



Marshall Update

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ON THE COVER:

London's Trafalgar Square was all decked out for the holidays.

Wei Lien Dang '05

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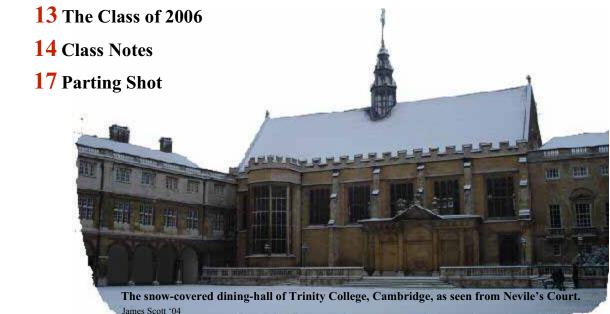
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Letter to the Editors

Editors' Note:

We were delighted to receive a letter from Tim Cully in response to last issue's piece remembering his aunt, Geraldine Cully. Tim has kindly provided us with two photos of Miss Cully, as well as his recollections of his Aunt Drina.





Geraldine Cully as a young woman (above) and on one of her early Foreign and Commonwealth Office duties (right).

To: MarshallUpdate@marshallscholarship.org

Dear Editors,

My name is Tim Cully, and Geraldine (Drina to us) was my aunt—my father's sister. I have just read the tributes to Drina on your web page, and I am touched that she managed to remain in so many people's thoughts. I always found my aunt had this special way about her, which allowed her to talk with empathy and an equal footing with anyone she came in contact with. Yes, at times she could be like one of Clovis' aunts in a Saki tale! But this made her all the more special, and she was always uniquely Drina.

I remember receiving postcards from Drina's trips to the States when I was a young boy. I particularly remember Chicago as I had—still have, I suppose—an obsession and love of the works of Saul Bellow, and I pleaded for Augie March scenic postcards. Aunt Drina somehow understood exactly what was required. Another 'Chicago' to endless debates on the central character, Bigger Thomas. Drina would have struck many as the last person who would have known in detail a book like Native Son, but as we find out even now, she was an Aunt full of surprises—hence her uniqueness to us all.

I am truly grateful she is so fondly remembered, and that so many enjoyed their time with her.

Sincerely,

Tim Cully



Photographs and caption information courtesy of Tim Cully.



2004 Scholars Pick Class Project The Millat Schools Fund

Sameer Ahmed '04

of Nagpur.

his summer, fellow Marshall Scholar Tom Kempa and I took a week away from our studies in London to visit my extended family in Nagpur, India and learn about its surrounding community. One of my most distinct memories in Nagpur was meeting 12-year-old Tabassam Banu. One afternoon, Tabassam and her five-year-old sister, both students at the Millat

Schools, took me to see their home

in the slums of the Shantinagar area

As the two girls walked barefoot for nearly 30 minutes through the muddy and garbage-infested alleyways, they seemed oblivious to the stench of open sewage, the 95-degree heat, or the storms of mosquitoes.

When we arrived at their "house"—a seven-by-ten foot empty cell with a dirt floor and no electricity, running water, or furniture—I asked Tabassam where her parents were. She replied that because her father had passed away and her mother works all day as a servant for an upper-class household, she is the only one left to take care of her younger sister.

Tabassam has been on my mind ever since I left Nagpur in mid-August. My mother was born and raised in Shantinagar, about one-fourth of a mile from the slums where Tabassam lives. In fact, my grandfather, a local pharmacist, had practically no money before he invented an anti-malaria pill that became very profitable during the Indian war of independence. Now my extended family runs a large pharmaceutical business in Nagpur. If it wasn't for my grandfather's ingenuity, Tabassam Banu's life could have been mine.

Tabassam's hardship is just one compelling reason why my class of Marshall Scholars has established the Millat Schools Development Fund as our community service project. Like the Marshall Scholars who have come before us, we recognize the great privileges the scholarship has given us and wanted to aid a community in dire need while keeping with the spirit of cross-cultural interaction that underlies our award. That's why we chose to support the Millat Schools the only educational institutions available to the destitute Muslim children of the area—as exemplary schools committed to empowering disadvantaged students, strengthening and expanding the basis of community, and advancing interfaith and intercultural relations.

We found inspiration in past Marshall Class projects. The 2002 Class, for example, raised over \$1 million in three years towards establishing Rwanda's first public library in Kigali. Our first task was determining how to fairly select a class project—not an easy matter. When you put 40 scholars in one room, you end up with at least 40 different ideas. So last Thanksgiving, we formed a smaller committee to decide what criteria would consider for our class project.

While the

Children in a classroom at the Millat Schools committee was discussing various proposals over e-mail during winter break in 2004, I went on a trip to India with my family. It was my first visit to Nagpur in over six years. I vaguely remembered visiting the Millat Schools on that trip in 1998. At that time, the schools were a series of wooden sheds with no electricity or protection from the elements. When I saw the schools last winter, I was amazed to see over 500 students in a four-story building.

> The story behind the Millat Schools' founding is remarkable. Recognizing that thousands of children in Shantinagar and the surrounding areas were living in extreme poverty, Mohammed Naziruddin, a local teacher, was determined to give them an education. In 1989, he traveled around the slums trying to convince parents to send their children to his school free-ofcharge. Initially, he met a lot of resistance. Many parents needed their children to stay home to look after younger siblings or to work in menial jobs to supplement the family income. After 60 days of seeking students, the school managed to enroll just 11 students. With these students, the school began on July 27, 1989 in a wooden shed in Shantinagar. Since then, it has expanded to four separate schools: a Kindergarten School, a Primary and Middle School, and a High School, as well as a Vocational School.

The 2002 Class raised over \$1 million in vanua s first public library in Kigali.

But the Millat Schools' mission is much more than just to educate. They provide free meals and clothing as well. They also give a unique type of education, emphasizing a moral foundation for students who might otherwise turn to lives of petty crime.

continued...

Many of the Millat Schools' students come from illiterate and destitute families living in crime-ridden areas. Children in these areas are known to steal, sell drugs, and partake in other minor criminal behavior.

The schools offer their students the educational and vocational skills needed to prosper in Indian society. All Millat students follow the Maharashtra state curriculum, and, in 2005, the high school ranked second among Nagpur Urdu-medium schools, with 90 percent of their students passing the Maharashtra State Board Secondary School Certificate Examination. High School students take additional vocational classes after school in garment design, hand embroidery, leatherwork, and calligraphy—all valuable technical skills that will allow them to earn supplementary income.

