

33-year employee Jim Capp retires



By Leslie Weddell

Jim Capp is trading in his dish rag and apron for art classes and a Broncos jacket. Capp, 60, retired in October after working at Colorado College for 33 years as a food-service employee.

Capp has had cerebral palsy since birth and cannot speak or hear. Yet, he walked to Colorado College every day, rarely missing work. "He was like clockwork," says Veronica Havard, Sodexo catering supervisor. "It's hard to find those kind of people. You'd go

back in the kitchen, and he was guaranteed to be there – and always with a smile."

Capp's brother and two sisters, as well as many nieces, nephews, and their children, joined with friends and coworkers honoring him with a retirement party Oct. 30 in Gaylord Hall. "This job meant the world to him," said his brother, Jack, who drove from Fort Collins for the reception. "This was his life, for all those years."

Randy Kruse, former director of operations for Sodexo, who worked with Capp for five years and learned sign language so he could better communicate with him, also returned to campus to help honor Capp. Kruse and Capp broke out in grins – and sign language – when they met up again.

"He loved being in the center of it," said Capp's sister, Judy, who came from Dallas for the reception. "Everybody eats, and everybody comes through the dining hall. That's what he loved."

However, over the years it became increasingly difficult for Capp to work. "Cerebral palsy magnifies the effects of aging," Jack Capp said. "It has just become too physically difficult for him."

Capp, who is an avid fan of Bronco games and wrestling matches, also enjoys putting intricate jigsaw puzzles together, working with small plastic beads, and drawing. "He just started drawing this summer," his sister said. "I am definitely going to look into some art lessons for him before I head back."

Capp, who graduated from the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind in 1967, came to work at CC soon after, "when the dining hall was a lot smaller," he said through an interpreter. Capp, who is gregarious and outgoing, loved having the buzz of student activity around him.

In the late 1980s, at the urging of students, Capp decided to teach American Sign Language on a volunteer basis. At the time, no one knew how many students to expect. They planned for about 20 – and 80 showed up. Eventually the group settled in at about 35, and met once a week for a couple of years in Tutt Library. The group – more of a club than a class – would take occasional "field trips" to Capp's apartment, about three blocks from campus, to see his close-captioned television set and teletype phone.

In 1991, Capp received a Thousand Points of Light award for his sign-language work from then-President George H.W. Bush; the framed award was on display, with photos and some of Capp's artwork, at the reception.

"Something special happens when someone hires a person who is disadvantaged," said Jack Capp. "It's wonderful for their self-esteem, to be self-sufficient." He said his brother "delights in writing his own checks; in buying his own food."

"This job has been his life, his social life, his purpose," said Caren McCarthy, Capp's niece. "That's why he's been here for 33 years."

access would like to extend a special thank you to Jack Capp for letting us know about his brother's retirement party.

Get to know: Lián Sifuentes

By Charlene Lee '10

When I first meet Lián Sifuentes, the new drama department assistant professor, I almost mistake her for a student. She arrives directly from a costume fitting for the recent production of "Romeo and Juliet," in which she plays Romeo's best friend, Mercutio, explaining: "Since this is a modern take on the play, I'm playing Mercutio as female. Playing the role as female is interesting because it allows you to really look at different relationships, particularly Mercutio's relationships with Romeo and Tybalt."

Sifuentes grew up in a western Massachusetts environment she describes as a "haunted house, Emily Dickinson, dark gray aesthetic." She initially became interested in theater because she enjoyed "inhabiting another persona" and gaining novel perspectives through the roles she played. She attended UMass-Amherst and majored in theater, but found herself wanting more. "Although I really enjoyed theatre, I felt limited by always being directed by someone else and telling someone else's story," she says.

She received two masters degrees at NYU: one in performance theory and the other in interactive telecommunications. At NYU, Sifuentes began to see technology as a metaphor for performance. "I started to become interested in technology in performance, which was something I never expected. I found that I wanted to see not what technology is in performance, but how technology affects the way we make connections between things, or how our minds

think in networks and not straight lines." She continued working on performance projects and spent four years with the Trinity/La MaMa Experimental Performing Arts Program in New York City.

