

Vroman's Empire: Joel Sheldon '66

Fair Thee Well: Becky Bailey-Findley '76 M'80

OCCIDENTAL

SUMMER 2008

MATCH MAKER

Battling leukemia and awaiting a transplant, Erica Murray '01 becomes a crusader for the national bone marrow registry

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OCCIDENTAL COLLEGE MAGAZINE

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 3 SUMMER 2008

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A Pasadena institution for more than a century, Vroman's has thrived while rival bookstores shutter their doors—which CEO Joel Sheldon '66 links to passion, people, planning, and persistence.

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Becky Bailey-Findley '76 M'80 may be retiring after 15 years as CEO of the Orange County Fair, but she'll be back each July for the friendships—as well as Tasty Chips.

22 PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO

Erica Murray '01 was on her way to a master's degree when she was diagnosed with leukemia in 2006. After a marrow transplant, and adjusting to a new immune system, she is determined to get back to her life—and to use her blog to save other lives.

CORRESPONDENCE

Cover Buoy

A few years ago (Summer 2004) I was on the cover of *Occidental*, in a cow costume, as lead to an article on what some emeriti are doing. Among other things, my wife, Dorothea, and I were entering foot races in costume.

On May 10 in Santa Rosa, we were standing in the street, in our cow suits, waiting for a race to start. A couple stopped, stared at us, and the man asked, “Are you by any chance the Coles?” They were alumni from the Class of ’79, and recognized us from the article.

Barack Obama was on the cover of the next issue. I’ll bet they would have recognized him, too.

DAVE COLE M’48
Sonoma

Fiscal Education

Carl Trieb—a member of the Occidental faculty from 1928 to 1963—was the most dedicated taskmaster we ever faced in education. He gave of himself to the profession so that we could be the best there was in our chosen field. An Oxy physical education teacher trained by Dr. Trieb was someone special. He gave me a great education and a work ethic that continued throughout my life.

More than 22 years after his passing, the Carl Trieb Memorial Fund continues to benefit education majors at Occidental. I encourage my fellow P.E. majors to support this fund—in memory of Dr. Trieb, and in support of an Oxy education.

BOB MALCOLM ’43
Studio City

Occidental Glorious

Regarding the “Correspondence” item titled “Fairly Well Forgotten”: I first want to thank Harry Gage ’49 and College archivist Jean Paule for resurrecting all five verses of our alma mater, “Occidental Fair.” In addition, I want to communicate more about the accreditation for this masterful work.

The author of “Occidental Fair,” William D. Ward, professor of classics, taught Latin and Greek at the College for many years and was known affectionately as the “Grand Old Man of Occidental.” His daughter, Ethel



Life’s a Dance

Having performed with *Tigers on Toes* in the late ’70s, I was moved to see dancers on the cover of the *Spring* magazine. How terrific that these ladies hopped to it and established a dance team. I have fond memories of our instructor, Juanita Dotson, whom I credit with influencing my modern jazz style.

Though no longer as agile as the dancers pictured in the article, I am pleased to be performing professionally still. Spanish dance is my focus now. A flamenco does not reach her prime until her 50s, when she has experienced the range of life’s emotions to express in her performance. The Oxy dancers, three decades behind me, can have a long career ahead of them.

DEANNE POULOS ’80, Phoenix

Ward Johnson, was my aunt by marriage to 1912 graduate Fred McPherson Johnson, who was also a member of the faculty. Dr. Ward wrote the words to “Occidental Fair,” but my aunt wrote the music.

Occidental has always played an important role in my family. My mother, Rachel Johnson Goebel ’18, my sister, Margaret (Goebel) Barnes ’50, as well as many cousins from the Johnson and Chandler families all enjoyed the excellence of an Occidental education. “Occidental Fair” is a special symbol of our Oxy heritage.

JEANINE (GOEBEL) SWIFT ’52
Pearland, Texas

Good to Their Elders

Thank you for all of the exceptional work you do in producing such a quality magazine. I look forward to each issue and read it cover to cover!

Last issue’s letter about the alumni couple that visited after 50 or so years and the wonderful experience that they had on campus (“Random Act of Sweetness”) was a highlight. When someone asks me where my son attends college, I proudly retell the story of the elderly couple and their experience at Oxy during their visit.

I’m so happy my son goes to college with other kind, caring, thoughtful, and mannered young adults!

VICTORIA POLLOCK-GRASSO P’10
Tiburon

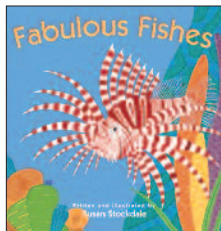
Bookshelf

THE BIN LADENS: AN ARABIAN FAMILY IN THE AMERICAN CENTURY, by Steve Coll ’80 (*Penguin Press*; \$35). The Bin Ladens rose from poverty to privilege; they loyally served the Saudi royal family for generations—and then one of their number changed history on Sept. 11, 2001. Two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Coll (*Ghost Wars: The Secret History of the CIA, Afghanistan, and Bin Laden, From the Soviet Invasion to September 10, 2001*) documents the story of the family’s rise to power, revealing new information to show how U.S. influences changed the clan and how Osama bin Laden’s rebellion changed America. Coll is president and CEO of the New America Foundation in Washington, D.C.

DEATH PENALTY USA: 2003-2004 and DEATH PENALTY USA: 2005-2006, by Michelangelo Delfino & Mary E. (Mackey) Day ’77 (*MoBeta Publishing*; \$49.95 each). In the first two books in a series intended to document all 21st-century capital punishment cases in America, the authors examine every crime for which a person was executed between 2003 and 2006. Some crimes are exacted with uncontrolled rage focused on one specific victim, while others show a total indifference to the life taken. What is common to all these murders is that each one resulted in at least one other death—a judicially ordered execution. The Eighth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution dictates that punishment must fit the crime, forbidding cruel and unusual punishment. Only by studying each of these

horrific crimes, the authors contend, can it be determined if the ultimate sentence of death was imposed with all deference to the laws of a civilized society. Day lives in Tampa, Fla.

FABULOUS FISHES, written and illustrated by Susan Stockdale '76 (*Peachtree Publishers*; \$15.95). With vibrant, richly textured illustrations and lyrical rhymes, *Fabulous Fishes* depicts the breadth of sea life—from the brightly colored clownfish to the deep-dwelling lanternfish that flash lights so that they can find each other in the darkest parts of the ocean. Stockdale (www.susanstockdale.com) has written and illustrated several picture books, including *Nature's Paintbrush* and *Carry Me! Animal Babies on the Move*. She lives in Chevy Chase, Md.



THE MANAGER AS COACH: REMODEL YOUR MANAGEMENT STYLE, by T. Nick Fenger '60 (*Encouragement Press*; \$17.95). Business coaching seeks to understand the nature of work and how people respond to the demands of their job requirements. Licensed psychologist and veteran leadership coach Fenger (www.tnflleadercoach.com) offers readers a comprehensive picture of the foundations of business coaching and some techniques and methods they can use to incorporate those ideas into their management styles. He lives in Ballwin, Mo.

SOJOURN IN CALIDIÁ, by Niama Leslie Williams '85 (*Lulu Publishers*; \$14.95). Cassie Daniels is on the run, and she doesn't quite know who is pursuing her—or what her real mission in Calido is. *Sojourn in Calidia* takes readers through urban landscapes, steamy jungles, and a variety of human consciousnesses as we tease out this young black woman's journey in a land not of her birth, but definitely of her spirit. Williams recently published two collections of her poetry: **FAMOUS FACES** (*Lulu*; \$17.95) and **STEVEN** (*Lulu*; \$17.50), which she describes as “a tracing of the indelible markings each of us makes on the other, and on the collective consciousness of American society.” She has a doctorate in African American literature from Temple University and lives in Norristown, Pa.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A TEACHER: THE REALITY AND GIFT OF TEACHING, by Michael Gose '68 (*Rowman & Littlefield Education*; \$27.95). Gose has been a fourth-grade teacher, 10th-grade English teacher, director of an experimental school, vice principal, principal, professor, director of secondary education, social science teacher, and teacher education division chair. He has mined those experiences with a teacher's playful sense of irony and a deep appreciation of the old wisdom about feeling “the impact of the great, occasional, and accidental joy” that comes with teaching (and from working with students, parents, staff, faculty, and administrators). Gose is professor of humanities at Pepperdine University's Seaver College in Malibu.

ABROAD FOR HER COUNTRY: TALES OF A PIONEER WOMAN AMBASSADOR IN THE U.S. FOREIGN SERVICE, by Jean M. Wilkowski (*University of Notre Dame Press*; \$30). In her 35-year diplomatic career, Wilkowski became the first woman U.S. ambassador to an African country and the first woman acting U.S. ambassador in Latin America. An honorary degree recipient in 1977, she recalls her year as a Diplomat in Residence at Occidental (1976-77) with several engaging anecdotes: “I had to pretend that the house the College had assigned me to live in was an ambassador's residence in some far off county, and to entertain at a series of formal dinners in typical embassy style.”

Briefly Noted

Carla Jean-McNeil Jackson '94, a licensed minister and practicing attorney in Richmond, Va., is among 33 contributors to **THOSE PREACHING WOMEN: A MULTICULTURAL COLLECTION** (*Judson Press*; \$16). Her sermon is titled “Managing God's Challenges.” q Katharine Allen '09, a critical theory/social justice major from North White Plains, N.Y., has published **CRANIUM LEAKAGE ON THE BATHROOM FLOOR** (*Fine Tooth Press*; \$11.95). Her poetry has been included in various literary publications, and her award-winning poem “Cocodrilo” recently appeared in *The Occidental Literary Annual*. q Jennifer Marsh '88 wrote the narrative for **WELCOME TO JORDAN: THE HEART OF THE MIDDLE EAST** (*Promo Skills Co.*), a region-by-region guide to the country's major cities, towns, and attractions of all stripes.

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Dick Anderson
Editor

Samantha B. Bonar '90
Colleen Sharkey
Contributing Writers

Marsha Inouye
Web Editor

Gail (Schulman) Ginell '79
Class Notes Editor

Claudia SanSoucie
Design

Diversified Litho Services
Printing

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To contact *Occidental Magazine*

By phone: 323-259-2679
By fax: 323-341-4967
By e-mail: oxymag@oxy.edu
By mail: Occidental College
Office of Communications F-36
1600 Campus Road
Los Angeles CA 90041-3314

All letters should include the author's name, address, and daytime telephone number. Letters selected for publication may be edited for length, content, and style.



