

around the **BLOCK**

A Newsletter of the Colorado College Community Block 5 • 2007

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...and much more.

CC pulls together during untimely storm

Surprises are the norm at Christmas. However, the paralyzing blizzard that struck Colorado on Wednesday, Dec. 20, was beyond the norm.

Block 4 ended Dec. 20, and Colorado College was scheduled to close Thursday, Dec. 21. By noon Wednesday, however, the extent of the storm's impact was becoming apparent, and many students were unable to leave. The Colorado College community adapted to the difficult situation; to accommodate the stranded students, college staff kept residence halls open, provided food and medical services, and arranged transportation to airports.

Students who tried to reschedule flights discovered both the Denver and Colorado Springs airports were closed and nearly all flights were booked for

several days. Realizing there wasn't much they could do, the students went sledding behind the Western Ridge apartments, watched movies, and played cards.

As the extent of the storm became apparent, Shawn Finnegan, general manager of Sodexho dining, began stocking up on produce and other items that might be difficult to procure in the coming days. Finnegan estimates Sodexho fed between 500 and 600 students on Dec. 21 and 22, before the weather eased up a bit on the 23rd, allowing many students to start their journey home. In the meantime, many of the students' meal plans had run out, but they were fed anyway. Some seniors without meal cards

came to the Worner Campus Center; they were fed and no questions were asked.

"We weren't going to let any student go hungry," Finnegan said.

During the virtual shut-down of the city, Finnegan said, the students lingered over meals, enjoying each other's company and relaxing more than they can when classes are in session. "It was nice to see them as they sat and talked.

It was nice to see that kind of community," he said.

College staff contracted with outside vendors to arrange additional shuttles to DIA, anticipating that students would be unable to rebook tickets home for

several days. Bob Winkelblech, transportation supervisor in CC's facilities services department, ran at least three dozen shuttles between Dec. 21 and Dec. 25. No student was turned away, and the \$35 fee was dropped to \$7.

The Colorado College switchboard was busy too, fielding hundreds of calls from parents. Two e-mail blasts were sent from the office of alumni and parent relations with information pertaining to the college's emergency plans to feed and house students. Grateful e-mails from parents started pouring in; within 48 hours, the office of alumni and parent relations received enough e-mails to fill 25 pages when printed out.

“We weren't going to let any student go hungry.”

**— Shawn Finnegan
General Manager of Sodexho Dining**

Betcha DIDN'T KNOW...

Tim Sexton '82 was nominated Jan. 23 for an Academy Award (best screenplay) for "Children of Men."

- CC's annual **Mochitsuki** (rice cake pounding) event, which celebrates the Japanese New Year, collected \$106 in donations which will be turned over to the Red Cross to help victims of the Castle West Apartments fire. The event, held Jan. 20, was moved inside the Worner Campus Center for the first time since it began in 1993. "All the volunteers and participants got to stay warm, so perhaps we should consider holding all future Mochitsuki indoors," says **Paul Maruyama**, one of the organizers of the annual event, which is cosponsored by the Japan America Society of Southern Colorado (JASSC) and CC's German, Russian, and East Asian languages department.

- The **CC Bookstore** has compiled a display featuring the 12 books recommended by faculty and staff in the Block 4 issue of *access*.

- Graphic designer **Kris Akse** is the winner of the "rename access" contest. His suggestion: "Around the

Block." His prize? A \$25 gift certificate to Wooglin's.

- CC's **Network and Systems Group** has created two special wireless hotspots on campus for visitors. Normally, folks must have a CC account, register their computers, and do some complex configurations in order to access the network. However, these two hotspots are completely open, and visitors can drop by with a laptop and hook up to the Internet with no registration, no CC account, and no complicated configuration. Locations are in the west side of the Worner Campus Center, and the Tutt Library in the Chas coffee shop. Tell visitors to select the "CC Open" wireless network when in one of the hotspots, and they'll be connected. Visitors needing access to library databases can ask a reference librarian to log them in as a guest.

- You can read more about **Anton Krupicka**, the Writing Center paraprof, winning last summer's Leadville 100 at <http://www.trailrunnermag.com/index1.html>. He's featured in a five-page spread in the latest issue of *Trail Runner Magazine* in an article titled "The Naked Guy."