The schools are a far cry from what is typically labeled as "Muslim education" in the Western media. They encourage respect for diversity and provide opportunities for interfaith dialogue. Additionally, the schools are 70 percent female and have an impressive record of sending women to higher education. Many attend junior colleges and some even join university professional schools, including medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, architecture, and information technology. Last year, the Millat Schools established a talent search and promotion scheme to find, educate, and train select students who show promise of obtaining a university education.

But if Mr. Naziruddin and his associates want to expand on their exceptional work, they need considerable financial assistance. Because the schools operate largely on private donations, every year is a struggle to raise the money needed to keep their doors open. Their lack of adequate facilities—the schools have no library, science lab, or computer lab, and many classrooms do not have desks or chairs—can complicate their mission considerably.

When I returned to the United Kingdom, I felt a moral obligation to let my Marshall classmates know about the Millat Schools. The Millat Schools Development Fund was one of six class project proposals submitted to the committee and voted on by the entire class, who ultimately selected it to be our class project.

By choosing to support the Millat Schools project, my classmates recognized the larger significance of having a group of 40 young American leaders assist local Indian Muslim schools. Given the current sociopolitical climate, we hope this project will demonstrate that education can promote peace and understanding between peoples from various religious and cultural backgrounds.

With no NGO or fundraising experience whatsoever, I was initially overwhelmed with the amount of work necessary to accomplish the goals set out by the Millat Schools Development Fund. Over the past six months, I have been amazed by the commitment of my fellow Marshalls. We have worked together to research the education system in India, set up a bank account with nonprofit status, create a website (www.millatschoolsfund.org), collect books for the Millat Schools, establish a cross-cultural exchange with the schools, and launch fundraising efforts.

In August, Tom and I traveled to Nagpur to establish a stronger relationship between our Marshall class and the Millat Schools' community. We met with school officials and community leaders and gained endorsements from both local Rotary and Lions Clubs. Tom also spent the week shooting and directing a film on the Millat Schools to document the schools' impressive work and what they aspire to become. We plan to screen the film at fundraising events around the United Kingdom and the United States this spring.

In September, Adam Grogg, a 2004 Marshall Scholar studying at Oxford, made another trip to Nagpur to establish a cross-cultural exchange between the Millat Schools and schools in the United Kingdom through the British Council's Global School Partnerships initiative. This program hopes to offer an extraordinary experience for Indian and British youth that will help break down negative stereotypes. Teachers from partner schools develop a joint curriculum in which their students learn about the history and culture from both countries, while students interact directly with each other using the Internet. Because these exchanges work largely through online discussion boards and e-mails, it is imperative that the Millat Schools Development Fund raise enough money to provide the Millat Schools with a computer lab for the program to be truly successful.

The 2004 Marshall class is currently embarking on an international public awareness and fundraising campaign for the Millat Schools Development Fund. We hope to establish relationships with individuals, businesses, NGOs, and foundations in the UK, US, and India, and believe this project can be a great way to foster relationships between current and former Marshall Scholars.

Before I left Tabassam Banu's house in Nagpur, I asked her what she wanted to do when she grew up. She replied that she wanted to become a doctor so she could help cure the many diseases rampant in her neighborhood. With the help of the greater Marshall community, we can make her dream a reality.

If you are interested in learning more about the 2004 Marshall Scholars' Class Project, please visit www.millatschoolsfund.org or e-mail Sameer at sameer1980@gmail.com



Sameer Ahmed, a 2004 Marshall Scholar, is completing a MSc in Middle East Politics from the School of Oriental and African Studies and a MSt in Legal Research from Oxford.

Photographs and caption information courtesy of Sameer Ahmed '04.

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Footballers Abroad

Most Marshalls find they miss a certain something back home when they arrive in the U.K. For die-hard footballers—of the American, not the sport-formerly-known-as-soccer variety—leaving behind NFL nation can be a perverse form of exile. So imagine how happy Justin Anderson '03 and Joe Wells '04 were to find they could get their football fix in the U.K., after all. They recently offered Marshall Update some thoughts on playing the game in the land of cricket, rugby, and yes, that other sport.

MU: Americans figure out pretty quickly that there is only one type of football in the U.K. How did you manage to find an American football team?

JW: I had just arrived in Birmingham and was exploring the campus when I saw the American football team conducting tryouts. I ran back to my dorms and borrowed a pair of cleats, a size too small, from one of my flatmates. That's how I ended up playing linebacker for the University of Birmingham Lions. My coaches at Birmingham were players when the NFL expanded into Europe. After initial enthusiasm for the sport subsided in the UK, expansion teams in London and Scotland moved to Germany. My coaches loved the sport so much they continue to teach it. The British Collegiate American Football League (BCAFL) (http://www.bcafl.org) has 37 teams.

JA: I was just looking online for a place to watch NFL games when I came across a website for an 'American' football team in London and pictures of guys playing in pads and helmets. I did a double-take: "They play American football in London?" I contacted one of their coaches and he told me to come down to practice—I couldn't believe it. I thought my football days were over. American football caught on

here in the 1980s as a result of TV exposure and the NFL Europe teams Joe mentioned, so the leagues—a youth league, a college league and an 18 and over league—have been around for awhile. There are about thirty teams in the 'senior' league across England and Scotland.

MU: So does the Blitz hold tryouts like the university teams?

JA: Depth is a problem for most of the teams in the league so only a couple have tryouts to make the team. For most clubs you are on the team as long as you come to practice. We practiced once a week on Sundays, with an optional speed training session on Thursdays. Everyone playing in the 'all-ages' league is working or studying so anything more is out of the question. We do have a 'camp' weekend right before the start of the regular season where we all get together at a school outside London for two solid days of wall-to-wall football.

MU: Who makes up the teams--is it mostly expats, or is there that rare breed of Englishman who's interested in playing?

JW: There were only three Americans playing for the Birmingham Lions. The other sixty fellas were mainly Brits. Most played rugby and hockey in the past and wanted to give American football a shot.

JA: The teams in my league are mostly British with just a handful of Americans and a good number of 'internationals' from Africa to Scandinavia. Like rugby in the U.S., American football is something of a cult sport here—a lot of the players and coaches across the league have played for years and know each other well. On the other hand a lot of guys who have seen the sport on TV show up out of curiosity to try it out. There's a definite appeal to playing in 'full kit'—helmet, pads, etc. Sunday games are shown every week on a major cable channel so a lot of Brits first encounter the game on TV. A couple Brits have made it to the NFL, and this year one of

my teammates played in the NFL Europe league, was invited to tryout with the Oakland Raiders, and almost made the pros.