LEFT: Tamara Tolulope Shogaolu, an economics major, with her mother, Brioni James. BELOW RIGHT: Sigma Alpha Epsilon brothers (l-r) William Mitchell, Chris Westman, Ben McNeil, Ryan Mitchell, John Marshall, and Christopher Pitcher mix with Delta Omicron Theta sisters Amy Laslett, center, and Eliana Penzer, second from right.

Heat Advisory

With the temperature climbing toward a record high, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa urged graduating seniors to not sweat the small stuff—and “make some noise”

Photos by Ed Ruvalcaba



ABOVE LEFT: Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa asked graduates to assume a leadership role as part of “America’s first truly global generation.”

ABOVE: Katie Sandoval, a history major from South Pasadena, exults in hearing her name called.

On what turned out to be the hottest Commencement in recent memory—a sweltering 116 degrees in the sun and 96 in the shade—464 members of the Class of 2008 sweated out their last few moments as undergraduates. “I see a generation booming with confidence and optimism,” keynote speaker Antonio Villaraigosa told the crowd in Remsen Bird Hillside Theater. “I see a generation that, as a whole, refuses to sit back and take ‘no’ for an answer. I see the first generation ever to combine such a fierce sense of ambition with such a clear rejection of blind careerism.”

Villaraigosa, who in 2005 was sworn in as the first Latino mayor of Los Angeles in 135 years, stressed the College’s commitment

to diversity and promoting well-rounded graduates who will lead the world and make critical decisions about America’s path and its relationship with the global community. “It’s this spirit that has always put Oxy on the leading edge of opportunity [and] diversity.”

With a ringing vote of confidence, Villaraigosa told the seniors: “We are counting on you to make some noise—to shake the foundations; to stand up and speak up [as] unapologetic and unflagging proponents and defenders of the values of humanism. Let your deeds ring out from East to West!”

Honorary degrees were conferred upon Antonia Hernández and Robert Greenstein—two champions of social causes—as well as computer technology pioneer Ronald Rider ’67, co-inventor of the laser printer. □



FAR LEFT: Torsten Nenzo, an exchange student from Stennweiler, Germany, and Michaelangelo Covino, an art history and the visual arts major from New Canaan, Conn. **LEFT:** Eva Sweeney, a women's studies and gender studies major from Pasadena and Phi Beta Kappa Benjamin H. Culley Prize co-honoree. **RIGHT:** Dwight Murray Jr., an economics major from Bakersfield, wears the colors of Kappa Alpha Psi.



LEFT: Eric Frank, dean of the College and vice president for academic affairs, robes Robert Greenstein, founder of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities in Washington, D.C. **RIGHT:** PC pioneer Ronald Rider '67 holds more than 15 patents from his work at Xerox. **FAR RIGHT:** California Community Foundation president and CEO Antonia Hernández was lauded for her commitment to the betterment of underserved communities.



LEFT: President Bob Skotheim, in blue, and members of the Occidental Board of Trustees join Mayor Villaraigosa, center, and Oxy's honorary degree recipients prior to the ceremony. **BELOW:** Faye Tachibana, a biochemistry major from Aiea, Hawaii, with Whittier College boyfriend Lee Korenaga.

ABOVE: Case Prager, an independent pattern of study major from Los Angeles, shares a smile in the Quad afterward with proud parent, former Oxy President Susan Westerberg Prager.

RIGHT: Sara Camarena, a sociology major from Los Angeles, glows.

BELOW: Mike Salisbury, a biology major from Tucson, poses for a photo with his grandfather, Bill Bennett '53.



ABOVE: Leah Fishbein, an art history and the visual arts major from Atlanta, hugs best friend (and USC graduate) Sophie Whittemore as mom Katie Porter looks on. **LEFT:** Celeste Yu, an Asian studies major from Subang Java, Selangor, Malaysia. **RIGHT:** Evan Gramis, a diplomacy and world affairs major from Fresno, at journey's end.



Presidential Search Update

Smaller Committee Takes More Hands-on Approach

A 14-member committee appointed by the Board of Trustees will conduct a national search for Occidental's 14th president—a process that is expected to culminate in an announcement of the new chief executive by March 31, 2009.

In contrast to the last search, the committee will take a more hands-on approach, according to committee chair and trustee John Farmer. Instead of hiring a search firm, the committee will develop and screen the initial list of candidates, utilizing the extensive contacts of Dennis Collins, board chair and former president of the Irvine Foundation; Bob Skotheim, whose 18-month appointment as Occidental president runs through June 30, 2009; and independent consultant Stanton Hales, president emeritus of the College of Wooster.

“Taking greater ownership of the search will allow us to cast a wider net and speak with a larger number of qualified candidates more candidly, with the goal of recommend-

Photo by John Gaylord '57



Approximately 93 members of the Class of '58—some of them returning to campus for the first time in half a century—gathered in Thorne Hall for Fifty Year Club Day on May 3. From Thursday-night mixers to 10 p.m. curfews for the women, from Pluto platters (aka Frisbees) to Project Africa (a service project that sent seniors Ann Vine and Jim Taylor to West Africa), Oxy memories came flooding back—and a good time was had by all.

ing three outstanding candidates to the Board of Trustees in February,” Farmer says. “While we won't exclude anyone, we will have a bias toward someone with experience with a small liberal arts college.”

The committee's approach also reflects lessons learned from Occidental's last presidential search, based in part by an in-depth analysis by trustee David Berkus '62, who chaired that committee. “We have taken the events of the last year as an opportunity to

reflect on how we do business,” Collins says, adding that the new committee will be looking for a “unifier and communicator” to be Oxy's next president.

In addition to Farmer and Berkus, trustees serving on the committee include Chris Calkins '67, Gloria Duffy '75, and Stephen Rountree '71. Faculty representatives are Mary Christianakis, assistant professor of education; Gretchen North, associate professor of biology; Movindri Reddy, associate professor of diplomacy and world affairs and president of the Faculty Council; and John Swift and Raul Villa, both professors of English and comparative literary studies.

Rounding out the committee are Associated Students of Occidental College president-elect Patrick McCredie '09, a politics and history major from Hemet; Monica Espinoza '10, a politics major from Simi Valley; Barbara Avery, vice president for student affairs and dean of students; and Jim Herr '86, associate registrar.

Appointed by the board April 22, the committee has already held a series of meetings with alumni, faculty, staff, and administrators about the process. Some basic criteria already are clear: “We envision the selection of a new president who will commit to a career of 10 or 12 years at Occidental,” says Farmer. The committee also will provide regular updates on its progress, even as it maintains a strict confidentiality with regards to individual candidates, he adds.

Alumni with suggestions on criteria for the search should contact board secretary Rozita Afar at rafar@oxy.edu.

Spring Sports Wrap-up

Track & Field Standouts Lead All-Conference Honors

On the heels of her SCIAC championship, pole vaulter Kera Bartlett '09 made a second consecutive trip to the NCAA Division III National Track & Field Championships, hosted this year by the University of Wisconsin,

Elissa Chandler '10, photo by Kirby Lee



Oshkosh. Joining the junior pole vaulter, who placed 11th after clearing 11'10.5", was Grace Peck '10, who finished 15th in the 3,000m steeplechase (11:02.54).

Both the men's and women's track and field teams placed fourth at the SCIAC championships, with five individual SCIAC champions crowned including Bartlett (11'5.75"), Libby Mislan '10 (with a time of 58.94 in the 400m), Elissa Chandler '10, (64.60 in the 400m hurdles), Chris Kyles '08 (discus, 158'11") and Kevin Chaves '08 (15:13.93 in the 5,000m), who also won conference titles for this event in 2005 and 2007. Twelve men and 11 women earned All-SCIAC recognition in 2008.

The nationally ranked women's water polo team also finished fourth in the conference, placing four players on All-SCIAC teams. Danielle Montenegro '08 and Karie Nickle '11 each earned First-

Team honors, while juniors Laura Simanonok and Kelly Curtin were named Honorable Mention. Montenegro also earned her fourth All-American recognition during her four-year Oxy career.

The men's and women's tennis teams both finished fifth in the conference following fourth-place finishes at the SCIAC Championships. Jennifer Wahba '09 and Marissa Cassman '10 landed on the First and Second teams, respectively. The Oxy baseball squad (7-14 SCIAC, 15-24 overall) placed three players on the All-Conference Second Team: catcher Adam Franks '08 (for the second consecutive year), pitcher Matthew Jones '09, and outfielder Glenn Gray '10. Rounding out the spring sports as Second Team All-SCIAC honorees were shortstop Gabriela Chavez '11 in softball and Richard Highsmith '10 in golf.

Thinking Globally

With 10 Fulbright Scholars, Oxy Doubles Previous Best

At least 10 Occidental students have won prestigious Fulbright Scholarships to work and study abroad, double the previous record for the College set three years ago. Another five applicants were still awaiting final word at press time.

“Recipients of a Fulbright Fellowship have attained a remarkable personal accomplishment,” says Fulbright program adviser Lynn Dumenil, Robert Glass Cleland Professor of American History, “but I like to think these successful applicants also reflect the way Occidental prepares students for such achievements and assists them in achieving their goals.”

Jean Lee Duong '07, a music major from San Luis Obispo, and Laura Knuttunen '08, an urban and environmental policy major from Watertown, Mass., will teach English in South Korea. Kether Hayden '08, a UEP major from Gresham, Ore., will serve at the school of social sciences of l'Ecole Normale Supérieure de Cachan in France.

Elizabeth Wytychak '08, a cognitive science major from Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, will teach English in Indonesia. Classmates Peter J. Christeleit, a diplomacy and world affairs major from Lingle, Wyo.; Rebecca Shipp, a DWA major from Sebastopol; and Riley Steiner, a biology and DWA double major from Spokane, Wash., will all be going to Malaysia.

Case Prager '08, an independent pattern of study major from Los Angeles, will be posted to Ecuador, and classmate Tamara Shogaolu, an economics major, will be heading to Egypt. Finally, Jessica Abenstein '08, a DWA major from Oronoco, Minn., has received a Fulbright to travel to Tajikistan.

A New Master Plan

Proposal IDs Building Sites; Public Hearings to Follow

Almost five years in the making, Occidental's campus master plan—translated from a vision into regulatory language—has been formally filed with the city of Los Angeles and is expected to start its journey through the public hearing process later this year.

