

around the **BLOCK**

A Newsletter of the Colorado College Community

Block 6 • 2008

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Unity Contest Powwow coming in April

Next month, the Native American Student Union (NASU) will host an intertribal powwow from noon to midnight on

April 5 on Armstrong Quad as part of the group's annual Heritage Week, which runs from April 2 through April 5. Each year, the Native American Student Union sponsors Heritage Week, which is devoted to education and information about modern and historical Native American life.

"This year the Native American Student Union wished

to approach stereotypes in a positive fashion," says Lauren Frinkman '08, a NASU co-chair from Albuquerque, N.M. "We decided that we wanted to educate our peers throughout the week with discussions addressing stereotypes in the media, education on Native American treaties, and depictions of Native American women."

Heritage Week will culminate with the Colorado College Unity Contest Powwow. "I see the powwow as an opportunity to expose Native American life from each of its various perspectives," says Eryka Charley '08, a NASU co-chair from Gallup, N.M. "What many fail to understand is that Native Americans come from different nations, with different cultures, creeds, and backgrounds.

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Get to know: Amod Lele

Visiting Professor of Religion Amod Lele is familiar with a range of religions, both personally and professionally. His mother was raised a Christian and became a Buddhist; his father was raised a Hindu and became a Marxist. Lele, who says he is "somewhere in the middle," is teaching courses in "Introduction to Hindu Tradition," "Islam," "Hindu-Muslim Relations," "The Good Life in Cross-Cultural Perspectives," and "Sexuality in South



Asian Traditions" during his yearlong stay at CC.

Originally from Kingston, Ontario, Lele received his undergraduate degree in geography and sociology from McGill University in Montreal. His interest in geography grew to include international development, and after graduation he worked in the United Nations' regional office in Thailand. "I'd always been interested in philosophy," he says, "and while I was there I traveled a lot, visiting Buddhist temples and talking

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KUDOS

Mason's "Ludlow" wins award

Colorado College English Professor David Mason's verse novel, "Ludlow," has been named the Outstanding Poetry Book of 2007 by the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum (formerly the Cowboy Hall of Fame). Mason's novel revisits one of the cruelest chapters in the history of American labor – the



Ludlow coal field massacre of 1914, in which 18 men, women, and children of coal mining families were killed by the Colorado National Guard. Mason also is the author of a collection of essays, "The Poetry of Life and the Life of Poetry," and has co-edited several textbooks and anthologies.

Karin Henriksen settling in at Summer Programs

Karin Henriksen has moved from the Tutt House to the Morreale House, where she is now the summer programs arts festival manager, a position formerly held by Bettina Swigger '02. Henriksen started working in the office of alumni and parent relations in 2000, and held

four jobs there, the most recent of which was alumni and parent programs coordinator. Henriksen, originally from Amsterdam, says "I am loving my new job."



CC junior named Truman Scholarship finalist

Billy Blaustein '09, of Mill Valley, Calif., has been named a national Truman Scholarship finalist. The mission of the Truman Scholarship Foundation is to find and recognize college juniors with exceptional leadership potential who

are committed to careers in government, the nonprofit or advocacy sectors, education, or other forms of public service. Blaustein, an international political economics major, spent last summer in Berlin as a Humanity in Action fellow, where he studied the assimilation of various minorities into German society after World War II.



Steve Elder named chairman of youth center board

Steve Elder, CC's vice president for advancement and president of the local chapter of Association of Fundraising Professionals, has been named the new chairman of the board for Youth Transformation Center. The Youth Transformation Center was established in 2005 to address accelerating school dropout rates and



juvenile crime. YTC targets its grant and funding proposals toward specific youth audiences, primarily youth at risk and at high risk. "We believe that Steve Elder has the proven ability to continue to strengthen YTC's mission in new and exciting ways," says Jeannette Holtham, president and founder of the organization.

Tanzania Project featured twice on YouTube

The eight senior students who went to Iringa, Tanzania, over winter break to educate women and children about AIDS/HIV raised more than \$30,000 before they left. They have been featured on YouTube twice: Check out

the video at

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=SXQySYLHnlQ> and
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ThA8y7rB3p8>

If you have a Kudos for *Around the Block*, send it to Leslie.Weddell@ColoradoCollege.edu

“I’ll take ‘Rock ‘n’ Roll’ for \$500, Alex”



Colorado College senior Kristina Caffrey finally found a use for all the random facts she has retained since she was young.