MU: The leagues sound almost semi-professional.

JW: Our coaches were not just putting together a team for play on Sundays, but were building a professional organization that craved competition. We had seven coaches, practiced three days a week, watched film, and went 13-0 on our path to the Collegiate National Championship last year.

JA: We have several coaches and the amount of time put in—because everyone is a volunteer—is really impressive.



A lot of the coaches are former players. We practiced at Linford Christie Stadium in East Acton and everybody makes their own way there from in and around London. With about thirty teams across the country you get several road trips a year where everyone chips in to rent a coach. In the last two years I have seen a fair bit of England from these including Ipswich, trips Southampton, Guilford Cambridge.

MU: How long are your seasons? And how'd you do?

JW: The season runs from late
September to late March. Last year we went 13-0 and won
College Bowl IX, beating the Glasgow Tigers 34-7.

JA: The 'senior' league runs from about April through August, with playoffs in September. Last year we went 8-2 and won our division before falling in the first round of the playoffs.

There is a certain novelty to hearing the quarterback cadence, trash talking and coaches cussing out players in British accents.

MU: Any especially memorable games?

JW: Southampton last year. We defeated Southampton 20-12 in a close and hard-fought battle. We stopped them at the goal-line, scoreless, on three separate occasions.

JA: Although last season was a more successful campaign, probably the most memorable game came in the first year I played. We tied the eventual league champions 17-17 midway through the season. It was the only blemish on their record—they were just killing people that year and everyone expected them to blow us out. I played cornerback that day, and our defense turned in one of the most inspired performance I've ever seen. I think we forced something like seven turnovers, and they only completed two passes all day.

When we played them again this year it was a memorable game but for the wrong reasons. A tackle from a former member of NFL Europe's London Monarchs fractured and separated my ankle.

MU: Does playing the game feel different because it's more exotic in the UK?

JA: There is a certain novelty to hearing the quarterback cadence, trash talking and coaches cussing out players in British accents. But it wears off quickly and then it's just the same football as back home. The level of talent is pretty good, especially with the larger teams. The only difference is experience, since many guys they never played when they were kids, and the practicing,



Joe Wells (left #4), playing for the Birmingham Lions in the College Bowl XIX last spring, against the Glasgow Tigers.

Birmingham beat the Tigers, 34-7.

because there is no substitute for practicing every day.

MU: Any interesting opportunities that have come your way from playing on the American football here team?

JW: The Birmingham Lions host the biggest Super Bowl party in the UK at the Sports Café in 'B'ham every year.

JA: A bunch of us from the London Blitz were hired for a British Telecom commercial last year. For obscure reasons they wanted an American football team to be part of a montage for a commercial about their Internet

service. In one of the more bizarre but interesting days of my life—and I still can't believe I forgot to take along a camera—we showed up in 'full kit' at this huge warehouse of a studio where they were filming and wandered around with all these other actors in the same commercial. Some of them were dressed as barbarians, some as people from Elizabethan England, others as people in 'futuristic' clothing, others as monks. There was even a team of British cheerleaders. The filmmakers appeared a little unclear about our sport and asked us to try something which proved near impossible—throwing the ball high to a teammate who, while suspended in mid-air catching the ball, would get hit by the other ten of us. I think we did something like twenty takes trying to get it right, all for about a second of air time. But it was a lot of fun anyway.

MU: How do you keep up with the football season back home, and which teams do you follow?

JA: When we were living at Goodenough College in London, I convinced them to turn the student bar big-screen TV to the Sunday NFL games on cable. We had a group of six or seven guys who watched pretty regularly. And you can catch online play-by-play over the Internet. It allows me to keep up with my Seattle Seahawks and the team I played for in college, the Division III Occidental Tigers.

JW: For me, it's the Colts and Notre Dame.

MU: Predictions for who we'll see in the Super Bowl this year?

JW: Colts!

JA: I agree. The Indianapolis Colts erase decades of futility over some hapless NFC team. I am trying to work out whether it's a good season when your club struggles to the top of the heap only to be outclassed by a team for the ages, since its possible my Seahawks would be the NFC representative.

—Jane Levenson '03



Photographs and caption information courtesy of Justin Anderson '03 and Joe Wells '04





Pilgrim's Halting Progress

Top 10 Mishaps, Blunders, Shocks, and Surprises of an American Fresher at

Ross Perlin '05

What follows is a (far from exhaustive) list containing some of the valuable lessons and experiences of the past few months—outside the classroom. I can assure the reader that these were mere growing pains, and that the hapless American student you see stranded in a punt or befuddled in a pub from now on will be... some other guy.

Drinking ice-wine from the horn of an auroch. (Note: Author was required to do this for matriculation.) An auroch, naturally, is a long-extinct large-boned mammal that used to roam the forests of Northern Europe (it was rare even in Julius Caesar's day). Our attachment to the horn came about because it was the first item donated to the college (1352)—the medieval version of seed money? Imagine someone starting off a new university today by donating the feathers of a bald eagle.

9 Learning to Thatcher-bash. Will the Bush-bashers in the States still be going this strong in 20 years? Still, I probably shouldn't have repeated Borges' comment about the Falklands War in the pub that time—that it was "like two bald men fighting over a comb."

"Inspecting the college silver." At first I thought this orientation event might be a euphemism for something. Nope—it really meant checking out 700 years' worth of donated goblets, candlesticks, plates, trays, and unrecognizable objects, all in silver. A fantastic gentleman has appointed himself "keeper" and published a book

Cambridge may be more illicit bicycle bazaar than university. I found a note on my bike trap one day accusing, "Did you steal this bike??? Email me at ----." Turns out someone's beloved childhood bike had been pinched a few years back; was ultimately picked up by the police and sold at an auction, in ruins; and finally given new life and sold off in the market to a bikeless American student looking for a deal.

Sitting on a bean bag at afternoon tea.

The bean bag was there not far from the couches and tables, but I was the only one daft enough to sit on it. Why was it there then?

Elgin. Huffing and puffing because I was late, having assumed his office was in the department, I immediately realized that my supervisor was more lord than professor. The spitting image of Sir Robert Walpole, and dressed in a style not far off, he guided me into his rooms for a tour of the many Asian antiquities casually strewn about the place. My academic hopes and dreams had a brief airing. "Oh, he's a bit precious," a fellow student told me after, then smiled: "He's Canadian."