New Hires/Rehires September '06 through present

Donald Baker, Systems Programmer/Analyst, ITS
Omer Bar-or, Institutional Research Coordinator, Institutional Research
Nicholas Calkins, Parking Manager, Security
Cathy Camp-Davidson, Records Clerk, Registrar's Office
Anne Goodman James, Head Coach in Swimming, Athletics
David Havlick, Colket Center Fellow in Reading and Rhetoric, Colket Center
Jorge Hidalgo, Central Plant Operator, Facilities Services
Traci Hosmer, Visual Resources Assistant, Art
Patrick Hull, Admission Specialist, Admission Office
Tracy James, Financial Aid Processing Coordinator, Financial Aid Office
Joseph "Joe" Lee, Groundskeeper II, Facilities Services
Mark Lee, Assistant Web Editor, Communications
Yolanda Lyons Pfund, Director of Internal Auditor, Business Office
Carolyn Madsen, Office Coordinator, Legal & Business Office

Cristina Montoya, DIALogue Program Coordinator, Development Office
Stacy Moore, Admission Specialist, Admission Office
Lori Peck, Assistant Controller, Business Office
Shaleen Prehm, HR Manager/Benefits Administrator, Human Resources Office
Margaret Straub, Gift Records Specialist, Advancement Services
Debra Unterseher, Records Assistant, Registrar's Office
Edward Warner, Athletics Equipment Manager, Athletics

Promotions/Transfers

Kelly Lollar, Program Coordinator, Center for Service & Learning
Guyda Marr, Staff Assistant, Art
Donald Nalley, Arborist, Facilities Services
Christina Ordenez-Campos, Assistant Controller, Business Office
Andrea Pacheco, DIALogue Program Officer, Development Office

36 students begin CC as Winter Starts after taking a semester off

This year, 36 students of the class of 2010 chose to start Colorado College at the beginning of the second semester, under the college's Winter Start Program.

Taking a semester off before starting college gives students a unique window of time between high school and college, and they use the time well. This year's students studied in India, kayaked the Baja Peninsula, and backpacked in Patagonia. "Taking the first semester off allowed me to realize that I can succeed at whatever I choose to apply myself to," said Tara Davis, who spent her pre-college semester starring in an IMAX movie about the future of the Colorado River.

The students arrived at CC on Monday, Jan. 15, a week before classes began. They were whisked to CC's Baca Campus, located in the San Luis Valley at the foot of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, for their five-day new student orientation (NSO) trip. These trips allow incoming first-year students a chance to get to know each other and their school, as well as to experience Colorado.

Late Wednesday afternoon, the students stood at the base of the Great Sand Dunes under a blue, cloudless sky. To the east of the dunes towered the Sangres, which were blanketed in frost and snow from their base to their rocky summits.

The tallest dune rises 700 feet, small in comparison to the 14,000-foot peaks of the Sangres, but the hike to the top is a challenge at 8,000 feet of elevation. A group of students gathered at the top of the dunes to watch the sunset and from their vantage point the expanse of the San Luis Valley stretched before them as the sun dipped below the mountains.

Back at the Baca Campus, dinner at the Desert Sage restaurant and a lesson on sand dune formation given by NSO leader and geology major Zion Klos awaited the students.

The evenings were a chance for the new students to share stories about their semester off and question the lead-

ers about what to expect from their college careers.

"How many hours do you typically study per day?" and "How well do the winter starts integrate with the rest of the freshman class?" were among the questions asked.

Thursday morning the students attended the Sang Chöd ceremony at a local Zen Center Buddhist Community. A Sang Chöd is held to celebrate every new moon, and the winter starts were lucky enough to catch one. The students gathered around a fire surrounded by colorful Buddhist prayer flags that fluttered in the light breeze and sunshine, while members of the Zen Center recited prayers in Tibetan.

The students participated in the closing Ki Ki So So Lha ja Lo prayer and chanted a crescendo that ended with handfuls of barley flour being tossed into the air, blessing the participants as it settled and the day's work began.

The rest of the day the winter starts assisted in fire mitigation efforts by removing piles of piñon and juniper branches from forests around the Zen Center. Some students hauled the brush and others fed it into a wood chipper, which was the coveted job of the day.

"Watching the chipper devour logs is the coolest thing on the planet," said winter start Adam Kropusis. "I can't wait to do it again."

Later students accompanied Peter May, of the Zen Center, to the still used to extract oils from the chipped wood. May explained the distillation process while the students sampled the

oils, which are used as perfumes.

The friendships and memories the winter starts form on their NSO trips last well beyond their time at Colorado College.