Currently, Sifuentes teaches performance studies and digital media classes that examine everything from online social spaces, to the history of performance, to stop motion animation. She classifies her courses as either being "deep investigation of performance" or as "practical art making" classes, involving more hands-on work. She hopes to incorporate both techniques into her classes.

One course Sifuentes is teaching is Latin American performance, which examines "theatre as resistance" through plays written between 1950-80, and focuses on how theater functions as a coping mechanism for oppression. She explains that for many oppressed individuals, "theater can be the only way to articulate problems, hold people accountable for actions, and resist oppression."



Betcha didn't know ...

The communications and athletics departments got together on Oct. 24 and threw a surprise baby shower for **Dave Reed**, associate director of athletic media relations. His wife, **Gerri Anne**, who was Tom Nycum's administrative assistant for five years, was in on the surprise, but Dave thought he was going to a meeting with **Julie Soriero**, director of athletics, in the El Pomar Sports Center. When he walked in and saw nearly 50 people, he thought "looks like someone is having a lunch." It wasn't until he saw his wife there that the pieces fell into place. "It was fun to pull off the surprise, especially for someone who is in the news business," said Julie, who couldn't be at the shower because she was traveling. "Both Dave and Gerri Anne have been valuable to so many folks at CC." Dave and Gerri Anne got all sorts of baby gifts – most of which Dave says he has no idea what to do with. "Give me shoulder pads and I'm fine," he says. The one exception to infant gifts he doesn't know what to do with: Ohio State baby apparel. The Reed baby is due Nov. 17, the day before the Ohio State v. Michigan game. Stay tuned ...

Greis might as well mean gold – at least in Nesselwang, Germany, where Michael Greis lives. His CC relatives include **Rudy Greis**, in computer support, **Alicia Greis**, a buyer and customer service clerk in the bookstore, and **Karl Greis**, the carpenter shop supervisor. Michael Greis won three gold medals at the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin. Not only did he take the first gold medal awarded at the games, he also was the first person to capture three gold medals in the games. Michael Greis competed in the in men's biathlon, an event that combines cross-country skiing and rifle shooting. He received gold medals for the 20 km individual, was a member of the team that won the 4x7.5 km relay and won the men's 15 km event. Michael is the son of Rudy's first cousin in Germany.

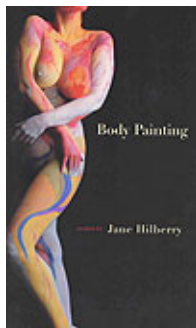
Jessica Alford, Sodexho director of operations, says that **Loomis Hall** donated the most canned food in Sodexho's recent food drive. The canned food benefits the CC soup kitchen and Care and Share. Sodexho, with the help of university partners nationwide, is going for the Guinness World Record for the most food collected in 24 hours.

Kristine Lang, assistant professor of physics, has returned from maternity leave. Her son, Cooper Anthony Vaida, was born May 17, weighing in at 8 pounds, 3 ounces. May 17 was the last day of classes in the 2005-2006 academic year, something Kristine will probably always remember. "I was teaching a new class 8th block that I was very excited about," Kristine says. "Everyday I would fervently hope that I would be there to teach the next day's class. The fervent hoping paid off because I finished teaching the course at noon on the last day of class and he was born at 3:38 p.m. that same afternoon."

Send your news and information to leslie.weddell@ColoradoCollege.edu

Kudos

Professor Jane Hilberry wins Colorado Book Award



Jane Hilberry, Colorado College professor of English and co-chair of the English department, was awarded a 2006 Colorado Book Award for her book of poetry, "Body Painting."

Hilberry credits much of her win to a meeting of great minds and talents. Two years ago she and five other Front Range poets began meeting for their own poetry writers' workshop sessions, exchanging book-length manuscripts and critiquing each others' work.