Meeting my neighbors: cows. That's not a derogatory reference, I swear. My "college housing" is a stately Victorian cottage across from a pasture with grazing cows. I wonder who's more suprised—cows at the M.Phil. students, or M.Phil students at the cows.

Watching Parliament burn without cheering. In London's Victoria Park, seeing a humongous model of Parliament burn to the ground on the 400th anniversary Guy Fawkes' Day. I was a bit dense at first on the whole "national symbol burning = good-natured cheers and applause" equation.

Realizing that Halloween is an understated affair. There was a party, everyone was dressing up, I thought that as an American I had to represent the homeland of Halloween... I was warned just in time that going as Richard Simmons (which played very well in California last year) probably wasn't the right call.

Decoming friends with a priest, in a pub.

One of my best mates is a merry

Anglican priest who's a dependable regular at the
college pub. We talk theology over pints. He also
dressed up as Dracula for Halloween. Nothing in
my previous experience could have prepared me for
this.

Did you steal





Ross Perlin, a 2005 Marshall Scholar, studies Classics at Cambridge. His current research is focused on marmite and fen-diving (in ancient Greece, of course). Scholar's Commentary



Leaving family and friends behind in the States is one of the difficult transitions every Marshall Scholar has made. And while many Marshalls return home during their stay, a few Scholars still spend their entire Scholarship in the U.K. Lionel Foster, a 2002 Scholar, returned home just once in his three years of study. Here, he catches up with his fifteen-year-old sister Nicole.

Lionel Foster '02

When I hugged my mom and little sister goodbye en route to D.C. I wasn't sure when I'd come home again. I'd been abroad before, once on a year-long exchange in Germany and later during summers and a full semester in college. Perhaps all that time had the cumulative effect of making it easier to be away from home. We arrived in late September, so Christmas seemed too soon. And a year later I was much more settled, so it wasn't until the following holiday season, more than two years into my tenure, that I saw my family for the first time: my mom, my three siblings, and all my aunts, cousins, and uncles who live in Baltimore. It was a long time to be away. London nearly kept me. It's made home less familiar—strange, exotic—and all the

Lionel Foster with sister and uncles who live in Baltimore. It was a long time to be away. London nearly kept me. It's made home less familiar—strange, exotic—and all the more fascinating. Life moved fast. People changed. Some even passed away, and my little sister is not so little any more. When I left she was twelve. Now she's fifteen. I sat down to find out what she thought about me, the Scholarship, and all that time apart.

L: What did you think when I won the Marshall?

N: I thought it was great. I was privileged to know that someone in my family could have done such a good thing.

L: Have you always felt this way?

N: Oh yeah. I'm so proud of everything you've done. And I always tell people all the countries you've gone to and they ask, how's he do all that? He must be so smart. And I say, yeah, he's extremely smart.

L: When I finally came home for Christmas last year I bought you a pillow that reads, "No boys allowed." You look, well, um, mature. Am I any different?

N: I would say a little bit more facial hair, maybe. That's about it

L: When I left, America was at peace, but shortly thereafter, we went to war. I think you know what I'm getting at here. In your unbiased opinion, how great a role do I play in national security?

N: What? National Security? Uh, not a very great one, I don't think.

L: Is there anything you wanted to ask me while I was away?

N: Yeah, like, how did you adjust to Germany, and then to England?

L: Germany was tough in the early going. I really missed my family and I had never been away that long . . . But that's natural. They warn you about it. Germans call it "Heimweh". "Heim" means "home" and "Weh" means "pain."

N: Oh.

L: So "homepain." And we call it "homesickness," which is just as funny, right? So that was Germany. I was seventeen.

N: Do you miss London?

L: I think maybe it's the case that you just appreciate different things about different places. The light is different. I guess it

has something to do with what part of the world you're in; longitude and latitude; and what angle the sun comes down depending on where you are. I'm sure there's science behind it. I don't understand it very well. But the light's different in Rome from my experience, it's different in London and it's different in Baltimore. And when I got back here and I was doing some work in the yard I just thought it was gorgeous. I guess you rediscover things."

N: That's nice. I like that.

L: If I told you that I am now an avid croquette and lawn bowling enthusiast, would you think less of me?

N: No. It sounds like a good thing, but I don't really know what it means.

L: Croquette is that funny game with the little hoops and balls.

N: I wouldn't think any less of you. I've actually watched that on TV and wondered how they do it. It probably takes a lot of skill.

L: So, what's it like being fifteen?

N: I like being fifteen. I don't really have any major complaints.

If I told you that I am now an avid croquette and lawn bowling enthusiast, would you think less of me?

L: Is it different from being twelve? You were twelve when I left.

N: Oh yeah. That's right, and I remember that. I think we were sitting in the train station and I said, "Lionel, next time I see you I'll be almost sixteen." Do you remember me saying that? I remember distinctly saying that. Back then I was in middle school. I'm pretty sure I look different.

L: I don't know if you remember this, but initially when I left my plan was to be gone for two years, but part of the way through



my stay I decided to extend it and do a third year. Did you know this?

N: I did.

L: And what did you think when you found out I wasn't coming home after two?

N: I was disappointed.

L: Yeah?

I keep in touch with a number of people via e-mail, but I felt like with my family I don't want to keep in touch with you guys via e-mail. Pick up the phone.

N: I wanted to see you. But I was kind of happy. I figured if he's staying longer this must be what he really wants to do, but at the same time I was like, Oh, I haven't seen him in so long. How come he won't come home?

L: It's actually a little funny to hear you say that because we didn't talk very often. I would speak to you sometimes when I was calling for mommy and you never really called, so...

N: Probably cause I didn't know what to say . . .

L: Yeah?

N: Yeah, like, I missed you but - I don't know. It's kinda hard, expressing that and then trying to find things to talk about.

L: But I think you were probably better with e-mail. And it was interesting because I keep in touch with a number of people via e-mail, but I felt like with my family I don't want to keep in touch with you guys via e-mail. Pick up the phone.

N: Yeah.

L: Our grandmother died late last year. How did you feel when she passed?

N: I think I was more sad because I knew our mother was going to be hurting from it. I know it takes a while to get over something like that. I knew mommy's whole life was changed after that. She'd already lost her father and to lose her mother was just hard. I don't think I could ever go through something like that. And then, you know, losing great granny right after had to be like twice as hard. So it was just like everything was going wrong. And then that happened. It was hard.