Photo by Kevin Burke



As renovation work proceeds on Erdman Hall, crews have stripped away most of the exterior to reveal the original wooden framing from the building's 1927 construction. Renovations to Erdman, Wylie, and Bell-Young residence halls are expected to be completed by mid-August—just in time for fall convocation.

Unlike the 2006 master plan created by the Pasadena design firm of Moule & Polyzoides, which identified almost two dozen specific building projects, Occidental's new proposal maps out 29 broadly defined “building opportunity sites” that could be used for one or more different purposes.

“This approach gives the College maximum flexibility to meet its future needs and manage the unpredictable availability of funding,” says director of communications Jim Tranquada, part of the administrative team that has shepherded the plan through the lengthy process.

Unchanged would be the existing enrollment cap of 2,000 students and the five basic principles that shaped the original plan: the restoration and reuse of architect Myron Hunt's original buildings, construction on infill sites to promote campus community and minimize impacts on the surrounding neighborhood, the “pedestrianization” of the central campus through the gradual reduction of roads and parking lots, the integration of sustainability measures into new construction and renovation, and a commitment to neighborhood-compatible development.

A full environmental impact report scheduled for completion this summer will analyze the cumulative impact of the maximum 550,250 square feet of new and renovated buildings and athletic facilities. “The plan is admittedly an ambitious one,” Tranquada says. “It's unlikely that all the projects envisioned in the specific plan will be built.” If the report is approved by the city, separate environmental assessments would not need to be performed for each individual project built according to the plan.

Occidental in Brief

Four outstanding faculty members from the sciences, social sciences, and humanities were named the inaugural recipients of the Linda and Tod White '59 Teaching Prize awarded in May. Honorees included Arthur G. Coons Distinguished Professor in the History of Ideas Roger Boesche, professor of kinesiology Stuart Rugg, associate professor of economics Giorgio Secondi, and assistant professor of English and comparative literary studies Damian Stocking. ♣ Heidi VanDerveer, who began her coaching career in 1987 as a graduate assistant for Pat Summitt at the University of Tennessee, will attempt to guide the Tigers to a second straight SCAC championship next year as Oxy's new head women's basketball coach. She will serve as a scout for the U.S. women's Olympic basketball team in Beijing this summer. ♣ Occidental will add women's golf and women's lacrosse to its roster of intercollegiate sports in 2009 and 2010, respectively, increasing the number of women's NCAA Division III sports it offers to 11. ♣ *Han Solo and Gretel* will be the centerpiece of the critically acclaimed Occidental Children's Theater's 13th season. Under the direction of artistic director Jamie Angell and movement coach Nick Erickson, performances in Remsen Bird Hillside Theater begin July 10 and run each Thursday, Friday, and Saturday through Aug. 23. For more information, call 323-259-2771.

Photo by Dennis Davis



Fifty years after he moved in as a freshman, Dave Berkus '62 (with wife Kathy) returned to the former Kappa Sigma fraternity house at 1601 Campus Road—now a student residence—to dedicate it as Berkus House on April 21 in honor of his gift of \$1.25 million to the Occidental endowment. Berkus is a longtime trustee and member of the board's buildings and grounds committee. His gift created a new fund for building maintenance.

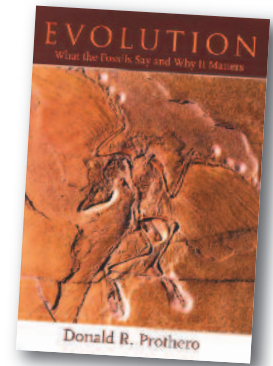


Prothero and some of the prehistoric denizens of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. When he gets the time, he'll be back in the fossil collections of the American Museum of the American Museum in New York, where a whole floor of camels awaits him.

OXY PALEONTOLOGIST **DONALD PROTHERO** DISPELS
THE NOTION OF AN EVOLUTIONARY “MISSING LINK”
BY BONING UP ON HIS FISHIBIANS AND CERATOPSIANS

FOSSIL FUEL

BY COLLEEN SHARKEY
PHOTOS BY KEVIN BURKE



CREATIONISTS AND advocates of intelligent design will tell you that the Earth’s fossil record does not support evolutionary theory—that there is a “missing link” between horses and rhinos. Fifty-five million years after their common ancestor roamed the earth, Occidental professor Donald Prothero began compiling a list of transitional fossils that shows otherwise.

“Discovery is happening constantly,” says Prothero, whose evidence not only wound up on the cover of *New Scientist* magazine in March, but also forms the backbone of his new paleontology bestseller, *Evolution: What the Fossils Say and Why It Matters*. “I had been piling up examples for years before I published the book,” he adds. “It gives many examples of evolution branching out, and it straightens out a complete pack of lies disseminated by creationists.”

In the *New Scientist* article Prothero states, “Life does not progress up a hierarchical ladder from ‘low’ to ‘high,’ but is a branching bush with numerous lineages splitting apart and coexisting simultaneously.” In his own field research, Prothero has

seen many of these transitional fossils that fill the branches of the animal family tree. Probably the most well-known example in our collective consciousness is that of the “fishibians” that moved from water to land, gaining legs and losing fins.

Particularly aggravating to Prothero is the misinformation being disseminated about dinosaurs, creatures he has studied since he was knee-high to a Yinlong—a Jurassic-era creature that he links to the horned dinosaurs, or ceratopsians, from the later Cretaceous period. “Yinlong was small and bipedal,” he writes, “but the bones in the back of the skull are intermediate between those found in all ceratopsians and those found in their nearest relatives, the pachycephalosaurs, which had a thick dome of bone over their skulls.” While creationists claim that there are no intermediate forms of dinosaur fossils, he says, “You could not ask for finer examples of transitional dinosaurs.”

DON PROTHERO CAN TYPICALLY JUST glance at a bone specimen and tell you what it is and where it came from. He is a precise, meticulous, and patient man. One would have to be to essentially “clean up” the classification of an entire family of mammals.

As a graduate student at Columbia University, Prothero had the privilege of cataloguing and researching part of the Frick Collection—what is widely accepted as the world’s most comprehensive North American mammal fossil set, housed at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. A fluke admissions mistake—“the luckiest thing that ever happened in my life,” according to Prothero—took him away from the master’s program at UC Berkeley and to New York and his mentor, legendary paleontologist Malcolm McKenna.

Access to the Frick Collection was, for Prothero, the equivalent of allowing a kid into a candy store that had long been off limits. For more than 40 years, the fossils in the Frick Collection were fiercely guarded by their benefactor. The son of a wealthy steel and coke (coal residue) tycoon, Childs Frick started out hunting large game but quickly became intrigued by their evolutionary tale. From the 1920s until his death in 1965, Frick’s wealth paid for several year-round collecting crews in many important localities and allowed him to corner the market on fossil collection in western America.

“The Frick Lab would spend years at sites and collect massive amounts of skulls

and other bones,” Prothero explains. “There are seven floors of mammal fossils at AMNH that are invisible to the public. In order to do real, meaningful paleontological research, you need these large collections.”

When Frick was alive, he wouldn't allow anyone else to even view the collection, let alone research it. His “pathological” fear, as Prothero calls it, of being wrong in print stopped him from publishing much about the collection himself and prevented an entire generation from conducting detailed studies

because they knew they were wasting their time without his collection.

As a member of the next generation of scientists, Prothero, under the tutelage of McKenna, was lucky enough to delve into the massive collection, and he chose North American rhinos as his bony muse. He quickly found that he had a lot of “undoing” to undergo to create an accurate evolutionary picture of the animals' progression. “The rhino collection was a mess when I started working on it. Essentially no one had

touched it for a century and, back then, every new specimen with even a slight difference got a new name.” He spent more than 20 years meticulously examining thousands of rhino fossils, the result of which is his 2005 tome, *The Evolution of North American Rhinoceroses*.

Although admittedly obsessed with dinosaurs and extinct mammals since the age of 4, Prothero, as a geologist, is also intensely fixated on the Earth's behavior over geologic time and how it suited or clashed with mammals. In order to more precisely date fossils and the areas in which they are found, scientists use paleomagnetism. A paleomagnetism lab provides a closet-sized pocket of a room where the Earth's magnetic field is blocked and rock samples are, therefore, not subjected to its influence. A machine called a magnetometer can then measure up to 80 samples at a time, verifying their true magnetism, a remnant of the direction of Earth's pole when the rocks were deposited. It's in this tiny room where the precision of dating goes from plus or minus several million years to less than 100,000 years.

“There is a very reliable timetable of when the Earth's magnetic field flips, so we are looking for polarity changes. It's like matching a bar code to another corresponding bar code,” says Prothero. “By taking samples at many levels through a sequence of fossil-bearing rocks, we can decipher the bar code in that sequence and match it up to the global magnetic time scale.”

PROTHERO WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN making Occidental the first undergraduate college to have a state-of-the-art paleomagnetism laboratory with an automatic sample changer, one of only five in the world. He previously spent much of his time using Caltech's paleomagnetism lab and was subject to their schedule—only being squeezed in when their researchers weren't using it. When Occidental began construction on the Hameetman Science Center, Prothero and his colleague, Occidental professor Scott Bogue, made sure that a paleomagnetism lab was in the plans, and obtained the grant funding from the National Science Foundation to build it. In fact, the lab wasn't com-



Prothero shows Harini Ramireddy '08 around Occidental's state-of-the-art paleomagnetism lab.



LEFT: Prothero drills for details in the field on the Northern California coast near Gualala. **BELOW:** Hammer in hand, at the Miocene Troublesome Formation near Kremmling, Colo. Look for Prothero soon on “Monsters of the Past” (History Channel) and “Pre-historic Predators” (National Geographic Channel).

Photos courtesy Donald Prothero



pleted until a full year after the rest of the building was open for business, due to the complex specifications for it.

Prothero is one of the first scientists to conduct paleomagnetism research on mammal fossils from the Badlands of South Dakota. He has visited that region, and many other localities in the western United States, countless times. He often brings Occidental students to the field—a benefit of a small liberal arts college where you have direct and prolonged access to professors. “Don realizes, through the strength of his own research, that going out and getting primary source information is much more

lication to his students as well. “It is rare for an undergraduate to have completed as much research as any student of Don’s most likely has,” says Kristina Raymond ’08, who switched her major from history to geology after taking Prothero’s Evolution of the Earth class and stayed at Occidental an extra year to complete her degree. “I have never known another professor, teacher, or mentor who is as concerned with his or her students’ futures as Don is.”