Caffrey will appear on the television show “Jeopardy!” on Monday, March 17. “I can’t give away specifics, but I can say that I’m very happy with the results,” she says. A hint:

The winner of each “Jeopardy!” game goes on to the next episode, so if you miss the show on March 17, check the TV on the 18th to see if she won.

Before she went on the show, Caffrey asked herself what her dream category would be. The answer: “What are ‘Beatles Songs?’” The CC English major must be living right, because her dream category actually came up during her stint on the show. “The other contestants were older, so I did have an advantage there,” she says.

Another advantage: In her senior thesis, “Adventure in American Rock ‘n’ Roll,” she analyzes the music of Johnny Cash, the Beach Boys, Steppenwolf’s “Born to be Wild,” and Bruce Springsteen’s “Born to Run.” “I am absolutely obsessed with rock ‘n’ roll, which ended up being very helpful on ‘Jeopardy!’” she says.

Caffrey appeared on the regular version of “Jeopardy!” not the college version, so she did not wear clothing with CC logos.

Caffrey, from Albuquerque, N.M., decided to try out for “Jeopardy!” in January 2007 by taking an online quiz. She did well, and in May 2007 she was invited to Denver where she participated in a group tryout. “Jeopardy!” officials said they would let the contestants know by phone who would be asked to fly to Los Angeles for a taping. When a few weeks passed and Caffrey didn’t hear, she assumed she hadn’t been selected.

Six months later, in early November, she received a call from show officials asking her to be in Los Angeles Nov. 27-28.

Once Caffrey learned she had been selected as a contestant, she watched the show regularly, using a pen as a practice buzzer. “Some days were great, and there were other days I couldn’t get anything,” she says. “I started to get nervous.” While ‘Beatles Songs’ was her strong category, ‘The Bible’ was her weak category, so she spent time honing up on Biblical facts. (That category never came up.)

“I’m known for bringing up totally random facts and quotations in class, and now I finally found a use for them,” she says. Caffrey, who also plays the cello and works as a Writing Center tutor, will be home over spring break when the show airs. “I know my family will watch it, but I don’t know if I will,” she says.

○ Leslie Weddell

“What is ‘Jeopardy!’ ”

- “Jeopardy!” has ranked first in Nielsen ratings for the quiz show genre for more than 1,000 weeks, and as the No. two series in syndication for 90 consecutive ratings sweeps periods with nearly 39 million viewers weekly.*
- More than 300 game shows have come and gone since “Jeopardy!” premiered in syndication in 1984.
- Since its syndication debut, “Jeopardy!” has received 27 Daytime Emmy Awards, more than any other syndicated game show. Eleven Emmys have been for “Outstanding Game Show/Audience Participation.” Alex Trebek has won four Daytime Emmy Awards for Outstanding Game Show Host.
- NASA astronauts presented “Jeopardy!” clues from the space shuttle Atlantis, while docking with the International Space Station.
- The “Jeopardy!” production staff has eight researchers and 10 writers.

*Data through May 2007.

JEOPARDY!

America’s Favorite Quiz Show®

CALENDAR of events

Monday, March 24

Film: "Sicko" by Michael Moore
7 p.m., McHugh Commons, free

Tuesday, March 25

Lecture: Health Care Debate: Is a Single-Payer System a Legitimate Alternative?
7:30 p.m., Gates Common Room, third floor of Palmer Hall, 1025 N. Cascade Ave. (east of Tutt Library), free

Wednesday, March 26

Workshop: Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities: What YOU Need to Know
7 p.m., Jerome P. McHugh Student Commons, above the Herb 'n' Farm Café; in the Western Ridge Housing Complex, 1090 N. Cascade Ave., free

Thursday, March 27

Lecture: Mary Shepard: "Harnessing the Medieval Past: Alexandre Lenoir, the Musée des Monuments Français and the Gothic Arch"
3:30 p.m., W.E.S. Room, lower level of Worner Campus Center, 902 N. Cascade Ave., free

Reading: Alan Gottlieb: Visiting Writers Series
7 p.m., Gates Common Room, third floor of Palmer Hall, 1025 N. Cascade Ave. (east of Tutt Library), free

Lecture: Steven Shapin: "Science in the Modern World"
7 p.m., Jerome P. McHugh Student Commons, above the Herb 'n' Farm Café; in the Western Ridge Housing Complex, 1090 N. Cascade Ave., free

Panel: True Stories: Local Residents Share Their Experiences With the Health Care System
7 p.m., Bemis Hall, 920 N. Cascade Ave. (west of Cutler Hall), free

Concert: Flamenco guitarist Adam del Monte
7:30 p.m., Packard Hall, 5 W. Cache La Poudre St., \$15; tickets at Worner Campus Center Information Desk, 902 N. Cascade Ave.