Defying odds in the poetry world, four of the writers' books were accepted and published that first year, and they were released within months of each other.

If ever there was a joint victory, this was it," she said. "I think what made the group so amazing was the high level of seriousness, matched with a high level of humor. We knew we had something great even before the great things started to happen."

The poets call their group What Would Lorca Do? Perhaps they've figured it out.

Rotzien sets records on American Cancer Society team

CC student Jon Rotzien '07 has placed impressively in recent triathlons. He placed first and set course records in both the Pleasant Prairie Triathlon held in August in Kenosha, Wis., and the Fort Collins Triathlon held in September in Fort Collins, Colo. Rotzien also placed third out of 1,700 participants in August's Accenture Chicago Triathlon. He accomplished this despite being sidelined for 18 months after being hit by a car while competing in a triathlon.



Weddle regional head for religion, biblical society



David Weddle, CC professor of religion and chair of the religion department, has been named president of the Rocky Mountain-Great Plains region of the American Academy of Religion and the Society of Biblical Literature. Weddle will preside over the regional planning meeting at the national meeting of the two societies in Washington, D.C., this month.

Read complete text at <http://www.ColoradoCollege.edu/Internal.asp>

Block 2 breakout: Who did what, where ...

- **Rob Andre** '08: Went to the Baca campus on a spiritual and relaxation trip.
- **Perri Kramer** '07: Went with four friends on a bike trip to Canyonlands National Park and Moab, Utah.
- **John Zirkle** '08: Met with a local recording studio regarding the possibility of recording commercial jingles; also rehearsed with the vocal arts ensemble.
- **Maija Benitz** '08: Drove to Las Vegas with friends to go to "Vegoose," a multi-day music festival.
- **Reid Prebenda** '08: Went to Breckenridge to help a friend's parents furnish a condo. Also did some hiking in Breckenridge and skiing at Arapahoe Basin.

CC's Service and Learning Trips:

• Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge

The group camped out and helped repair barb wire fences that had been washed away in order to keep out livestock in this research area, located 20 miles north of Socorro, N.M.

• Alamosa Farming

Students worked on small farms in the San Luis Valley, helping farmers prepare their fields and crops for the up coming winter.

Behind the lens with Erin Hudson

By Leslie Weddell

Erin Hudson '01, always attended the Rocky Mountain Women's Film Festival while a student at CC. This year two of her documentaries will be featured in the prestigious three-day festival, which runs Nov. 3-5.

Her documentaries "Unhitched" and "Long Haul" will be shown in the 3:30-5:30 p.m. session on Saturday, Nov. 4 in Armstrong Hall.

"Unhitched," a 12-minute film, is a portrait of a community that has transformed travel trailers into permanent homes. The Faerie Ring Campground and RV Park, tucked away in a redwood grove in Northern California, serves as one of the only options for low-income housing in the area. Through the residents' experiences, the film illustrates the value of having a place to call home while expanding one's notions of community.

"Long Haul," a 22-minute film, explores the lives of three women truck drivers who drive 18-wheelers for a living. The documentary challenges preconceived notions of truck driving as the women share their humor, insight and experiences, and explore what is gained and what is lost as a woman, a mother and a trucker on the open road. "Long Haul" was Hudson's thesis film for her masters in documentary film and video, which she received from Stanford University in June. Stanford is one of the few schools that has a documentary-specific graduate program, she says.

Hudson, a women's studies major at CC who took several film courses, values documentary films because "they tend to tell stories we don't see in mainstream media," she says. "Documentaries can be a powerful social tool and educational force to evoke change."

Films also have the ability to connect and build relationships between those on the screen and in the audience, Hudson says. "We can come together as a community through theaters," she says. "Films can bring people together through conversations and discussions. They can be a powerful social force."