Under the guidance of Prothero and his colleagues in the geology department, students are required to participate in real research, present it, and many go on to pub-

Prothero’s latest book has been one of Amazon’s top-selling science volumes since its publication last fall. It’s already being used as a college textbook at Whittier College and Claremont Graduate University, and Prothero hopes that more educators will add it to their syllabi in the coming years.

“Don realizes, through his own research, that going out and getting primary source information is much more important than ensuring that you have read every paper on a subject.”

important than ensuring that you have read every paper on a subject,” says Josh Ludtke ’04, who went from Oxy to San Diego State University to pursue his master’s degree in biological sciences, and will begin his Ph.D studies at the University of Calgary this fall. “Going to museums and seeing my study organisms was the only way I could do a decent master’s thesis project, and I have benefited greatly from having an undergraduate adviser who pressed that issue.”

Not one to rest on his laurels or his research, Prothero (who joined the Occidental faculty in 1985) has written or edited 25 books and more than 200 scientific articles. The prolific paleontologist emphasizes pub-

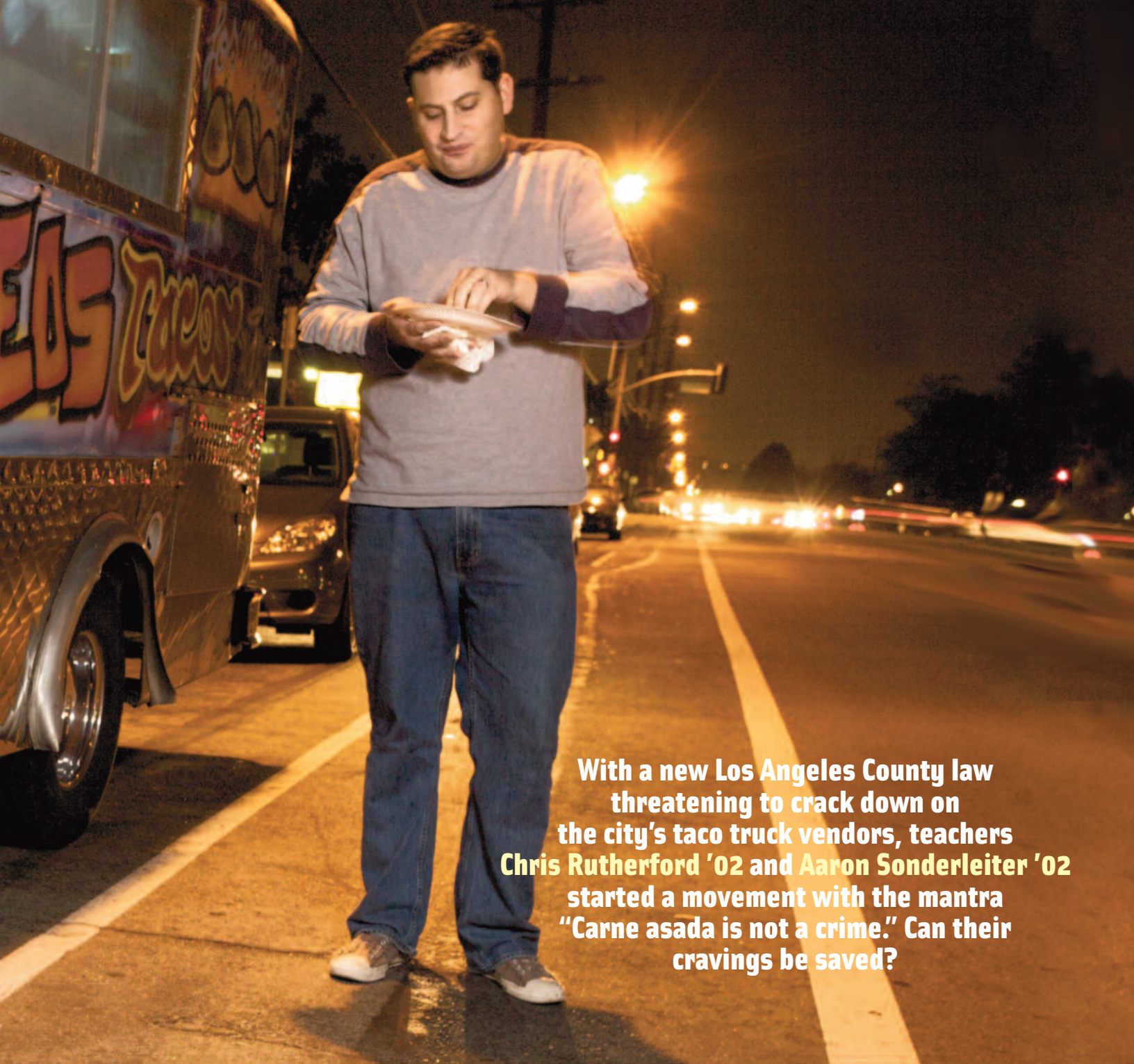
lish it. In fact, Occidental is consistently the only undergraduate geology program to present at the Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research. Former students find that publishing and presenting is valuable to their future careers. “Knowing that I wanted to be a paleontologist, I chose Oxy because it provided an opportunity to work one-on-one with Don,” says Jonathan Hoffman ’03, who is working toward a Ph.D in geology at the University of Wyoming. “He gave me the opportunity to conduct research that led to multiple co-authored papers and presentations at regional and national conferences. I still benefit from his advice and support.”

“It is important to fight for true science and to be wary of people trying to sell their religious beliefs as truth,” says the Glendale native, who was recently awarded a three-year, \$65,000 grant from the American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund to study “Magnetic Stratigraphy of the Miocene-Pliocene Etchegoin Group” of California’s Western San Joaquin Basin. “Some of these authors who write about evolution might even have Ph.Ds, but rarely in the fields of paleontology or geology. They are sometimes scientists, but in fields like biochemistry. You wouldn’t accept them as experts in music theory or mathematics, so why in another field where they have no expertise?” □



KEEP ON TRUCKIN'

BY COLLEEN SHARKEY | PHOTOS BY MAX S. GERBER



With a new Los Angeles County law threatening to crack down on the city's taco truck vendors, teachers Chris Rutherford '02 and Aaron Sonderleiter '02 started a movement with the mantra "Carne asada is not a crime." Can their cravings be saved?

ON THE EVENING OF MAY 1, following a peaceful immigrant rights rally that drew thousands to downtown Los Angeles, a smaller protest—but one of gastronomical importance—was afoot among the city's embattled taco trucks.

Led by educators and online activists Aaron Sonderleiter '02 and Chris Rutherford '02, a slow trickle of people at Highland Park's Tacos La Estrella truck (at the intersection of Avenue 54 and York Boulevard)

quickly turned into a gaggle of hungry and angry patrons there for Taco Truck Night—to show their support with a side of hot sauce.

They were there to stuff their gullets with carne asada and to object to new legal restrictions proposed by veteran Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina that would require taco trucks to move regularly. Despite the best efforts of the protestors, the restrictions went into effect on May 15—allowing trucks to stay put for one hour but opening them up to misdemeanor charges,

fining them up to \$1,000, and/or jail time if they stay any longer.

One Taco Truck Night patron, Rafael Cruz, approached Rutherford and Sonderleiter while they were wolfing down tacos and shook their hands vehemently, thanking them for rallying thousands to the cause of the city's four-wheeled vendors through their website, saveourtacotrucks.org. "Molina is from my district," Cruz told them. "People depend on tacos. What happened to her roots, man?"



LEFT: Rambo's Tacos, located off Eagle Rock Boulevard between Verdugo and York, "probably has the coolest mural in the industry," says Rutherford.

BOTTOM LEFT: One of several Tacos La Estrella trucks in the area, on York Boulevard. "Their red sauce is a gift from God," raves Sonderleiter. "Tacos La Estrella is like our Cheers," adds Rutherford. BELOW: A Tacos La Estrella truck on Colorado Boulevard.



"We're not political activists, and we don't generally follow the minute movements of county government—but we do now," says Rutherford. "No matter what your political leanings are, there's something for everyone in this story. If you're on the left, it speaks to concerns about race and class—and if you're on the right, it reeks of government messing with small business."

A resident of Mount Washington and supervisor since 1991, Molina (or "GloMo," in the idiom of saveourtacotrucks.org) proposed the new regulations in part because of what she described in the *Los Angeles Times* as a "little war" between the mobile eateries and their fixed competitors, adding, "It's tough for these businesses to get along."

For Rutherford and Sonderleiter—who were roommates as freshmen at Oxy—food from local taco trucks was not only a staple of their collegiate diets but a rite of passage. "Seniors would take underclassmen to the trucks," says Rutherford, who studied English and comparative literature and now teaches English at a private L.A. middle school. "Leo's [located at 4300 Eagle Rock Blvd.] kept me fed throughout college."

Even today, the taco crusaders get their fill two to three times a week because "food

tastes better coming out of a truck," adds Sonderleiter, who majored in philosophy, minored in biology, and teaches and coordinates technology at Wildwood School in L.A.

After Rutherford and Sonderleiter first learned about the controversy from a story in the *Times*, they wrote an open letter to Molina, urging her to consider the negative impact the new restrictions would have on taco truck owners and the communities they serve.

She replied with an e-mail that labeled taco truck vendors as "peddlers," adding, "For your information, vending from a sidewalk has never been permitted in Los Angeles County. Our ordinance will protect the health and welfare of our residents and respect the needs of our business community."

Rutherford and Sonderleiter, who took offense at the designation, wrote back to Molina: "If you truly feel that the honest and hardworking families who work in these taco trucks are detrimental to the community under current regulations, we would urge you to find a compromise that better serves your constituents as well as your business interests." They suggested setting boundaries that prevent trucks from parking within a specific distance of an open restaurant, allowing the two to coexist and compete fairly.

Concurrently, the website Sonderleiter and Rutherford created to raise awareness of the taco fracas began to catch fire. The fragrance of this decidedly L.A. story quickly wafted above the city smog and has been sniffed out by media on both coasts, from *Time* to NPR. (A *New York Times* article posted online May 2 quickly became one of the day's most e-mailed stories.)

Erin Glenn, a consultant with roots in organizing, was outraged when she heard about the Molina-led ordinance and immediately contacted the fledgling activists to offer her support. Taco Truck Night was her idea. "This is a dining experience for people who can't necessarily afford to go to a restaurant and pay tax and tip," says Glenn, whose best friend's family owns a taco truck. "They are adding so many stipulations that make it difficult for working families. We have to show people that this matters."