Saturday, March 29

Benefit: Drag Yourself Out for a Cure 2008! Silver and Scarlet Gay-la
8 p.m., Bemis Hall, 920 N. Cascade Ave. (west of Cutler Hall), \$20, \$12 for students; tickets at Worner Campus Center Information Desk, 902 N. Cascade Ave.

Dance: 10th Annual Drag Ball - an HIV/AIDS Benefit, 9 p.m., Worner Campus Center, 902 N. Cascade Ave. (NW corner of Cascade Ave. and Cache La Poudre St.), \$5, \$3 for students, or \$5 with a CC ID; tickets at Worner Campus Center Information Desk, 902 N. Cascade Ave.

Tuesday, April 1

Lecture: Contemporary Issues in American Health Policy, April 1 and April 8.
7 p.m., Tutt Science Center Lecture Hall, first floor, 1112 N. Nevada Ave., free

Lecture: David Broder: "Making Sense of the 2008 Elections," 7:30 p.m., Packard Hall, 5 W. Cache La Poudre St., free

Theater: "Catastrophe" and "Rough for Radio II"
8 p.m., Armstrong Theatre, inside Armstrong Hall, 14 E. Cache La Poudre St., free

Wednesday, April 2

Lecture: William Snape: "Can the Colorado River Survive Global Warming, Human Consumption, and Imperialism?"
Noon, Gaylord Hall, main floor of Worner Campus Center, 902 N. Cascade Ave., \$12.50, \$12.50 with a CC ID; reservations due Monday, March 31

Theater: "Catastrophe" and "Rough for Radio II"
8 p.m., Armstrong Theatre, inside Armstrong Hall, 14 E. Cache La Poudre St., free

The sustainability corner: Moving toward a carbon-neutral CC

Last fall Colorado College sent out a request for proposals for an environmental inventory and sustainability management plan, acting on intentions to move toward carbon neutrality and emerge as a national leader in campus sustainability.

The Brendle Group, a Fort Collins-based sustainability consulting firm and Colorado's first known climate-neutral company, was selected by CC to carry out the project. The Brendle Group specializes in sustainability management systems and its team members are knowledgeable in energy efficiency, water conservation, pollution prevention, carbon footprinting, and sustainable design in the Rocky Mountain region.

As a student at CC from 2000 to 2004, I studied and reported on the ecological impacts of CC's campus systems, and I was invited to rejoin the sustainability effort as an onsite project coordinator.

The Brendle Group collaborated with the college to draft a comprehensive six-month scope of work that includes a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory, assessments of energy and water use in campus buildings, qualitative campus-wide surveys and interviews, short and long-term recommendations for sustainability goals, and benchmarking against peer institutions to identify best practices. The quantitative environmental inventory, scheduled for completion in mid-March, identifies CC's GHG emissions from 2003 to 2006. These emissions will be calculated using the Clean Air-Cool Planet tool, an interactive spreadsheet developed for colleges and universities from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) national inventory approach. From this baseline inventory the college will be able to track GHG reductions

achieved through our efforts to conserve water and energy, alternative energy purchases, transportation, green building, and education.

The environmental inventory and sustainability management plan were formally launched the last week of January. On January 30, the CC community was

invited to attend a collaborative campus kickoff event. CC students, staff, faculty, and administrators circled among six roundtables and engaged in dialogue to provide The Brendle Group team with background and sentiments regarding CC's movement toward carbon neutrality and the associated GHG baseline, facilities improvements, campus life, qualitative inventory, and modes of campus involvement. Earlier that week, senior engineers from The Brendle Group arrived on campus and, accompanied by CC facilities staff, conducted preliminary energy and water assessments of more than 20 major campus buildings. Their further analyses of targeted buildings will suggest cost-effective measures to improve resource efficiency.

The support and mobilization of the campus community are integral in the project's advance. Clearly the commitment to sustainability is a priority permeating all levels of the college. The Brendle Group welcomes comments and suggestions, and will post progress updates on CC's campus sustainability Web site at: www.ColoradoCollege.edu/sustainability/inventory.htm.