L: It was strange because I arrived, I think it was December 11... You guys met me at the airport, which was great. And we hugged each other, and we walked for a bit and mommy took me aside and told me granny had died, so I only found out that day in the airport. And then we had a welcome home party for me that evening, and then the funeral was the next morning. So we go from a party to a funeral. It was pretty dramatic.

Now maybe a bit of a lighter question. If our family had a mascot, what would it be?

N: I never thought about that. A mascot? Us? I think it would be a kind of symbol that represents unity, unity because mommy

has gone through a lot of transitions and changes and through it all she still managed to keep us all together. Something that shows that no matter what you go through it's important to try to hold your family together. I don't know what that [symbol] would be though.

L: I think maybe the last question, certainly the last one on my list is, um, I packed my stereo away in the attic before I left, but now I can't find it. Hypothetically speaking, what might have happened to it?

N: I didn't know you had a stereo . . . I could go up there and look for you.

L: I've checked.

N: It's really not there?

L: You know, now that I've looked up there and can't find it, I can't remember if I even put it up there. So I don't know what happened to it.

N: Did you look in the shed?

L: I practically took it apart.

N: I don't know.

L: It's no big deal. It just gives me an excuse to buy a nicer one anyway.

N: Yeah.

L: I think that's all I wanted to ask. Is there anything else you wanted to say, anything you were curious about, anything you wanted to add?

N: No, but I'm glad I did this. This was fun.

L: Yeah.

N: I learned some stuff. Would you ever go back again?

L: To London?

N: Uh-humm.

L: Definitely.

N: How long do you think you could stay? Do you think you could live over there?

L: I could live there.

N: Wow. Did you ever meet anybody you thought you might want to surprise us with, like, "Mommy, I think she might be the one?" Or were you focused on other things.

L: Potentially.

N: Yeah?

L: Potentially.

N: Yeah, I always thought about that. Mommy was like, maybe Lionel will come back with someone. Or maybe have someone to tell us about. That would have been nice. But you're not old anyway. So it doesn't matter. You still have time. But I always wondered.





Queen

As Assistant Secretary and Head of Scholarship Administration at the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission (MACC), Mary Denyer shepherds each incoming Marshall class through university placement, arrival, and daily life in the U.K. Along with advice on everything under the British sun, she also dispenses inordinate amounts of chocolates, as any scholar who has scaled the three steep flights of stairs to her office in Gordon Square well knows. The avid netballer and rugby fan (see picture, left) recently e-mailed with Marshall Update about her semester abroad in Florida, speaking American English, and what's ahead for the Scholarship program.

MU: You studied in the States as an undergrad. What surprised, delighted, or aggravated you most about the U.S. System?

MD: My undergraduate degree was in American Studies and History at the University College of Ripon and York St. John, and as part of this degree I had the opportunity to go on a semester exchange to the University of South Florida, Tampa Bay. I always joke about the fact that I took Sunbathing 101 and Lying by the Pool 101, but actually I took some really interesting classes including one on alternative American cultures--Shakers, Amish, Mormons etc.—and another on International Relations. It took a while to settle in, sharing a room in an all-girl's dorm, finding my way around a campus with 30,000 students rather than the 2,000 in my U.K. school, and being stopped everywhere, including in the the elevator, with the words I came to dread: "Oh my God, I love your accent-will you say something?" These were all firsts and all a little strange. I loved it though, after the initial culture shock. We went to basketball games, where centerfolds were waived at the opposition to put them of—definitely not done in the UK! I played in the USF Wind Orchestra, and my accent gradually eroded so that by the time I left I used the words "cool" and "cute," and when being sarcastic always ended with a "not!"—yes, it was the early 1990s. I really liked the fact I could take classes in anything I liked, including the fundamentals of Jazz dance, rather than just specialize in one thing. It was truly a life-changing experience. I learned to see the world from a different angle and was able to see first-hand what an amazingly diverse country the United States is. Everyone should live abroad at some point in their lives.

MU: How has your own study-abroad experience helped you in your work with Marshalls?

MD: Well, I can speak American English, which helps. Only joking! Seriously though, having lived abroad and experienced culture shock in a way that I had never imagined really helps me empathize with what each new class of Marshall Scholars goes through, and I hope both Natasha [Bevan, Administrative Assistant at the MACC] and I are able to smooth this transition a little bit. Understanding the U.S. system of education and also understanding the sometimes striking cultural differences between this and the U.K. system have also been invaluable. I have to say being fascinated with the United States and Americans really helps in this job.

MU: How have you seen the program change since you've been at the MACC?

MD: I have been working for the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission now for four years. programme is always changing, and we are always working on ways of improving the experience of the Scholars, as well as ensuring the Foreign Office continues to fund what I believe is an important public diplomacy tool. In the last few years we have introduced the regional visits, expanded the [Scholars'] Speakers Programme, worked with the Association of Marshall Scholars to computerize the records of alumni and introduced a new online application system. We have also expanded the number of Scholarships, including the number of Scholars getting third-year funding and are also always working on ensuring that the Scholars go to the best school for their subjects and not just Oxford, Cambridge and LSE. What we have tried to do, however, is maintain the personal care that my predecessors always gave the Scholars. Each new class of Scholars brings their joys and challenges, and no two days in the Marshall office are the same—and long may it last.

MU: On any given holiday, Marshall Scholars can expect a Hallmark e-card from you and Natasha. Any American holiday you'd like to import to the U.K? Or vice-versa?

MD: I would export Boxing Day, because everybody needs at least one day after the excess of the holidays to recover. And Guy Fawkes' Day, because any excuse for fireworks is good for me. As for U.S. holidays, Thanksgiving would be great: lots of food and Macy's parade, and of course a great football game. Natasha and I both like Administrators' Day as well—all cards and presents are welcome!

MU: Any developments ahead for the MACC that you're particularly excited about?

MD: We are currently working on an internship program for the Scholars, which will give Scholars the chance to work in all kinds of sectors. It may take a while to introduce but it is very exciting. We hope to have another trip to Scotland this year, and there are plans afoot for other trips, so watch this space!