"This is a fantastic way to be introduced to college," said Stewart Lawson on his final night of orientation. "I don't know of any other school that does anything like this. It is CC's secret." ○ Zach Gostout '07



Thursday, February 1

Film: Celebrating Black History Month: "Something the Lord Made" Film and Discussion

7 p.m., Slocum Commons

Lecture: Arthur Zajonc, Science & Spirituality:

Breaking Common Cognitive Ground

7:30 p.m., Gates Common Room

Friday, February 2

Reception: "Braingirl" 4:30 p.m., Coburn Gallery

Benefit: "Vagina Monologues" Gala

7 p.m., Gaylord Hall

Tuesday, February 6

Lecture: Camille Paglia: "Religion and the Arts in America"

7:30 p.m., Armstrong Theatre

Thursday, February 8

Reading: Screenwriter James Salter

7 p.m., Gates Common Room

Lecture: Michael Pollan: The Omnivore's Dilemma:

Searching for the Perfect Meal in a Fast-Food World

7:30 p.m., Shove Memorial Chapel

Performance: The Civilians, "Save This City"

8 p.m., Armstrong Theatre; \$5, \$2 for students, or \$2 with a CC ID; tickets at Worner Campus Center Information Desk

Friday, February 9

Performance: Ruth Forman & Rev. J. Alfred Smith Sr.:

Speak or Be Spoken For

7 p.m., Shove Memorial Chapel

Performance: The Civilians, "Save This City"

8 p.m., Armstrong Theatre; \$5, \$2 for students, or \$2 with a CC ID; tickets at Worner Campus Center Information Desk

Saturday, February 10

Performance: The Civilians, "Save This City"

2 p.m. and 8 p.m., Armstrong Theatre; \$5, \$2 for

students, or \$2 with a CC ID; tickets at Worner

Campus Center Information Desk, 902 N. Cascade Ave.

Sunday, February 11

Concert: Gospel Music Workshop of America, "Staying on the Wall"

3 p.m., Packard Hall

Monday, February 19

Performance: Step Afrika

7:30 p.m., Armstrong Theatre; \$15; tickets at Worner Desk, beginning Feb. 7

p.s.

KRCC has compiled 10 lists of its top play lists of 2006. Categories include blues, rock, freeform, reggae, progressive/acid jazz, Celtic, and various deejays' favorite tunes. Here is the Top 10 play list for standard jazz; to view all lists go to KRCC's Web site at <http://www.krcc.org/top2006.html>

Top 10 Standard Jazz

1. Brian Lynch, Eddie Palmieri - Simpatico
2. Chris Potter - Underground
3. Dr. Lonnie Smith - Jungle Soul
4. Ed Palermo Big Band - Take Your Clothes Off When You Dance
5. Edsel Gomez - Cubist Music
6. Jane Bunnett - Radio Guantanamo
7. Karrin Allyson - Footprints
8. Marcus Shelby Jazz Orchestra - Port Chicago
9. Miguel Anga Diaz - Echu Minga
10. Monty Alexander - Concrete Jungle

Next p.s.: It's Cold! Tell us your favorite soup and where to get it. Send to AroundTheBlock@ColoradoCollege.edu

block 5 CALENDAR of events

Tuesday, February 20

Lecture: Marina Zurkow: Artist Lecture by Creator of “Braingirl” and “Nicking the Never”

7 p.m., Gaylord Hall

Lecture: Rebecca Tinsley: “Never Again? Why Genocide Happens in the 21st Century”

7:30 p.m., Bemis Hall

Thursday, February 22

Gallery talk: “Nicking the Never” Opening Reception
4:30 p.m., Coburn Gallery

Lecture: Bob Raynolds: A Geologist’s View on Global Change: How Does it Impact Colorado?

7 p.m., Tutt Science Center Lecture Hall

Performance: “The Vagina Monologues”

7:30 p.m., Armstrong 32 ~ Black Box Theater, \$8, \$5 for students, or \$5 with a CC ID; tickets at Worner Campus Center Information Desk or at the door

Friday, February 23

Performance: Lady in the Dark

7:30 p.m., Packard Hall

Performance: “The Vagina Monologues”

7:30 p.m., Armstrong 32 ~ Black Box Theater, \$8, \$5 for students, or \$5 with a CC ID; tickets at Worner Campus Center Information Desk or at the door

Saturday, February 24

Concert: A Night of Praise with Revolution Ministries
7 p.m., Shove Memorial Chapel

Performance: *LOCATION CHANGE* Poet Tony

Moffeit with guitarist Rick Terlep

7:30 p.m., Gates Common Room

Performance: Lady in the Dark

7:30 p.m., Packard Hall

Performance: “The Vagina Monologues”

7:30 p.m., Armstrong 32 ~ Blackbox Theater, \$8, \$5 for students, or \$5 with a CC ID; tickets at Worner Campus Center Information Desk or at the door

