, a Founders Day Convocation, “Still Relevant After All These Years? A Presidential Perspective on Liberal Arts Colleges in the 21st Century,” featured a panel of three college presidents discussing current issues in the liberal arts. Speaking were Baird Tipson (right), president of Washington College (and former provost of Gettysburg College); Lorna Duphiny Edmundson, president of Wilson College, and Don Harward, President Emeritus of Bates College. President Katherine Will served as moderator.

Theatre arts professor George Muschamp as Thaddeus Stevens (left) and theatre arts major Erin Wilks ’09 as Lydia Hamilton Smith in Thaddeus Stevens: The Play, which highlighted key events of Stevens’ life (1792–1868) through a conversation he has with his housekeeper, Smith. Stevens was one of the founders of Gettysburg College.

Behind the stage, American composer Libby Larsen with music professors Lewes Peddell (left) and Rob Natter and members of the Gettysburg College Community Orchestra and Gettysburg College Choir, shortly before the world premiere of Crowding North. The piece, commissioned by the College in celebration of its 175th anniversary, was part of the Sunderman Conservatory’s 175th Anniversary Concert, “Celebration of American Composers,” at the Majestic Theater. Lyrics for Crowding North came from the poetry of English professor Deborah Larsen Cowan.
IN THE MEDIA

- President Katherine Haley Will was interviewed by WCBS-TV in New York on April 30 regarding the presentation of the Lincoln Prize to historian Douglas L. Wilson for his book, Lincoln’s Sword: The Presidency and the Power of Words. Wilson serves as co-director of the Lincoln Studies Center at Knox College in Galesburg, Ill. Will was pleased to honor Wilson with the prize, as it is the “most prestigious award for history scholarship in the country.” To view the news clip, click on the College’s podcasting site Podium at www.gettysburg.edu/podium.

- Eighteen Gettysburg College students traveled to Greensboro, N.C., for spring break to work for Habitat for Humanity’s Collegiate Challenge, and their story was captured by News 14 Carolina. The group was part of more than 12,000 students across the country who volunteered during March. Psychology major Tria Lee ’07 explained why she and others made the trip over a week that is typically dedicated to relaxing: “I figured this would be my last chance to do something good with the College. I wanted to come and help someone else.” The group spent the week painting, cleaning, and building a storage shed for a deserving family.

- In a May 2 Reuters article, “As troubles mount, Bush refuses to budge,” about President Bush’s veto of legislation that would have imposed a timetable for United States troop withdrawal from Iraq, political science professor and presidential scholar Shirley Anne Warshaw commented: “George W. Bush is of a mind-set that says, ‘You’re not going to tell us what to do.’ The ‘decider’ still hasn’t learned to be the ‘compromiser.’”

JANET RIGGS ’77 NAMED COLLEGE PROVOST

After a national search Janet Riggs ’77 has been named provost at the College.

Riggs has served Gettysburg College for 25 years as a professor of psychology and as an administrator. Her position as interim provost during the 2006–07 academic year marked her second term in that role. She also served as interim provost from 1995 to 1996. Riggs was also executive assistant to the president under President Gordon Haaland from 1991 to 1994.

As executive assistant to President Haaland in the early 1990s, Riggs took a leadership role in several major College initiatives, including the establishment of the College’s first daycare center, inclusion of sexual orientation in the College’s Equal Opportunity statement, and chair of the Enrollment Planning Group, which resulted in a more aggressive merit aid policy as well as new strategies to increase the applicant pool, yield, and diversity.

After graduating summa cum laude from Gettysburg College with a major in psychology and mathematics, Riggs received a master’s degree and Ph.D. in social psychology from Princeton University. She began her academic career as an instructor in psychology at Gettysburg, where she has been promoted through the ranks to professor of psychology. She has also served as chair of the psychology department. She teaches courses in experimental methods, social psychology, and general psychology. Her research interests include expectancy confirmation, gender role stereotypes, and attributions for behavior. She has published numerous articles on her research and currently serves as consulting editor for the Psychology of Women Quarterly.

Riggs is the recipient of the Gettysburg College Student Senate Faculty Appreciation Award, the Thompson Award for Distinguished Teaching, and the Woman of Distinction Award presented by the women students of the College.

Kudos to...

...Paul Austerlitz (music), whose book Jazz Consciousness: Music, Race, and Haminy has won the Alan Merriam Prize for the best English language book in ethnomusicology...Maribeth Black ’07, who won a Fulbright English teaching assistantship to Indonesia...Julie Ramsey (College Life), who was selected as one of three people to participate as part of an international delegation in an exchange in the United Arab Emirates. The program, sponsored by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), included visits to universities and colleges in the United Arab Emirates.

Author Chang-rae Lee speaks on campus

Chang-rae Lee, named by The New Yorker magazine as one of the 20 best American writers under age 40, held a reading on campus as part of the Writing House Reading Series. A native of Seoul, Korea, Lee emigrated to the United States with his parents when he was three. His first novel, Native Speaker, explores the life of a Korean American outsider who is involved in espionage; it won the PEN/Hemingway Award and the American Book Award. He has since published two more novels, A Gesture Life and Aloft.

Since 1997, the Writing House, the College’s residential program for students interested in writing, has hosted more than 50 creative writers and literary editors, including New York Times best-selling author Elizabeth Strout and New Yorker fiction editor-in-chief Deborah Treisman.

Two students chosen as Finnegan Fellows

Political science majors Rachael Burg ’08 and Ben Melusky ’08 were chosen as two of the six Finnegan Foundation award winners this year. The Finnegan Foundation, established in 1960 to honor the memory of James A. Finnegan, former Pennsylvania secretary of the Commonwealth, works to provide practical training through internships in government and politics for outstanding undergraduate students.