—Jane Levenson '03

Μl





Thanksgiving

> For many Americans Thanksgiving is the biggest

family holiday of the year yet, as all new Scholars quickly discover, most outside of North America are oblivious to our sacred national tradition. With the holiday falling during the busiest period of the fall academic term, most Scholars can not return to the States to celebrate with family. For a bit of home away from home, Scholars gathered in the Great Hall of Goodenough College in central London on the weekend after Thanksgiving Thrusday to catch up with friends and, of course, feast on all the traditional dishes.

> Several kitchens full of turkeys were required to

Goodenough College with signs letting residents unfamiliar with turkey day know that "ovens [were] reserved for a cultural holiday celebration."



> Following longstanding tradition the

the domawer refaculted to respect the while Oxonians brought side dishes and Cantabrigians supplied desserts. The Marshall Commission provided wine for the event. This year's dinner was another delicious success and everyone left with renewed motivation for convincing the people of Britain that yes, you actually can make a pie with pumpkins!

Nick Hartman '03

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The Class of 2006

Marshall Update is delighted to list the winners of the 2006 Marshall Scholarships as chosen by the eight regional committees and confirmed at the meeting of the Ambassador's Advisory Council on 5 December 2006.

The winners are listed along with their US university. We will print their courses of study and UK universities, along with colleges for Oxbridge students, in an upcoming issue.

Tahir Ahmed

New York University

Jessica Ashooh

Brown University

Rajaie Batniji

Stanford University

Adam Berry

Emory University

Allison Bishop

Princeton University

Maher Bitar

Georgetown University

Heidi Boutros

University of Texas - Austin

Blake Brandes

Wake Forest University

Alletta Brenner

University of Oregon

Stephen Brusatte

University of Chicago

Wesley Campbell

University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill

Claire Clelland

University of Portland

Peter Crawford

United States Military Academy

Kent Debenedictis

United States Military Academy

Rachel Denison

Yale University

Ajit Divakaruni

University of Arizona

Patrick Dixon

Occidental College

Melissa Friedman

State University of New York - Stony Brook George Washington University

Jamie Gianoutsos

Baylor University

Shadi Hamid

Georgetown University

Natalie Hand

American University

Mena Hanna

Temple University

Michael Haynes

Georgia Institute of Technology

Jessica Hohman

Miami University of Ohio

Patrice Holderbach

Kansas State University

Rebekah Hurt

Southern Methodist University

Thomas Isherwood

University of Delaware

Sariah Khormaee

University of Washington - Seattle

Adam Morgan

Pennsylvania State University

William Motley

Middlebury College

Alexander Nemser

Yale University

Mark Otuteye

Stanford University

James Parris

University of Delaware

Peter Quaranto

University of Notre Dame

Julia Rafal

Lauren Schuker

Harvard University

Sarah Stillman

Yale University

Trevor Sutton

Stanford University

Philip Tanedo

Stanford University

Yousefi Vali

Princeton University

Daniel Weeks

Yale University

Aziza Zakhidova

University of Pennsylvania

Daniel Zoughbie

University of California - Berkeley

Scholars Visit

In the latest edition of what has become an annual event, a group of 30 current Scholars had the unique opportunity to walk through the world's most famous

Unlike the White House, Number 10 Downing Street is typically strictly offlimits to the general public.

front door on 12 December 2005.

After a O&A with a member of the Prime Minister's foreign policy team, the Scholars received a tour of the cabinet room and several other formal spaces.

Unfortunately, Mr. Blair was out of town at the time, but all in attendance were grateful for the chance to visit the home of the highest office in Britain's democracy.

NTH

photo on page 16





With the flexibility to study at almost any institution of higher learning in the UK, it's no surprise that Marshall Scholars represent an amazing range of academic pursuits. Scholars currently undertaking degrees in musical or performing arts. Marshall Update recently had a chance to chat with 2004 Scholar Kate Elswit, who is studying towards a MA in European Dance Theatre Practice at the Laban Centre for Contemporary Dance in South East London.

MU: What was your earliest memory or experience with the arts or music?

KE: Don't laugh, but I remember picking up some song from a musical and trying to sing it as a response in daily life. The person was unimpressed. My voice was awful. I became a dancer.

MU: Do you find that the arts are viewed differently by the public in the UK vs. the US?

KE: I like the dance critics here more. Excluding most of the latest Edward Scissorhands reviews, I have been continually impressed by the way they hold the artists to a responsibility to push boundaries rather than rest on their laurels.

MU: Should the arts be totally self-funded or should public funds be used to help support the arts?

KE: My instinctive response is that art should be entirely capitalist, because that would increase the artist's responsibility for communication with the public. But I also know that the two best works I have produced were both times when I was heavily funded and able to truly focus on what I was making.

MU: Apart from family and friends, what do you miss most about the US whilst living outside of the country?

KE: I missed having things open at all hours of the night and on Sundays. So I moved to Camden Town [London].

MU: How will your experiences as a Marshall Scholar influence your future life and career?

KE: The year I got the Marshall, I had filed eight jobs on my tax return. Marshall gave me a chance to stop working and actually look at where I was and what really excited me in everything I was doing. That kind of time out is incredible.

MU: Finally, what's your favourite British phrase that you would like see imported into the US?

KE: Muppet.

Editors' Note: **muppet** (modern British slang) *Noun*. An idiot, an objectionable person.

-Nick Hartman '03

Class Notes

To have your information appear in the next issue of Marshall Update send an e-mail to

MarshallUpdate@marshallscholarship.org with the subject 'Class Notes' by 15 March 2006

1955

Jim Langer writes: I have just finished a four-year term as the vice president of the US National Academy of Sciences—an intense and rewarding experience that brought me into contact with a remarkably wide range of people and issues, both within and outside of science. Before that I was president of the American Physical Society, and before that I was director of the Institute for Theoretical Physics at UCSB. I am now officially professor emeritus at UCSB, but still have research grants, students, my office, and the same email address.

1956

John Jay Iselin writes: I was honored by the Queen in June 2004 with the award—delivered by UK ambassador in Washington, D.C.—of CBE.

1958

John Blass writes: My status at Cornell Medical School has changed to emeritus. (Two days a week are still spent at the same Institute where I have worked for the last 27 years). Going emeritus dissolves conflict of interest issues. That matters, since I've developed a treatment for Alzheimer's disease and perhaps other age-related diseases. It appears to work in controlled clinical trials in my hands, and further studies by independent clinicians are now underway. My gratitude for having received the Marshall Scholarship continues undiminished. It changed my life. The intellectual stimulation and training was wonderful. The only drawback has been that ever since there have been aspects of American academic life I've been unable to take seriously enough. At least equally important, I met my wife. We are still together after almost 45 years. Younger coworkers tease me that my still intense feelings for her are embarrassing for an old married man.