But while Molina's office seems to have been caught off-guard by the uproar the new restrictions have brought, further revisions at this juncture appear unlikely. "Local merchants feel that catering trucks were not observing the laws," explains Roxane Marquez, Molina's senior press deputy. "Residents have complained about public urination, excessive trash, and trampling of landscaping. We feel that the changes have balanced the needs of all people within the district."

Marquez adds: "This is mostly a quality-of-life issue, but it can balance the needs of everyone: the catering truck owners, merchants, and residents. We have no intention of putting people out of business. ... Some vendors refuse to move and accept each \$60 fine as the cost of doing business. By changing the fines, we gave the D.A. more discretion. The \$60 fine wasn't achieving our objective, so it was increased."

Reactions on saveourtacotrucks.org are a heated, mixed bag. Many believe that Molina and East L.A. business owners are unfairly ganging up on taco truck owners: "Gloria I hope you got a retirement package ready," one commenter wrote, "cuz you can kiss that seat good-bye." Others view mobile eateries as unfair competition and even call for a complete ban: "The lower operating costs and the ability to intercept clients before they have a chance to support a traditional restaurant is simply unfair business practice," wrote another respondent.

By the end of May, more than 8,000 people had signed the online petition to repeal the restrictions. By then, however, the new regulations were in place, and taco purveyor Alejandro Valdovino was ticketed



"Leo's was always my truck while at Oxy," says Sondermeier, left. "I practically lived off carne asada burritos sophomore year."

"It was like a rite of passage at Oxy," says Sonderleiter. "Seniors would take underclassmen to the trucks. Leo's kept me fed throughout college." Adds Rutherford: "I prefer my food to come from a family, not a corporation."

and charged with a misdemeanor—for parking his own truck in front of his own traditional restaurant. Baffled by the citation, Rutherford muses on his website, "Unless Mr. Valdovino complained about himself to the sheriff, I'm not sure exactly what the logic is behind this action."

Years before the current standoff, then-Oxy senior Bill Schaumberg made a short documentary for a class detailing a day in the life of Leo's Tacos owner Leo Torrez. A native of Nicaragua, Torrez emigrated to the United States nearly 20 years ago. "After a year working in construction, I started working in tacos," he recalls through a translator. "Things went so well I stayed."

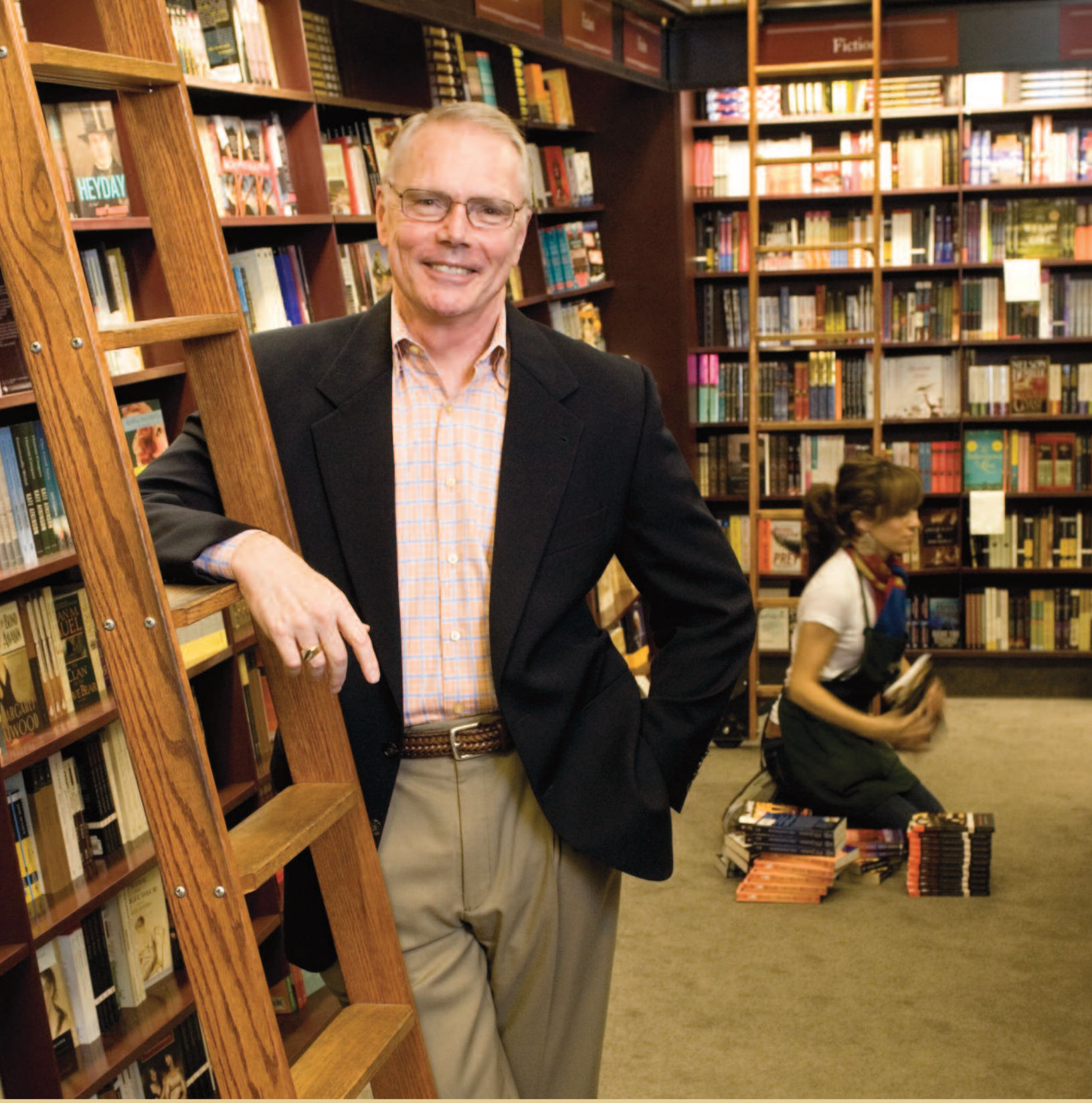
The hours are odd, and the work is difficult, but Torrez takes pleasure in his tacos. "At night, I have the whole world here," he explains in the film (which can be viewed at

<http://departments.oxy.edu/film/leos.html>). "In one night I serve people from all over."

While the revolution might have been stirred by their stomachs, the livelihood of local vendors and value of this culinary ritual have lassoed the hearts and minds of Rutherford and Sonderleiter. They vow to continue their crusade despite the impasse with Molina (whose website makes no mention of the fiery food fight). This fall, the seat for L.A.'s District 2 will change hands with the retirement of longtime supervisor Yvonne Burke, who supported the new restrictions (and represents many neighborhoods where taco trucks are cultural icons). Former L.A. police chief Bernard Parks and current state senator Mark Ridley-Thomas will square off in November—and Rutherford and Sonderleiter plan to contact both candidates to garner support for the vendors.

They will also add content to their website, where they have sold more than 500 T-shirts featuring a taco truck and the slogan "Carne asada is not a crime." The shirt will even be featured in the currently shooting Fox Searchlight feature *500 Days of Summer*, starring Zooey Deschanel (*Elf*) and Joseph Gordon-Levitt (*Stop-Loss*). "In addition to the shirts, a taco truck sporting our posters and slogan will be seen in the background of one of the scenes taking place downtown," says Sonderleiter, who with Rutherford visited the set and watched as they shot the scene.

"I prefer my food to come from a family, not a corporation," says Rutherford. "As long as people care about this issue, we'll keep the site going in some form." Sonderleiter likens L.A.'s tacos to New York City's hot dogs. "We've touched a nerve with so many people," he says. "It's hard to just give up." □



Shelf Life

A PASADENA INSTITUTION FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY, VROMAN'S HAS THRIVED WHILE RIVAL BOOKSTORES SHUTTER THEIR DOORS—WHICH **JOEL SHELDON '66** LINKS TO PASSION, PEOPLE, PLANNING, AND PERSISTENCE

By Samantha B. Bonar '90 | Photos by Kevin Burke

“**P**AIN TOLERANCE” was one of the most useful lessons Joel Sheldon ’66 took from his years at Occidental. “I almost never thought I’d get through,” recalls Sheldon, who admits to feeling “overwhelmed” by the College’s academic demands after he transferred to Oxy from the University of Washington. Sheldon made a commitment to graduate, which he says taught him perseverance. The self-proclaimed jock also learned to keep going despite the physical pain he endured as a guard and line-backer for the Tigers (who went 8-1 under future NFL head coach Jim Mora ’57 in 1965). “You don’t give up easily,” he says.

He credits those important lessons, plus the value of a liberal arts education, with his success as CEO and majority owner of Vroman’s Bookstore in Pasadena. At a time when other independent bookstores are shutting their doors (such as Dutton’s Brentwood, which closed in April after 47 years), Vroman’s continues to thrive. *Publishers Weekly* recently named the store its Bookseller of the Year. Still, the modest Sheldon insists: “I’m not a literary kind of guy, really.”

Sheldon is the third generation of his family to manage Vroman’s, founded in 1894 by Adam Clark Vroman and currently one of the largest independent bookstores in the United States. In May alone, authors making appearances included broadcasters Cokie Roberts and Barbara Walters and former President Jimmy Carter. Notorious “shock-jock” Howard Stern, incidentally, drew the biggest crowd in Vroman’s history, signing books for 6,000 fans over an eight-hour stretch that necessitated eight porta-potties on site, according to Sheldon.

“Our success is not measured in numbers alone,” says Allison Hill, who joined Vroman’s in 2004 and was promoted to president and chief operating officer last August. “We gauge our success by our ability to run a profitable business while committing ourselves to doing the right thing for our employees, for our customers, and for our community.”

Sheldon, who at 64 is gradually removing himself from the store’s day-to-day operations, didn’t fall into the business naturally. A psychology major at Oxy, he originally planned to be a teacher and coach. After serving in the Navy from 1968 to 1971, he



OPPOSITE: A native of Altadena, Sheldon joined Vroman’s in 1967, becoming president and majority owner in 1978. **LEFT & BELOW:** Vroman’s is hailed for its customer service, reading groups (including story hours for children), signings, and other special events.

promised his father he would give the bookstore the same three-year commitment he’d given the armed services. “I thought I was being magnanimous,” he recalls.