“Both Ben and Rachel were chosen from a large pool of applications,” said Shirley Anne Warshaw, professor of political science. “It is truly amazing that we had two of the six winners from Gettysburg College.”

To be chosen, students must exhibit exceptional skills academically, strong community involvement, and write a successful policy proposal on a selected topic. This year’s topic was an assessment of how the state of Pennsylvania should be addressing problems of identity theft.

“It is such an honor to be chosen as a Finnegan Fellow,” said Burg, who is originally from New London, Wis., and plans to attend law school after graduation. Fellow recipient Melusky, originally from Dover, Pa., agreed. “The experiences I will gain from this internship will allow me a new understanding of state politics and present me with numerous networking possibilities,” she said.

Rachel Burg ’08 and Ben Melusky ’08, Finnegan Foundation award winners.

Two former members of Congress on campus

The 10th Annual Blavatt Lecture, “The Future of Political Parties,” featured Tom Daschle, former majority leader of the U.S. Senate, and Richard Armey, former majority leader of the U.S. House of Representatives. The lecture was part of a two-day symposium coordinated by the College’s Eisenhowen Institute.

“Essentially, independents constitute a third major political party, and one that is growing,” Daschle told the sizable audience gathered in the CUB Ball Room. “As technologies and communication become more sophisticated, candidates will find more and more effective ways to reach out to the unaffiliated plurality.”

Daschle, from South Dakota, also executive assistant to the president of the Democratic Party and was defeated November 2004 by Republican candidate John Thune. He is currently a special policy advisor at the law firm Alston & Bird, visiting professor at the Georgetown Public Policy Institute at Georgetown University, and a Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress. Armey is a former U.S. Representative from Texas’s 26th Congressional District.

He was one of the architects of the “Republican Revolution” of the 1990s, in which Republicans were elected to majorities of both houses of Congress, and the chief author of the Republican Contract with America.

Inaugurated in 1996, the Blavatt Lecture Series annually brings to Gettysburg College individuals whose professional experiences provide a unique perspective on the American political system. The lecture is made possible by the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Blavatt of Owings Mills, Md. Both of the Blavatts’ sons graduated from Gettysburg College, as did their spouses: Jeffrey ’88 and Kelly ’03, and Jason ’90 and Amy ’91.
In the spring 2007 issue of Gettysburg there was picture on page 38 of three guys and a girl in a tree. No names listed. They are Susie (Garrison) Mayer, Bill Mayer, Bob Lebak, and Glen Keller — all TKEs from the Class of ’74. The tree was in the front yard, left side of the TKE house. Wow, we were handsome.

Chris Marshall ’74
Wilmington, Dela.

I always enjoy reading Gettysburg, and I especially enjoyed the article about Steve Morin, who is the son of a high school classmate. Delores, and her husband Bill, who is a close college friend. However, I think that there needs to be a correction in the article. I appreciated the reference on page 18 that I am considered one of the College’s athletic immortals, but I think that name belongs to my father, Henry “Hen” Bream ’24, rather than to me. His name graces the Bream-Wright-Hauser athletic complex, and he is one of the athletic immortals of Gettysburg College. I had the pleasure of playing for my father in basketball and baseball and enjoyed my playing career at Gettysburg College, but would never have been considered one of the College’s immortals. I’m sure my teammates got a good laugh out of that.

Jack Bream ’57
Naples, Fla.

Students visit National Geographic television
Nine students in Prof. Matthew Amster’s course on anthropology film, Ethnographic Film: Theory and Practice, went on a day-long field trip to National Geographic headquarters in Washington, D.C. The trip was made at the invitation of filmmaker and producer Jonathan Halperin, who is the executive producer for the National Geographic Explorer series of National Geographic Television.

At the time of the visit, all students were in the final stages of producing their own 10-minute ethnographic films, a required component of the course. The class focused broadly on issues of representation in anthropologically informed filmmaking — commonly known as “ethnographic” film — and is one of only a few in the College’s new Film Studies program that offers hands-on digital video production.

While at National Geographic, the group met with producers, writers, and film editors, each of whom took them through various aspects of the production process. A number of the students in the course plan to intern at National Geographic this summer.

Students get a taste of the land use “sweet life”
From an urban center to a rural housing community, students experienced many kinds of land development firsthand in a political science seminar on Public Policy, Property, and Politics. Prof. Donald Tannenbaum and visiting policy expert Mark Berg — who has an extensive history in Gettysburg area land use issues, both as a public official and activist — led numerous field trips. Locations included the planned communities of Reston, Va., where founder Robert E. Simon conducted a tour, and Kentlands, Md., and Hundredfold Farm near Gettysburg. The latter is a multi-generational intentional community with jointly owned open spaces and a commitment to sustainable living. Its leaders include Professor Emeritus of Religion Lou Hammann.

SCHMUCKER ART GALLERY

Exhibition Schedule 2007 – 2008

Student Exhibition
Aug. 20 – Sept. 9, 2007

Opinions/Perceptions: Contemporary Hispanic Art from Pennsylvania and Maryland

Art of the Gettysburg Review
Reprensentation in Contemporary American Painting

A Sculpture, Some Drawings, and My Relationship with Jane Eyre:
New Works by Mark Warwick

SWAP, Selected Works by Art Professors:
Syracuse Florence Art Faculty
Feb. 22 – March 30, 2008

Student Exhibition
April 10 – May 2, 2008

Senior Exhibition
May 2 – 18, 2008

Do great work