1971

Robert (Bob) Gray writes: Am starting my 11th year on the San Francisco Marshall Scholarship Regional Selection Committee, my seventh as chair. Was promoted to executive vice president of the parent corporation last year (A. Duda & Sons, Inc., a privately held agribusiness and real estate company), the second non-family member of management to hold this title in the 79-year history of the company. Travel for business a great deal (parent headquarters is in Florida, but I live in California, with operations in ten other states in between). Two Jack Russell terriers also keep me moving.

Berl Oakley writes: My colleagues have drafted me to be interim chair of the Department of Molecular Genetics at Ohio State University and in spite of the fact that I have been a vocal defender of faculty rights as a member of the University Senate the administration and Board of Trustees have approved the appointment (I think they

continued...



see it as revenge for the trouble I have caused them). Meanwhile, I have been named a "personalité scientifique étrangèr de haut niveau" by the Institute Universitaire de France and, as a result, am spending November as a visiting professor at the University of Paris, while running my department à distance. The people here have been remarkably friendly and helpful. It is fun living in a real neighborhood (Denfert Rochereau). The director of the honors program at OSU found out that I was a Marshall Scholar and asked me to serve as a member of the local Marshall and Rhodes committee. It was a pleasure. The candidates were remarkable—intelligent, breathtakingly accomplished and wonderful people.

1981

Paul Liu writes: After reading PPP at Oxford (Physiology and Philosophy), I went to med school. Thirteen years later, I emerged at the other end of that pipeline qualified as a plastic surgeon with a research interest in wound healing. I am now chairman of surgery at Roger Williams Medical Center in Providence, RI. I married Sally Anne Lund (Mt. Holyoke '83, BU Med '89) in 1988. She is an adult/child psychiatrist. We have two children—Christian (eight) and Meredith (six). E-mail us at paulyliu@cox.net, or even better, stop by for a visit!

"I live in the heart of Washington's wine country, apple country, hops country, mint country, cherry country, and the list goes on."

- Julie Tarara '91

1983

David J. Von Drehle writes: After receiving my M.Litt. from Oxford on the condition that I desist from further academic pursuits, I went to work as a newspaper reporter, first in Miami, then in New York and, since 1993, in Washington, D.C. for The Washington Post. I've done a variety of jobs here: New York bureau chief, national politics writer, magazine staff writer, arts editor and Assistant Managing Editor. I have also written some books. Among the Lowest of the Dead (1994) was a look from many perspectives at the troubled machinery of capital punishment. It was honored by the American Bar Association and will be republished in a new edition later this year by University of Michigan Press. Triangle: The Fire That Changed America (2003) told the story of the 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Fire and has received a number of awards. I'm currently at work on a book about the early stages of the Civil War. But the best things that have happened to me are my marriage to Karen Ball in 1995 and the subsequent arrival of Henry (seven), Ella (five), Adeline (four) and Clara (two).

1984

Margot Singer writes: After more than 10 years with McKinsey & Company in New York, and a seven-year stint in Salt Lake City (where I belatedly got my PhD in English at the University of Utah), I have now moved to Granville, Ohio where I've taken a tenuretrack position teaching creative writing at Denison University. My short fiction and creative nonfiction have been published in a variety of literary journals, including Shenandoah, AGNI, The North American Review, and elsewhere. In 1997, I married Tim DeGenero and we have two children. Micaela (seven) and Raphael (four). Would love to catch up with other Marshalls passing through or living in the Midwest!

1986

Satu Limaye writes: My family and I have just moved from Honolulu, Hawaii where I was Director of Research & Publications at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies to the DC area. My new work contact is below. My home contact information is: 5901 18th Street North, Arlington, VA 22205, 703-300-9028.

We have a wonderful daughter who is 22 months old. Her name is Nazrana—meaning gift. My wife, Michele, and I are enjoying being back on the East Coast though we certainly miss the beauty of Hawaii and our friends there. Its nice to be closer to family on this coast.

1991

Julie Tarara writes: I have been working as a scientist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service for several years. I am located in Prosser, WA, where I conduct an applied research program in juice and wine grape production. I live in the heart of Washington's wine country, apple country, hops country, mint country, cherry country, and the list goes on. Yes, Washington State makes some very good wines. If I'm at home you're welcome to stop by and share a glass or a bottle, but it might be tricky to find me in the house...when I'm not at work, I've been volunteering with a ski patrol, playing a bit of soccer, backpacking in our beautiful

continued...

Information on Marshall Alumni Research Study

I completed my Marshall Scholarship (1994, Magdalen College Oxford) almost a decade ago, and have in the interim often wondered about the trajectories taken by alumni. As a doctoral candidate in psychology at the University of Pennsylvania, my research centers on the personal characteristics of high-achieving individuals. Thus, I have both personal and academic interest in this question. My prior studies of West Point cadets, National Spelling Bee finalists, and gifted youth suggest that high achievers are characterized as much by traits like determination as by raw intellectual talent.

Last summer, I proposed to Kathy Culpin, Mary Denyer, and Bob Kyle sending out a website questionnaire to Scholars. We all agreed that the Marshall community itself might be interested in what happens to Scholars after their time in England. How many become professors? Lawyers? Legislators? Business leaders? How satisfied are Scholars with their choices? And what factors determined the trajectories taken?

This fall, we sent out an email invitation... participation will be voluntary, of course, and all data will be kept confidential. At the conclusion of the study, I will email detailed results to all participating Scholars and, as well, summarize our findings in an upcoming Marshall Update. Scholars interested in learning more about the study may email me at angela duckworth@yahoo.com

AngelaDuckworth Doctoral Candidate Positive Psychology Center University of Pennsylvania 3701 Market St. Suite 200 Philadelphia, PA 19104

7

Cascades, and learning how to be "handy" with home repair.