Tom Sanny, assistant professor of film studies who had Hudson in a 2000 basic filmmaking course, says Hudson's final project, a film titled "Hand and Voice," is in the college's film archives. The 4-minute, 12-second film is "a lyric celebration of doing things with your hands," Sanny says.

Hudson, who is traveling from her home in Albuquerque for the festival, will present her work for the feminist and gender studies program and visit Sanny's advanced filmmaking class on Monday, Nov. 6. She plans to show "Long Haul," "Unhitched," and possibly a short film called "Afloat" during a noon presentation at Slocum Commons.



Bowed Piano Ensemble strikes a chord

By Jane Turnis

How does an eclectic, elite ensemble of 10 – including four new members this academic year – master a spectacular performance at Lincoln Center in New York City just eight weeks into the school year?

Well, you could say that members of the Bowed Piano Ensemble are accustomed to diving into things (literally, if you've ever watched them converge upon a grand piano).

The ensemble is an internationally renowned experimental music group that unleashes the piano's many voices by playing its interior – "bowing" its strings with rosined fishing line and ribbons, playing rhythm with brushes and mallets on its strings and frame, strumming the strings – and occasionally playing the keys.

Founded and directed by Stephen Scott, CC professor of music, Bowed Piano Ensemble (BPE) performs Scott's compositions, with each member responsible for particular sounds, notes, and rhythms within a piece. It's like an elaborate hand-bell choir.

And it's the ultimate in teamwork: Dressed in black shirts, trousers, and Crocs, the musicians – each of them assigned a number to keep track of their parts – crouch, stretch, reach, and somehow manage to squeeze into position in order to play their notes or percussion, then quickly and nimbly move to their access point, all while trying not to disturb fellow performers.

"You get to the point where you don't care if someone elbows you in the face," said No. 4, Beth Beckel '07, a new member this year.

No. 6, Bernie Brink '06, now in his third year with the ensemble and the group's technical manager, has traveled

throughout the world with BPE, performing in Estonia, Germany, Belgium, Santa Fe, Chicago, New York, Cincinnati, and Milwaukee.

Brink, a paraprofessional in the CC music department, said the team, which also includes soprano Victoria Hansen, CC voice instructor, had to come together at lightning speed to be ready for three concerts in October – including one at the heart-stopping, premiere venue, Lincoln Center.

The first concert, in Packard Hall, drew a larger crowd than Beckel expected. "It was definitely scary," she said. "I think all of our hands were shaking. But it went well, and afterward people came up and talked and asked questions, and that was great."

In Cincinnati, the playing field changed: The ensemble had to adapt to a Steinway built differently than the piano they rehearse on at CC. "The structure, the frame, was different. There were more things to run into," Beckel said. "But it was the same kind of piano we were to use in New York, so it was a chance to warm up."

Then Lincoln Center. BPE's concert was in the Allen Room of Frederick P. Rose Hall, Home of Jazz at Lincoln Center.

"It was a pressure situation, but the ensemble was just excited, pumped to play at this important venue," Brink said. "There's

the aura of it being a high-end, high-class kind of venue. And it was also a treat to play with that backdrop: The back wall of the Allen Room is a wall of glass, looking out on Central Park."

Beckel says the Allen Room was breathtaking, and the concert experience was unforgettable.

"For me, if I can get through the first 30 seconds I will be fine. I made it through those first 30 seconds, started grooving with the music, and thought, 'I'm playing at Lincoln Center!'"