But after just a few years on the job his uncle, who was next in line to become president, died unexpectedly, and the position fell to Sheldon. “I was ill-prepared but thrust into it,” he recalls. It was the late 1970s, a tough time to be an independent, with competition from national bookstore chains. Sheldon was forced to dramatically consolidate operations, including satellite stores in San Diego and Santa Monica and a thriving wholesale book division. Today Vroman’s has three outlets and 129 employees, including a 9-year-old satellite bookstore in the Hastings Ranch area of Pasadena and a gift and stationery shop that opened in 2003, two doors down from the main store on Colorado Boulevard. Sheldon also is president of Vroman’s Real Estate Ventures, formed in 1986 and dedicated to building management, construction, and leasing of real estate properties.

By his own reckoning, it took Sheldon a good 10 to 15 years to “right the ship.” But just when the business seemed back on track, it faced a new challenge in online booksellers that offer virtually every book in print. But that’s not necessarily a good thing, Sheldon suggests.

“We compete with Amazon and others by focusing on one of the things that we have always done very well, which is customer service,” he says. While Vroman’s stocks about 85,000 titles, “There are a lot of books that really aren’t significant and aren’t useful to most people. A bookstore helps select that product to meet a certain customer who’s coming in your store.” (That said, Vroman’s



has established a toehold in the online communities, with nearly 3,000 MySpace friends and a growing fan base on Facebook.)

The value of such personal attention is another thing Sheldon learned at Oxy. He remembers sitting in the Quad with some ATO brothers bemoaning a midterm he’d just taken that he was sure he’d failed. The professor who’d given him the exam spied him from afar and “made a beeline” to Sheldon. “I’m putting my head down, thinking oh no, not here,” he recalls. “My professor says, ‘You got a B!’ I was really touched that he’d take the time to tell me that. He knew I was very concerned.”

Sheldon sums up the winning formula for Vroman’s in what he calls the five “P’s”: passion, people, planning, persistence, and profits. “You’ve got to adjust what’s going on out there in the world. We’ve done that for more than 100 years.”

At various stages in its history, Vroman’s has been the largest wholesaler west of the Mississippi, a major office furniture and products retailer, even a watch repair store under A.C. Vroman himself. “The watch repair part didn’t work out,” Sheldon says. “Then Mr. Vroman went into cameras and photography equipment. You keep dancing as fast as you can.” □





Becky Bailey-Findley '76 M'80 may be retiring after 15 years as CEO of the Orange County Fair, but she'll be back each July for the friendships—and the Tasty Chips

Fried Up, Ready to Go

BY DICK ANDERSON
PHOTOS BY MAX S. GERBER

TRADITIONS MEAN A LOT to Becky Bailey-Findley '76 M'80. There's the ritual that her daughters had of getting a toe ring and temporary tattoos on the day before going back to school each year ("which we had to make sure were covered," says their mom, whose husband of 33 years is Gary Findley '76). There's the custom of exchanging gag birthday gifts with her co-workers (which explains the plaque on her wall titled "Things I Learned from Becky Bailey-Findley"). And then there's the habit of going to the Orange County Fair, where she showed sheep and cattle as a 4-H member and later worked with her father, Jim Bailey, who ran the livestock competitions for many years.

"The fair for many is part of their family tradition, and it is certainly a huge part of ours," says Bailey-Findley, who will retire in August after 15 years as CEO of the fair. "Two of our children don't live here—one's in Belgium, one's in Santa Clara—but we will probably gather each year so that we can come back and enjoy the fair together. That will become our tradition."

Photo courtesy Becky Bailey-Findley



Bailey-Findley today, and in her days as a livestock coordinator, *above*. While goats, pigs, and cows remain four-legged mainstays of the fair, "It's getting harder to do sheep because fewer people raise them in our area," she says.

While the 118-year-old event has evolved from a simple gathering of livestock exhibitions and horse races to include all manner of culinary and cultural oddities—where else can people gnaw on funnel cakes and turkey legs while watching a Hungarian animator sketch images in the sand with his fingertips to classical music?—it remains a celebration of community. “The fair really is just a big gathering,” Bailey-Findley says. “I’ve enjoyed trying to make it meaningful—to reach out and include a lot of different people.”

Bailey-Findley began working at the fair after graduating from Fullerton High School, organizing barnyard fashion parades and goat look-alike contests, among other duties. (Her dad, by the way, retired from teaching after 30 years and then started working full-time at the fair. Now 78, he still helps out with education programs at the fair’s Centennial Farm.)

Soon after enrolling at Occidental, she met her future husband, who lived six doors down from her in Stewie. “Becky was the roommate of a girl I went to high school with [Lisa Wolff ’76],” Gary Findley recalls. “I

went down to say hello to Lisa and met Becky. She quickly became a great friend.”

“We didn’t date freshman year but became good friends,” Becky concurs. The two started dating seriously as sophomores—Gary even took a job in the livestock area of the fair after his sophomore year—and got married between their junior and senior years. The newlyweds lived in a duplex behind the Jack in the Box as seniors. “I worked at Scarantino’s my senior year,” Becky recalls. “We survived on those tips.”

After graduating from Oxy, Gary went to Whittier Law School, after which he joined the family business, working alongside his father and specializing in banking law. Becky, meanwhile, taught for six years at El Toro High School as head of its remedial reading program and went back to Oxy for her master’s in education.

Because of her work with youth activities at the fair, she was recruited by Phoenix House, a then-new residential drug treatment facility for adolescents in Orange County. She and a fellow teacher helped set up a self-

contained classroom for seventh- through 12th-graders, and Bailey-Findley eventually became director for adolescent programs.

That led back to the fair, and a full-time position as exhibit supervisor that combined her education background with the fair’s traditions—from competitions and displays to working with nonprofit groups and the Costa Mesa community. After four years as exhibit supervisor, she was promoted to deputy manager, serving in that role until 1994, when Bailey-Findley was named CEO.

She had a lot of work ahead of her. “The fair had a very challenging relationship with the community and its neighborhood—not because people didn’t like coming to the fair, but because we were growing and impacting on their lives,” she recalls. “We’re in an urban setting. We have an amphitheater which at the time had a capacity of 18,000. That means lots of noise and traffic, and there were lots of lawsuits related to that operation.”

Bailey-Findley held meetings in the community and at city hall. She improved relations with nearby Orange Coast College

Photos courtesy Orange County Fair & Becky Bailey-Findley



Patrons of the fair come in all shapes and sizes, as these photos demonstrate. Over the years, Bailey-Findley has met many elected officials and VIPs—and, of course, Weird Al Yankovic (right, in 2002 with Becky and daughter Tessa Bailey-Findley, an incoming freshman at Occidental).



With 150 events a year on site drawing 4 million visitors, “We don’t really have a downtime,” says Bailey-Findley. Besides the fair, other popular draws include the Great America Pet Expo, the Extreme Sports Motor Show, and the Labor Day Car Cruise.

and the local fire and police departments. “Becky invited everyone to come to the fair to be her guests and to see what we’re like,” says Rita Schrank, a 20-year veteran of the fair who retired as Bailey-Findley’s executive assistant last September. “The same neighbors who sued us now love us.”

“This job isn’t something that you train for,” Gary Findley says. Between an ever-changing board of directors, outside vendors, and her own staff, “It’s a constant juggling act when you have all the different constituents. It’s almost like being a college president.”

“Becky always looks for the good in how to deal with people, and she brings that to her work with the fair,” says Schrank. “She loves that she can be a part of something that brings so much joy and pleasure.”

While the number of livestock trafficking through the fairgrounds is smaller than in days gone by, the fair itself is larger than ever. In 1992 the event expanded to 17 days, covering three weekends, and added a fourth weekend in 2003 for a total of 21 days (the fair is closed on Mondays). “By adding more weekends we’ve opened it up to more working people,” says Bailey-Findley, who has seen attendance nearly double during her tenure, from about 600,000 in 1994 to nearly 1.1 million last year.

“We’re in a community where everything is available, with Disneyland and Knott’s and Universal Studios. So we try to make sure that our price point is lower so we can compete with the big boys,” she adds. “But when the economy is tighter and people don’t travel as much, we’re the beneficiary.”

The fair is located on a 150-acre property that housed an Army air base in the 1940s. Most of the buildings date to the 1950s and 1960s, when there was a major influx of government money to build fairs around the state. A major facelift scheduled for the coming year will upgrade or renovate most of the existing facilities, as well as building a new exhibit hall with the look of an old hangar—“a salute back to the property’s World War II purpose,” Bailey-Findley notes.

The fair employs about 70 people year-round, a number that balloons to about 1,300



during the fair, which opens July 11. “The hardest day of the year is the day afterwards,” says Bailey-Findley. “It’s fun seeing everyone and making those connections again, and then they leave. There’s cleanup to do, the grass is dead, and the fun is over.”

Before stepping down, “I will go through this year’s fair and help with cleanup,” she says. “When I took the CEO position I figured it was a 10-year appointment, for the health of the organization. But when that 10th year hit, the organization wasn’t quite in a position where I thought it was a good time to leave. Then Tessa’s high school graduation was coming up, and Gary and I started to plan.”

The oldest of the couple’s three children, Cary Bailey-Findley ’04, completed a master’s

in organizational psychology and works in human resources for Ingersoll Rand in Belgium. Kaitlyn is a junior at Santa Clara University, and Tessa will be a freshman at Oxy this fall. “Now that the children are all out of the house, it’s just a good break in our personal lives and I can try something different,” says Becky, who has no specific work plans for now. “My identity’s so tied with this place that I thought I’d wait and see what develops.”

She looks forward to returning next year as a consumer. “I like almost any food that’s deep-fried,” says the slender CEO, whose personal fair favorites are the homemade potato chips known as Tasty Chips. “I work hard all year to make sure I can eat them.” Who can argue with tradition? ■

PLACES TO GO THINGS TO DO

BY ANDY FAUGHT
PHOTOS BY MAX S. GERBER



Erica Murray '01 posed for our camera during a visit to Oxy on April 15—two weeks prior to her bone marrow transplant. “She’s brave, beautiful, and approaches things without vanity,” notes photographer Max S. Gerber.

Erica Murray '01 was on her way to a master's degree when she was diagnosed with leukemia in 2006. After a marrow transplant, and adjusting to a new immune system, she is determined to get back to her life—and to use her blog to save other lives



There's nothing like mentioning ya got cancer to kill a conversation.

(Erica Murray blog entry, Jan. 29, 2008)

ERICA MURRAY '01 DOESN'T HAVE time for cancer. There's that novel she plans to write (historical fiction), and a trip to South America tops her to-do list. There's that master's degree in law and diplomacy to complete and a presidential candidate—the one with an Oxy connection—who has her giddily hopeful about America's future.