Sunday, February 25

Performance: Lady in the Dark

3 p.m., Packard Hall

Monday, February 26

Film: “Thin” and discussion

4 p.m., Slocum Commons

Reading: Courtney Martin: “Perfect Girls, Starving Daughters: The Frightening New Normalcy of Hating Your Body”

7 p.m., Loomis Lounge

Concert: Atmic Vision: a North Indian Classical Music Ensemble

7:30 p.m., Packard, Room 9

Lecture: Todd Buchholz: Competing and Thriving in the New Global Economy: The H. Chase Stone Lecture in Economics

7:30 p.m., Gates Common Room

Tuesday, February 27

Lecture: Randy Udall: “Renewable Energy Possibilities: Offsets to Traditional Sources”

7:30 p.m., Gates Common Room

Wednesday, February 28

Service: Spring Internship and Job Fair

11:30 a.m., Worner Lounges

Lecture: Aficionados Luncheon Lecture: Gary Nabhan, “Why Some Like It Hot: Chiles, Genes and Southwest Culture”

Noon, Gaylord Hall, \$12.50

Lecture: “Renewing America’s Food Traditions: Restoring Bison Nation”

7 p.m., Gates Common Room

To post event information to the CC calendar, go to the [internal home page](#) and access the blue button on the left marked “submit event information.” Another option: Go to the form located at http://www.ColoradoCollege.edu/news_events/calendar/create.asp

KUDOS

Assistant Chaplain Ordained on Epiphany

Assistant Chaplain Kate Holbrook recently completed a six-year ordination process and was, appropriately, ordained on Epiphany, Jan. 6. The service took place at St. John United Methodist/Presbyterian Church outside of Baltimore, Md. Holbrook, a graduate of Bates College and of the Pacific School of Religion, part of the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, Calif., was ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Before joining CC in



August, she held a one-year chaplaincy position at the University of Puget Sound. Holbrook has spent two summers on the Scottish Isle of Iona, at the celebrated ecumenical peace and justice center, working in the MacLeod Center and the Iona Abbey. One of Holbrook's goals (or hopes) at CC is to create "a culture of pause, where people can be with each other and engage in meaningful conversation - or be quiet, with themselves, each other, and the Sacred."

Librarian Receives the 2006 Distinguished Service Award



Robin Satterwhite, social sciences librarian at Tutt Library, was awarded the 2006 Distinguished Service Award from the Colorado Association of Libraries on Nov. 11 in Denver. The Distinguished Service Award recognizes a librarian or media specialist who has provided exceptional

service to the association over several years. Satterwhite, who was first employed at Tutt Library in 1975, was recognized for her many years of service to professional library organizations, which include serving as secretary of the association's college and university division, chairing the library instruction round table, regularly presenting conference programs, participating on the Association of College and Research Libraries committee that drafted

Colket Fellow Defends Ph.D. Dissertation

David Havlick, the Colket Fellow in Reading and Rhetoric, defended his Ph.D. dissertation on Oct. 13 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Havlick's thesis, "Bombs Away: Military-to-Wildlife Conversions in the U.S.," examined the conversion of military land to national wildlife lands. Since 1988, more than 1.2 million acres of United States military land has been reclassified as national wildlife refuges. Havlick surveyed 22 sites, looked closely at six, and developed two in-depth case studies, one of which was the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, located 11 miles northeast of Denver, which had a 40-year history

of chemical production prior to its conversion and reclassification. Havlick, originally from Boulder, has an A.B. in English from Dartmouth College, M.S. in environmental studies from the University of Montana, and received his Ph.D. in geography in December 2006.



Please send Kudos information, tidbits, or story ideas to AroundTheBlock@ColoradoCollege.edu

Block Break:

In the Tracks of Edward Abbey

“Head north six miles past Elaterite Butte to Big Water Spring,” I read aloud from my tattered copy of Edward Abbey’s classic book, “Desert Solitaire.” Three friends followed my instructions and traced lines with their fingers on the maps scattered on a table in Tutt Library’s map room.

We had been inspired by vivid descriptions in Abbey’s book of a remote area in Utah’s Canyonlands known as The Maze, an area Abbey compared to the Grand Canyon. We were determined to explore it for ourselves on our block break, and, with maps and the vague instructions gleaned from “Desert Solitaire,” we took off from Colorado Springs to our destination, the Maze Overlook.

Four hundred miles of pavement, another 80 of gravel, all with minimal sleep, brought us to the middle of Utah’s Green River desert by Thursday morning. Still ahead was Flint Trail.