Get to know: Amod Lele (from p.1)

to the monks, who made a big impression on me.”

After leaving Southeast Asia, he returned to school, earning an M.S. in development sociology with a minor in government from Cornell University, and later, a Ph.D. in the study of religion with an emphasis in South Asian religions, South Asian Buddhism, and classical Indian ethics and soteriology.

His dissertation, titled “Ethical Revaluation in the Thought of Shantideva,” examines the ethics of emotion, particularly attachment and anger. Shantideva, who was the Dalai Lama’s favorite philosopher, believed people shouldn’t feel attachment or anger; Lele’s dissertation looks at his reasoning for these claims and examines how to apply them to contemporary Western ethics.

Lele believes it is important for people to know what other religions hold significant.

“I want students to think about the reasons why some people become Muslims, or why they become Buddhists,” he says. “I think that tells you a lot about human life.

“I want my students to engage with ideas,” he says. “I don’t want them to view other religions and cultures as

weird, historical curiosities; instead, I want them to think about how some of these ideas might apply to them. I want them to learn *from* other religions, not just *about* other religions,” he says.

Lele finds that generally, people in Western cultures have limited knowledge of Eastern religions. “I think it would be helpful to have a broader general cultural competence and a broader sense of global cultures,” he says.

Lele, a Canadian, also thinks that Americans tend to have an inadequate background in geography. “They don’t get that in class. All they get is the state capitals,” he says.

Outside of the classroom, Lele enjoys board games. These games go beyond “Risk” or “Battleship”; Lele calls them “obscure, German strategy games.”

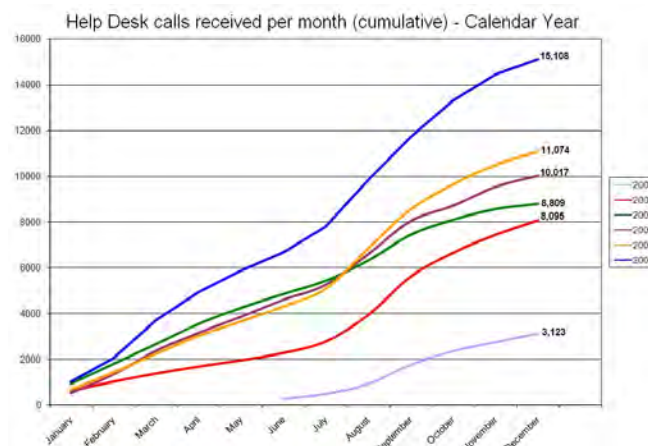
He also enjoys going out to eat at ethnic restaurants, and cooking at home, particularly Thai food. Another specialty of his is chili, which he has been making since he was about 15 years old. “It’s different every time I make it,” he says. “I like chili with as much chili flavor as possible.”

○ Leslie Weddell

Help Desk: Volume soars

CC’s Help Desk has seen a tremendous increase in volume, as illustrated in the graph to the right. Chad Schonewill, director of user services, attributes it to several factors.

- The Help Desk moved from Barnes to Tutt Library during the summer of 2007.
- Because the new offices are more centrally located, there has been a doubling of the volume of walk-in traffic.
- The Help Desk hired a full-time person to work the night shift (3 p.m. to midnight) in 2007. “This was the first year in which our night shift has been in full swing – it started off pretty slow, and still isn’t nearly as busy as the day, but it’s gaining momentum and we’re seeing a steady increase in volume between 6 p.m. and midnight,” Schonewill says.
- In general, people are using computers and other



peripherals more often in their work, and for increasingly complex tasks, which also means they need more help.

National etiquette expert: Manners matter

“The goal is to ‘let you shine through.’” That is national etiquette expert Robert Shutt’s approach to teaching etiquette. Aware that people often associate etiquette with antiquated rituals, Shutt stresses the important role etiquette plays in our personal lives today. “Manners matter and courtesy counts. It’s that simple. Your ability to follow simple rules of etiquette in business dining situations can advance your career, secure that new job, close a deal, increase your sales, and get you that promotion,” he says.

While approximately 90 students, staff, and faculty dined on chicken piccata and vegetarian lasagna in Bemis Great Hall in late January, Shutt taught them how to properly handle themselves in business dining situations. “You want the focus to be on what you say and how you say it – not on your inappropriate behavior,” he says.