At 29, waging war against leukemia is more than a little inconvenient. It's by turns terrifying and lonely. But the disease also has given her unexpected purpose. Erica uses her blog and media appearances to stress the importance of joining the National Marrow Donor Program registry, with a special plea to those of harder-to-match mixed ethnicities. When she received her own transplant April 29 at Stanford University Medical Center, Erica, who is of Chinese and Caucasian lineage, became one of 30,000 people worldwide to undergo the procedure since 1987, according to the NMDP. Bone marrow grafts succeed 40 percent of the time. More than 21,000 other leukemia patients will die waiting. Racially mixed patients have the longest odds of finding a donor match since the registry is only 3 percent biracial. A transplant is a patient's last best chance at recovery.

More than two years into her battle, Erica is circumspect. "When I first got sick I

remember telling myself a lot that I could honestly look back at my life and say I never said no. I can really say that I tried to take advantage of every opportunity offered to me. That feels good when you're facing some scary illness."

She speaks nine days (day minus nine, in medical nomenclature) before doctors will bathe her in radiation. In military terms, it is akin to destroying a village to save it. The treatment will deplete her immune system and, when the transplant is complete, the spongy marrow will, ideally, regenerate without complications. For Erica, the transplant date—as many leukemia sufferers attest—becomes a pseudo birthday. She will emerge with a new immune system and a new blood type. And, it is hoped, a second shot at life.

The day before yesterday I realized I have cancer. Yup, all that hospital stuff, dropping out of school, my hair falling out didn't clue me in, I guess. (March 19, 2006)

Erica didn't know much about blogs when younger sister Jaci proposed an online diary as an expeditious way to inform friends and family of her health and treatment. They launched www.ericamurray.blogspot.com in February 2006, just days after Erica was diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia. "It's been very cathartic. To be able to write about this, it's another way of separating

April 9, 2007: In recent weeks, I think I've entered into a new and rather scary corner of the dark woods of Cancerdom. It's like the Thieves' Forest of *The Princess Bride*. Here, instead of Rodents of Unusual Size, I have Anxiety of Relapse of Unusual Size. ... When you're traveling through the deep woods of Cancerdom, the Fire Swamp's methane bursts are the little aches and pains that explode into extreme fears and assumptions—a headache, a stressful



week, a sore back, a runny nose—what in God's name could it be besides pneumonia? Don't get me wrong: Most of the time I'm the cucumber's envy. So cool, in fact, that some confuse my defense mechanisms for strength or courage. (Suckers!) And I think that's why things are hitting me differently lately—I've borne a young person's classic immortality complex, more or less. Denial is not something you "get over" all at once. It cushions your way throughout a process, buffering here, backing off there. Facing the trauma of how much chemotherapy sucks was one major de-denialing for me. Now, I think I'm facing another: I really could die from this stupid disease.

myself from some of the scarier things,” says Erica, who posted her first entry nine days into her stay.

To peruse the blog is to get a glimpse of leukemia’s brutal toll. There’s the excruciating bone-marrow biopsy, a process that evokes a medieval rack. There’s the fog of chemo. There’s the lumbar puncture. There are sore teeth and numb fingertips. The list goes on. Photos adjoin treatment descriptions. Erica does not wade in euphemisms. “Ready?” she asks readers atop a picture of her bared hip awaiting a bone marrow biopsy. “Me neither.”

Her entries range from the amusing (“the three great things about losing one’s hair”) to the stark (losing her grandmother and nearly losing a Fletcher classmate to a brain aneurysm) to the heart-rending (learning that treatment had rendered her infertile).

When Erica has been unable to update

the blog, friends and family members step in. The site has become a rallying point for supporters—known as Team Erica. Readers can post messages to the blog. Friends also sold more than 500 yellow “Erica Courage” bracelets, adorned with the words “health” in Chinese and “peace” in Arabic.

In one of the more poignant entries, Erica and Jaci sing “If I Had a Real Good Donor,” a takeoff on the Barenaked Ladies’ “If I Had \$1,000,000.” In the middle of the night, Erica retooled the lyrics in her hospital bed. She and Jaci later taped themselves performing and posted it to YouTube with a link. “If I had a real good donor,” the sisters croon, “I’d be alive.”

The bittersweet call for donors was something of a departure from previous entries. The lyrics carried an urgency set against idyllic visions of weekend barbecues

and life in a cul de sac. “We’ve poked a lot of fun through this treatment,” Jaci says. “But if you really stop and think about it, it’s quite devastating. When the song was being written, I cried. The video was sort of a desperate plea masked in humor.”

While a match emerged for Erica, of course, the video has taken on a life its own. The YouTube clip has been viewed more than 21,000 times—and the blog has broadened awareness of the registry, giving new hope to the roughly 6,000 leukemia patients who are waiting for a match on any given day.

Perhaps it’s all the drugs I’ve been on, but I am so grateful to report that YEEHAW I feel like I’ve done and seen more than most and could die tomorrow with neither fear nor regret.

(Oct. 9, 2006)

Growing up in Santa Maria, Erica didn’t know much about Oxy before she took a campus tour, only that three relatives had attended: her aunt, San Francisco Superior Court Judge Lillian Sing ’64, uncle James Kwok ’73, and cousin Kai Wai Katherine (Kwok) Nelson ’93 (another cousin, Jason Kwok ’09, is an economics major). “It took the visit to convince me that, not only did it feel right, but it was also a really good school,” she says.

Never one to live passively, Erica drank up the experience. She was a hall director at 1601 Campus Road, the first year the converted frat house (now known as Berkus House) was used as a residence hall, and she played club rugby. She also was co-director of EDEN (Encouraging Distribution to End Need), a student program that delivered leftover dining services food to a homeless shelter. As a junior, Erica studied in Paris. She graduated with a degree in English and comparative literary studies—and a minor in politics—and returned to Occidental in 2002, when she filled the newly created position of assistant director of alumni relations.

Her charge was to improve the College’s contact with young alumni. “When we interviewed Erica it was like, ‘OK, this search is over,’” recalls alumni relations director Jim Jacobs. “Erica was a beacon. She’d walk into a room and people would want to meet her and talk to her. She had a plan; she had a vision.”

Erica’s Oxy legacy is impressive. She created the College’s young alumni program, highlighted by Oxy GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade). That group organizes every-



May 22, 2006: I’ve been musing a lot about appearances lately because I don’t recognize myself in the mirror anymore. It’s the strangest sensation. I haven’t been this pale since the womb, I can count the number of tenacious eyelashes on each eye, and I have this new spattering of big dark freckles courtesy of the radiation treatment. Add in the scrawniness and baldness, and you start to believe me. . . . I guess people around me are used to my ghastliness but every time I see a snapshot or pass a mirror, I am surprised anew. I’m not really complaining; par for the course, I suppose, and everything will come back to normal someday, they say. People have it way worse than me. The interesting part is . . . How many people get to experience looking completely different for a while? Brushing my teeth and staring into a stranger’s face is just one more thing my brain definitely still hasn’t quite processed.



thing from bowling outings to happy hours. Erica also started regional committees that organize social and community service events around the country (there are now 10). Finally, she was responsible for the summer new student parties in which alumni around the country hold get-togethers for incoming freshmen.

“She really started from literally nothing,” says Jacobs, who organized a bone marrow drive during Alumni Weekend on June 13-15. “Erica would make things happen through the force of her personality. She’s the kind of person who makes you want to come to work in the morning.”

Oxy looms large in Erica’s memory banks. “I met my best friends there,” she says. “I honed leadership and developed self confidence. It built a foundation for curiosity and community involvement.”

Erica and classmate Jamie Murphy ’01 knew each other mostly as acquaintances during their student days, but the relationship blossomed when Erica worked in alumni relations and Murphy, who lives in Sherman Oaks, was events coordinator for the College after graduation. Murphy has been a near-constant companion to Erica since the diagnosis.

Finding the right words is no easy task, even for a best friend. “You cannot say, ‘It’s OK, it’s almost over,’ because it’s not almost over. You can’t say, ‘Stay strong, you’re doing a great job,’ because she has no choice,” says Murphy, the chancellor’s residence manager and event coordinator at UCLA. “The mental anguish that comes with having to go through this horrible process and not even knowing if it’s going to work—you can’t say anything to it.”

Sweet potato pie is the best dessert on the planet. Make it from scratch and make it immediately. My tongue does not appreciate dessert while on chemo, but my memory does.

(Oct. 31, 2006)

Erica’s life has always been about flavors, journeys, and friends. After leaving alumni relations, she moved to Japan for a year, teaching English at a school outside Tokyo. In 2005, she was accepted to the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy at Tufts University, where she would pursue a master’s degree.

The pains came just a week after her arrival, in her feet and in her arms. What

April 27, 2007: I don’t mean to toot my own horn, but I can handle some tough shit. Right now, I have that fun “just got thrown into a sack and punched repeatedly” feeling where all my muscles hurt, even ones you don’t realize you have like on the sides of your cheeks, the front of your neck, and under your armpits. It’s one of my favorite chemo joys, referred to and explained away as “coming off your steroids.” This sucks, but it pales with what I’m about to tell you. I actually have something different to complain about, something more sinister and long-lasting. Something that crept up on me and has assaulted my sense of who I am and where I am in this lifetime. I just found the whitest of white hair on my head. Now, your first thought is probably, ‘Damn, the girl should be grateful she has hair on her head at this point.’ And, yes, you are surely right. But I have to admit I feel a bit jarred by this discovery. Looking back, I think I noticed a grayish strand a few months ago. A few flicks of my mascara wand, however ... Now, this mother that I just saw while brushing was thick and mean. It said, ‘Come near me with that black eyelash crap and I’ll make you rue the day!’ So, I must respect it. Perhaps if I don’t pluck, if I don’t dye, if I just gently caress it and even, heck, love it a little, it won’t ... you know ... multiply. The pain, the fatigue, the despair—cancer sucks. But finding your first gray hair, now, *that’s* trauma.



Erica didn’t know was that the bony aches were due to the expansion of bone marrow cells, according to Dr. Andres Sirulnik, Erica’s oncologist at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston.

At first, the pain didn’t seem unusual. “It had been maybe a week or so since I had started school, and I was running all over the place,” Erica says. “I was very fatigued, but I didn’t think it meant anything.” Erica went to the Tufts clinic, where they suggested tendonitis.