Block 3 • Calendar of Events

Wednesday, November 1

- Lecture: Ravi Zacharias Open Forum: Has Christianity Failed You? 7 p.m., Shove Memorial Chapel

Thursday, November 2

- Exhibit: "Book as Object": An International Survey of Sculptural Bookworks 4:30 p.m., Coburn Gallery
- Lecture: Michael Berube: "Academic Freedom: Fragile as Ever" 7 p.m., Packard Hall

Saturday, November 4

- Workshop: Teaching with Love and Logic 9 a.m., Gaylord Hall
- Rally: White Ribbon Campaign 7 p.m., World Arena, 3185 Venetucci Blvd.
- Concert: World Music Series Presents: Huun Huur Tu 7:30 p.m., Shove Memorial Chapel

Sunday, November 5

- Performance: Recycled Percussion 7:30 p.m., Armstrong Theatre, \$20 general admission; free with a CC ID

Monday, November 6

- Celebration: Celebration of Diwali and Eid ul-Fitr 6 p.m., Gaylord Hall
- Reading: "WINKIE" author Clifford Chase 6:30 p.m., Jerome P. McHugh Student Commons
- Lecture: Tom Cronin: "Presidential Powers in the Post-9/11 World" 7 p.m., Gates Common Room, third floor of Palmer Hall

Tuesday, November 7

- Presentation: Korean American Student Association: First Asian Clothing Fashion Show 6:30 p.m., Gates Common Room
- Film: German Series: "Karneval der Liebe" 7 p.m., Max Kade Theatre

Thursday, November 9

- Performance: Susan Joy Share: "Book as Object" 7:30 p.m., Packard Hall
- Dance: Dance Workshop Presents "Nice Shoes... Wanna Dance" 7:30 p.m., Cossitt Hall

Friday, November 10

- Dance: Dance Workshop Presents "Nice Shoes... Wanna Dance" 7:30 p.m., Cossitt Hall

Saturday, November 11

- Dance: Dance Workshop Presents "Nice Shoes... Wanna Dance" 7 and 9 p.m., Cossitt Hall

Monday, November 13

- Lecture: Physician/mountain climber Robert Schoene, "Confessions of a Nomadic Investigator: Exploring the Limits in Thin Air" 7 p.m., Gaylord Hall

Tuesday, November 14

- Film: German Series: "Trenck der Pandur" 7 p.m., Max Kade Theatre
- Concert: Distinguished Organist Series presents Paul Jacobs 7:30 p.m., Shove Memorial Chapel
- Reading: "Modern Greek Poets and Ancient Greek Themes" by Peter Bien 7:30 p.m., Slocum Commons

Wednesday, November 15

- Concert: Music at Midday Student Performance 12:15 p.m., Packard Hall
- Lecture: Carl Rubino -- "Human Choices in an Uncertain Universe: Science, Ethics and the Humanities" 7 p.m., Gates Common Room

Thursday, November 16

- Reading: Visiting Writers Series: Diane Thiel 7 p.m., Jerome P. McHugh Student Commons
- Concert: Tiger Jazz Ensemble 7:30 p.m., Packard Hall
- Lecture: Leslea Newman: "Heather's Mommy Speaks Out: Homophobia, Censorship and Family Values" 7:30 p.m., Gates Common Room
- Concert: Tiger Jazz Ensemble Concert – An Ellington Introspective 7:30 p.m., Packard Hall

Tuesday, November 21

- Film: German Series: "Titanic" 7 p.m., Max Kade Theatre

Thursday, November 30

- Lecture: Erika Doss -- "Genius, Visionary, Icon: The Culture of Celebrity in the Contemporary Art World" 7:30 p.m., W.E.S. Room

Minimum wage. Term limits for judges. Illegal immigration. These are just some of the ballot issues Colorado voters will be facing Tuesday, Nov. 7. **Eric Whitney**, KRCC news producer and editor, has compiled all the election topics Western Skies has covered and **Delaney Utterback** has placed them, along with audio links, on the front page of www.krcc.org. The folks at KRCC are hoping to provide a little clarity on this election, which features one of the lengthiest ballots in history.

p.s.

You may have heard that the aCCess name has been pre-empted for the new CC portal. That's okay with us as we move into fresh pastures at the same time. Please send us your suggestions for a new name for our reformatted publication. We can't promise you an iPod like the portal people did, but we can offer a Wooglines \$25 certificate to the first person to send in the selected new name. We will value your originality at:

accessnomore@ColoradoCollege.edu