1992

Melissa Melby writes: I am still in Japan (been here since 2001), finishing up my PhD research in biological anthropology on menopause and soy. My partner, Michael Griffin, and I are expecting a son this November. I am considering jobs in Japan as well as in the US, but we will be here in Tokyo for the foreseeable future. Would love to hear from any Marshalls and see any that make it to Tokyo. melissamelby@yahoo.com

1993

Ellen Hunt Botting writes: My husband Victor and I live in South Bend, Indiana. I am currently an assistant professor in the Political Science department at University of Notre Dame. I was recently given an endowed chair by the university, for which I am very grateful. My first book will be published in March 2006 by SUNY Press: Family Feuds: Wollstonecraft, Burke, and Rousseau on the Transformation of the Family. My interest in the comparative study of these three eighteenth-century political theorists' views of the family originated in a lecture course on Mary Wollstonecraft that I took at Cambridge in the fall of 1994 as a Marshall Scholar. If anyone visits Notre Dame for a football game, please get in touch with the Bottings at 574-514-5791 for the best tailgate party around.

1994

Jeffrey Gettleman writes: I'm a reporter for *The New York Times*, currently working on the metro desk. I can be reached via e-mail at ig@nytimes.com.

1996

Stephen DeBerry writes: Currently working as an investment director with eBay founder Pierre Omidyar. I am Crown Fellow at the Aspen Institute and active on several forprofit and non-profit boards of directors.

1999

Daniel Jacob Benjamin writes: I'm planning to finish a Ph.D. in economics at Harvard in June, 2006.

Patrick Keefe and Justyna Gudzowska write: We are living together in New York City. Justyna is an attorney at Cleary Gottlieb Steen and Hamilton. Patrick graduated from Yale Law School this spring and published his first book, CHATTER: Dispatches from the Secret World of Global Eavesdropping (Random House).

2000

Monica Grant writes: I now divide my time between New York City and Philadelphia, where I am a first-year PhD student in Demography at the University of Pennsylvania. Jonathan Gray (we met at William Goodenough House) and I were married in August and welcome visitors to stay with us in NYC. I can be reached at grantm@sas.upenn.edu.

Jay Sexton writes: I am still in Oxford. I've finished my DPhil and, after a stint in Cambridge, I am now University Lecturer in American History at Corpus Christi College. Let me know if any of you are passing through Oxford.

2001

Dave Chan writes: I graduated from UCLA medical school, and I am now a first-year resident in Internal Medicine at the Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. Like most residencies, there's not much time, but I'm definitely enjoying the program and the people in it.

Ulcca Joshi Hansen writes: My husband and I just moved back to Cambridge, Massachusetts, after four years in Oxford bit of a culture shock. I am currently being overwhelmed by my first semester at Harvard Law School. Despite aspirations to have my DPhil completed by the end of November, I have decided to push back submission until summer 2006 so that I can use my precious free time to socialize with friends who are in the area or visiting (HINT!) My updated contact info is: 60 Crescent Street, Apartment 2, Cambridge 02138, MA 617-692-0321 and uhansen@law.harvard.edu.

Jordan Joseph Wales writes: Having left my native field of computer science, I have now taken up a course for the degree of Master of Theological Studies at the University of Notre Dame, finally convinced

"...I have enjoyed the past couple of years back in the United States, where the sandwiches have more than three ingredients."

- Jordan Joseph Wales '99

thereto by the memories of my year studying theology at Oxford. Although intended as a break from computer science, it has now become my intended career. After completing a two-year course at Notre Dame, I will apply to PhD programs, with the goal of becoming a professor of theology. While I have missed the U.K., I have enjoyed the past couple of years back in the United States, where the sandwiches have more than three ingredients.

Jason Wasfy writes: I'm now a third-year student at Harvard Medical school, and I'm happy to report that I've found a way to deal with the cold Boston weather—spending all my time, day and night, in the well-heated Harvard teaching hospitals.

2002

Matt Frazier writes: Since finishing up the scholarship, I've been working at the London office of McKinsey & Co. I've certainly learned more than I expected, and I reckon I'll stick around the company for at least a few more years (but might spend the tail end of it in Boston).

Courtney Peterson writes: I am a secondyear graduate student studying high-energy physics at Harvard University.

2003

Katie Blackmar writes: My boyfriend, Andrew, and I recently got engaged! We met last summer (2004) on a mission trip to Russia we went on with our church, and we've been dating just over a year. Andrew is a physiotherapist (similar to physical therapist), and he's from London. We're planning to get married in October 2006, at my home in Georgia, but we haven't set a final date yet. He proposed in the courtyard at Somerset House, when he took me out to celebrate our one-year anniversary of dating. He read me a poem he wrote to propose!



Marshall Scholars at No. 10 Downing Street

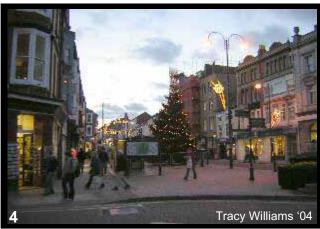


Editors' Note: We asked current scholars to send us winter- and holiday-themed photos from around the UK. Here are some of our favorites.





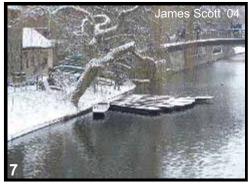






- 1 The sky above Great Court at Trinity College Cambridge is accented with beams of light radiating from behind King's College Chapel. The BBC uses powerful lamps to illuminate the building's stained glass windows from the outside while filming the famous annual carol service for broadcasting on Christmas Eve.
- **2** A snow-covered Mecklenburgh Square in London sits at the center of Goodenough College, where many London Marshalls reside.
- **3** Vibrant holiday decorations liven up London's Reagent Street
- **4** Decorations signal the start of the holiday season in the in the Welsh seaside town of Aberystwyth.
- **5** A Christmas tree adds to the celebrations at Ely Cathedral in Ely, near Cambridge.
- **6** The London Eye shimmers in a cold winter's night.
- 7 Snow-covered punts line the River Cam in Cambridge.





POST-PUBLICATION CORRECTION:

In "2004 Scholars Pick Class Project," (Winter 2005-2006), Sameer Ahmed erred in reporting that the Marshall Scholars for the Kigali Public Library (MSKPL) raised over \$1 million in three years towards establishing Rwanda's first public library in Kigali. Marshall Update that this error occurred and was not picked up during the editing of the Winter 2006 issue. MSKPL is one of three contributing non-profit organizations to the Kigali Public Library campaign, which also includes American Friends of the Kigali Public Library (AFKPL) and the Rotary Club of Kigali-Virunga, Rwanda. The campaign has raised \$1 million in six years. While MSKPL contributed to raising a portion of that sum, the overwhelming majority has come from the efforts of AFKPL and the Rotary Club.

Nicholas T. Hartman '03 Eugenia (Jane) Levenson '03

Co-editor Co-editor