Flint Trail descends along a series of switchbacks that cling to the only breach in the otherwise impassable cliffs bordering the mesa. The switchbacks are so tight that it appears the trail winds back on itself, like looking down 10 flights of stairs. I shifted the Jeep into four-wheel drive low, and carefully descended the trail. The Jeep skidded and bounced over boulders and ruts as we descended.



Once at the bottom, 1,000-foot tall maroon cliffs separated us from the mesa above.

We pressed on at 10-15mph. Two friends, eager to get out of the car, rode on the sides of the Jeep. The third passenger rode in the cargo basket on the roof with one hand gripping the webbing

used to lash the gear down, the other waving rodeo-style in the air.

By noon we had reached the Overlook.

“That’s the end of the trail. From there you could use wings,” wrote Abbey.

We did not have wings. Instead, we tied our hiking boots, hefted packs, and descended into the canyons below. The excitement of the journey thus far was soon



forgotten when we were surrounded by the incredible sandstone canyons created by erosion.

Over the next three days we discovered pictographs, natural arches, and secluded natural pools. We floated in the Colorado River on our air mattresses under a hot afternoon sun and hiked miles across the mesa by moonlight. Our final morning we paused to witness the sunrise over the desert. We completed the final hike through a desert spectacularly illuminated by the golden light of the early morning hours.

By late morning the beautiful dawn had turned into a scorching day. The remains of our water was gone, a problem we had encountered frequently. With dry mouths, we climbed up the steep walls of the canyons one last time. At the top, several gallons of water were stashed in the Jeep, provisions from the comfortable daily life to which we were returning.

○ Zach Gostout '07

Snowstorm: Storm hits CC *(from p.1)*

Faculty, staff, and community members with students assigned through CC's Adopt-A-Student program also made room at their holiday tables for dozens of students. Professor Kathy Bizarro, in the romance languages department, invited 10 students to her home late in the week. Among the group were three female volleyball players, two students from Florida, and students from Peru, Colombia, and Chile.

"We had a huge dinner and then I made them all go Christmas caroling," Bizarro said. "They didn't want to, but I gave them coats and made them. The Latino students later told their parents, 'I couldn't believe it; I was freezing and singing at the same time.' I wanted them to have a Colorado Christmas, and to share traditions. It's community and it's what CC is all about."

When it became apparent that some students wouldn't be able to leave until Christmas Day, Colorado College President Dick Celeste and his wife, Jacqueline Lundquist, invited all stranded CC students to join them for dinner on Christmas Eve. "We figured we might have as few as four students, and as many as a dozen, joining us on Sunday evening," Celeste said. Not wanting any stranded student to be empty-handed on Christmas, Celeste made a best-guess estimate and purchased six gifts.

As Sunday, Dec. 24th progressed, students would call, "one by one, saying they'd gotten on a flight, or found a way out," Lundquist said. By Christmas Eve, six students were making their way to Stewart House, the Celestes' home, for dinner. Like those who gathered at the Bizarro home, the Celestes hosted an eclectic group.

"They came from four states and Bulgaria. None of them knew one another before they arrived at Stewart House," Celeste said. "Four of them were offspring of college professors. Their majors ranged from mathematics to English. They were interested in sports journalism and forensic medicine, international political economy and philosophy, and chemistry and religion. We talked about favorite trips and family holiday traditions. We

were entertained by a discussion of the fine points of vegetarianism versus veganism."

Lundquist elaborates. Seated at the dining room table that evening with the Celeste family and their houseguests from Indonesia were two vegans, a guest who was lactose intolerant, another who was gluten intolerant, and a third who had an allergy to nuts.

The students stayed until about 9 p.m., then left to pack and head off to their families the following day. Before they left CC, however, Sodexho's Finnegan had arranged a Continental breakfast of pastries, bagels, and yogurts - "portable foods" - for them in Worner Campus Center, before they boarded the last shuttles to the airports.

Lundquist said the extra efforts by college faculty and staff, additional gatherings and last-minute guests at the table made for a memorable holiday.

"It is what Christmas is all about," she said.

Read Celeste's account on his blog at <http://www.ColoradoCollege.edu/welcome/PresidentsOffice/blog/>

○ Leslie Weddell

Storm stats:

- Number of inches of snow in Denver from December's two blizzards: 28
- Normal December snowfall for the Mile High City: 8.7 inches
- Snowiest December in Denver history: December 1919, with 57.4 inches
- Number of hours Denver International Airport was closed in December 2006: 45
- Cubic yards of snow removed from DIA: 4.4 million
- Wind speed at DIA: 40 mph
- Height of drifts along Pena Blvd.: 7 feet

(Source: Rocky Mountain News)