Last year, the Career Center ran a small etiquette lunch program that was well attended and had a substantial waiting list. Based on last year’s positive feedback and apparent interest, the center decided to host a larger event this year for students. Geoff Falen, director of CC’s Career Center, says, “Certainly, I think students are recognizing the importance of this aspect of self-presentation as part of the job interview process, but which could also be appropriate in an alumni or other networking meeting, or in preparation for a fellowship or graduate school interview or application. Our students are interested in all aspects of the business, non-profit and government arenas, and I believe solid etiquette skills are useful for all of those areas.”

Shutt started his company, RASolutions.net, to offer business dining etiquette and professional etiquette presentations to colleges, universities, businesses, and

professional organizations. He began his public speaking career in 1997 to accommodate requests he received after his initial business dining etiquette presentation.

Shutt, a lively and entertaining speaker, took questions throughout his presentation, and was busy fielding questions from students on everything from negotiating flatware, dealing with different cultural dining practices, and

consuming alcoholic beverages. At the end of the night, Shutt handed out his contact information and encouraged students to contact him with any etiquette questions they may have in the future; he told students to consider him their “lifelong etiquette ally.”

Phoebe Jiang '09 said, “The etiquette dinner was a perfect example of the real-world skills that we will need in the future – common sense things, but things that are usually forgotten.”

○ Rachel San Luis '10



Mind your P's and Q's:

- Arrive early; wait in the lobby and move to the table only when the entire party has arrived.
- Do not use your knife to cut your dinner roll; instead, tear the roll with your hands into manageable pieces, buttering as you go.
- Discuss business after ordering or after the entrée is served.
- Always keep in mind that business dining is about developing relationships, not the food.
- Don't order alcohol when out on a job interview, even if everyone else orders wine.
- Pass to the right, unless overly intrusive.
- Your knife should always rest with the serrated edge facing you.
- Used utensils belong on your plate, never on table linens.
- Place fork and knife together at the “2 o'clock” position on your plate when finished with your entrée.

Powwow *(from p.1)*

This powwow will enable the Native American Student Union to host each of these various perspectives in an educational and entertaining environment.”

The 2008 Heritage Week events kick off at 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 2, at McHugh Commons with a screening of the PBS documentary “Miss Navajo,” directed by Billy Luther. “Miss Navajo,” a 2007 Sundance Film Festival Selected Film, focuses on the role of Navajo women in today’s world. The film highlights how Navajo women strive to combine Navajo traditions with their contemporary lives. After the screening of the film, Jonathea Tso of Cove, Ariz., who was the 2007 Miss Navajo Nation, will discuss her experience and participation in this unique pageant.

On Thursday, April 3, Bennie Klain and Jennifer Nez Denetdale will discuss portrayals of Native Americans in the media. Bennie Klain, of Austin, Texas, director of the PBS documentary “Weaving Worlds,” will speak about Native American portrayals found in film. Jennifer Nez Denetdale, a historian and associate professor at the University of New Mexico, will focus on Native American portrayals found in photography. This event takes place at McHugh Commons; watch the calendar for the time.

On Saturday, April 5, the 12-hour Colorado College Unity Contest Powwow will be held, and will be a realistic depiction of Native American social life. In the Native American community, a powwow is a social gathering, a time when dance and music honor the resilient cultural history of Native American people and tradition. A powwow encompasses a variety of educational

experiences, including history and performance art.

The powwow will feature several intertribal dance performances divided into categories based on the dancer’s age and level of experience. The dances have different styles, dress, and history. For example, the “jingle dress” dancer is adorned with tin cones, which accentuate the vocals of the drum group singers, while the “fancy shawl” dancer is adorned with a vibrant ribbon-fringed shawl.

The colorful regalia of these performers contribute to the visual experience of the intricate dance steps,

performed in tune to the beats of the drum of the White Lodge Singers, a renowned powwow drum group from Mandaree, N.D.

With a line-up that is sure to impress, Charley maintains that there will be fun for everyone: “Dance competitions will make up the bulk of the program, however, there will be a time for the community to participate as

well during the intertribal dance. Native American food and arts and crafts vendors will be on the Colorado College campus. This will be an all-day affair.”

In the event of inclement weather, the powwow will be moved from Armstrong Quad to the El Pomar Gymnasium. All events are free and open to the public and are strictly drug and alcohol free.

The Native American Student Union would like to personally invite you all to join us for an incredible week of presentations and performances.

○ Michael Calderon '08