She continued with her school routine. But now the pain was in her thighs—“like I had gone on a Stairmaster for 10 hours straight, but I hadn’t.” Next came a headache and fuzzy peripheral vision. Family and friends urged her to return to the clinic, where



OPPOSITE: Erica with sister Jaci on a vacation to New England in August 2006, *top*, and meeting Lance Armstrong at a brunch following Tufts University commencement ceremonies the previous May. **TOP:** With mother Judy (sporting an “Erica Courage” bracelet) not long before entering Stanford University Medical Center in February. **ABOVE:** Erica makes the most of a hairy situation with friends Bess (Pope) Ocken ’01, *left*, Jamie Murphy ’01, and sister Jaci Murray, *right*, in February 2006. **LEFT:** Jaci enjoys a laugh at the Faculty-Waits-on-You Auction dinner at the Fletcher School at Tufts in March 2006. Proceeds benefited the Boston chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in honor of Erica.

they drew blood. A doctor called her an hour later ordering her to an emergency room.

It was a perplexing turn of events. “I didn’t really ask and he didn’t tell me what he suspected might be wrong,” Erica says. “He said to bring a friend and maybe an overnight bag. I’d never been to an ER before. I’d been the picture of health. I prefer to eat healthy. I like yoga and running.”

At the ER, she was rushed to a doctor, past patients who were bleeding. “I thought there was some terrible mistake and I felt guilty that I was wasting people’s time and going ahead of people who really needed help. Finally someone said, ‘We think it’s leukemia.’ Still, I thought, ‘Uh, no, there’s a mistake.’”

A blood test turned up alarming white blood cell counts. While the average count is

between 4,000 and 10,000 cells, Erica's spiked at a life-threatening 750,000. "I don't think they were too optimistic at first," she says. "None of the nurses or oncologists had ever seen that kind of count before or since." In her penchant for gallows humor, she adds, "I'm a little proud to be a celebrity."

Erica started her first round of chemotherapy that night and was soon joined by her mother, Judy, and sister (Erica's father died while she was in high school). She reacted well to treatment, and a month later she was in remission.

Remission is not a designation Erica has ever trusted. "It's a tricky word that can make you feel safe and people congratulate you and it almost means nothing," she says. "It can come back at any time."

While more skeptical as a result of her illness, Erica nonetheless agreed to travel to Lourdes, France, with her mother. The trip came at the prodding of a family acquaint-

ance whose daughter beat leukemia after visiting the town hailed for its visions and miracles. Erica remains a pragmatist. "I'm sorry if this offends you, your religion, your sense of purpose," she wrote in an April 15 blog entry, "but cancer makes me convinced that we are just tiny inconsequential specks on this tiny inconsequential planet. When a houseplant becomes diseased and dies, we shrug and we toss it out."

This is Jaci and this is not a happy blog. Deep breathe. Hold. Exhale. (Jan. 31, 2008)

The cancer had returned. A bone marrow transplant would be Erica's best hope. She was in luck—a partial match from a woman in Germany. But as tenuous as remission can be, securing a donor can be even more so. Just as quickly as Erica's match surfaced, the woman withdrew her interest. Per registry rules, no reason had to be given.

Prior to that near-miss, the bone marrow

registry gave Erica reason for ebullience—three matches. The good news proved to be illusory, though. Two of the donors were dead and hadn't been removed from the registry. The third was Erica herself.

In April, however, another partial match was found. Erica moved into her mother's home in Burlingame before the transfer, continuing to advocate on behalf of the registry. She appeared on local ABC affiliate KGO-TV's "The View From the Bay" with "Survivor Cook Islands" winner Yul Kwon, whose college roommate died of leukemia because he did not get a donor in time.

"It doesn't take a mathematician to figure out that even though a drive gets hundreds of registrants, that's such a drop in the bucket," says Erica, who spoke onstage at a marrow drive/concert by the band Seriously that played at Stanford on April 12. "With 9 million people on the registry and no matches, things will only improve if people take one step forward at a time. This has kept me busy. I know it's important."

Stanford Medical Center's Bone Marrow Transplant Ward is theoretically germ-free. For patients it's a hermetic existence, with few visitors. In each room, pathogens are held at bay by double doors and high-efficiency particulate air filtration to allow patients to grow the white blood cells critical to fighting disease and illness.

"She wants all her friends around," Murphy says. "Everyone has to explain to her it's just not worth the risk."

Some patients seek to hide their illnesses; I, on the other hand, am so grateful when folks are brave enough to express their curiosity and mature enough to realize that people are not all that they appear to be. (Jan. 29, 2008)

Out of the hospital and staying with her mother, Erica is cancer free, but not free of danger. Graft-versus-host-disease is a common side effect in bone marrow transplants. In GVHD, immune cells from the donated marrow attack the body of the transplant patient. The condition can be life threatening.

Erica registered a mild case in June—all of her toes were bright red and itchy—but doctors weren't concerned. "They say a little GVH is actually good," says her mother, Judy. "It tells them the donor cells are working in her." Erica must stay largely housebound for 100 days and keep within a "safety zone" that



"She has no choice but to think this transplant is going to work," says Jamie Murphy '01, Erica's former roommate.

Filmmaker “friends of friends” of Erica have shot about 15 hours of footage since she moved back to California for a documentary about her experience with leukemia. The intent is to get more people to join the national bone marrow registry, says producer Naomi Ture (www.globalnarratives.org).



“Erica gets mad, but she realizes it does her no good ... so why not be happy and laugh?” asks Jamie Murphy. “Her mom said to her, ‘I’ll get you a dog after the transplant.’ So Erica says, ‘Hey, all I have to do is live and I get a puppy.’”

allows her to get to the hospital immediately if complications arise. Doctors did caution Erica that 80 percent of transplant patients are readmitted to the hospital for treatment.

She travels to Stanford Medical Center twice a week to get IV medications and to consult with her medical team. The rest of the time she paints, writes, and catches up with episodes of “Lost” on DVD. Her mother is her prime caregiver, plying Erica with Chinese cooking—steamed fish and noodle dishes.

Co-existing with a serious health problem isn’t always easy. While Erica prefers to have a constant flow of friends visiting, Judy opts for caution and limiting the opportunity for germs to enter. “Mothers and daughters can fight it out and then it’s over,” Judy says.

“We apologize and cry and it’s done. We’re very close. It’s not something that will ever come between us. We’ve both lived on our own for so many years that you’re bound to have some kind of friction. I want the best for her, and she knows that.”

As for the cause of the cancer, “Often it’s very difficult to trace it to anything,” notes Sirulnik, Erica’s doctor in Boston (“This guy saved my life,” she wrote of him). He suggests that the chemical benzene could have played a role: Erica grew up next to a Unocal oil facility in Santa Maria that once used the gasoline additive, which was later abandoned because of health concerns. (Two people from her old neighborhood have developed acute lymphocytic leukemia, in 2005 and 2006.)

Erica admits to pondering mortality. “The first time with the leukemia, I wasn’t sure why it took several months for it to sink in for me that I’d come so close to dying. I think about it all the time now, but somehow it doesn’t scare me. People die every day, and I don’t feel I’m any more special than those who are dying of starvation in Haiti.”

One side revelation, Erica adds, is “I’m funnier than I thought I was. Things just fly out of my mouth.” She cites a bumper sticker that belongs to her friend and former roommate, Uma Nithipalan ’01, who is recovering from an aneurysm she suffered in February 2007: “She Who Laughs ... LASTS.”

Andy Faught lives in Fresno. He wrote “After the Fire” in the Winter issue.

Blogging Right Along

From the history of video games to a primer on mate-swapping, a new course in Writing Across the Curriculum explores the wide, wide world of blogs and beyond



Illustration by Patrick Carlson

In the olden days, Occidental students walked eight miles through the snow (or at least the occasional Santa Ana winds) to type 40-page papers using two fingers. Today, they can explore more modern forms of communication—from blogs and wikis to digital filmmaking and podcasting—thanks to associate professor of English writing Thomas Burkdall’s “Writing Across the Curriculum—Web 2.0: Blogs and Beyond” class.

“A lot of us composition and rhetoric teachers have moved into multimedia in a big way in the last two to three years,” says Burkdall, who joined the Oxy faculty in 1991 and started an “Exploring the Internet” course in the mid-1990s—an antecedent to the current English Writing 401 class—as “a way to jump into the tech pool.”

He continues: “I like the contrasting use of different rhetoric—written vs. oral. I like the different ways you can use language. These new media allowed my course to emphasize classical rhetorical elements while exploring 21st-century forms.” This broadening of the coursework inspired one of Burkdall’s students to refer to the classroom as “the studio.”

Each student in the class wrote a blog and crafted an audio essay, a film, and a slide show. They could use whatever format they

wanted for their final project—“even a paper if they wanted to go old school,” Burkdall says, which a few actually did. No topic was off limits as long as it could be approached academically.

The course attracted a broad mix of majors. There were “a lot of econ majors, because that major has a rigorous writing requirement,” Burkdall says. But critical theory and social justice, film, history, religious studies, and English and comparative literary studies majors were also represented.

Final class presentations included computer slide shows on the Spanish gymnastic sport of *castell* (a kind of human pyramid), Jamaica’s economic problems, and Israeli music. One student created an iFilm on the history of video games, and another recorded an audio essay about Nazi medical experiments. A Power Point presentation on the history of swinging and mate-swapping was met with scattered giggles, prompting the male author to insist, “There is serious research on this!”

“I think there’s some really exciting work that the students have done,” Burkdall says. “The challenge for me is to figure out how to evaluate their work” because they’re using new forms of composition, as opposed to the traditional essay.

“It was exciting to create and be a part of something so fresh and exciting,” says Karin Haas ’09, a history major from Northfield, Minn. As an intern with DirecTV, Haas (<http://karinhaas.blogspot.com>) is putting her skill set to good use, including writing for a variety of audiences on the Internet, new research tactics, and creating podcasts. “My employers are incredibly impressed and think I have a ton of work experience, but really it’s all from Burkdall’s class.”

As for other assessments of the class, Burkdall thinks “some students didn’t know what to make of it.” He points to a perceived generational divide between the younger generation (“digital natives”) and the older folks (“digital immigrants”). In reality, he says, students came to his class with a wide range of technological knowledge and abilities: “While this generation of undergraduates feels entitled to digital input and production as a kind of birthright, they have frequently not yet developed the critical and rhetorical skills to harness these media.”

There was one group of students, however, who embraced Burkdall’s class with no reservations. “The hackers really enjoy it,” he notes. “They feel they’re underrepresented in the curriculum.”

—SAMANTHA B. BONAR ’90