

# A l u m n i N o t e s

'74

**Courtney Smith** lives in Atlanta, Georgia, where she works with the VP of Operations for InterContinental Hotels & Resorts, whose properties include Candlewood Suites, Staybridges, Holiday Inns, Holiday Inn Express, Indigo (their newest hotel brand), Crowne Plazas, and their top brand, InterContinental Hotels & Resorts. She loves her job and gets to stay in some incredible places.

'75

Last fall **Lee Daniels** joined ING Financial Services as editor of European research. Over the past year he helped frame a house in upstate New York and volunteered at a local park in trail and tree maintenance. He found using a chainsaw to cut down trees several feet in diameter a bit scary, particularly during storms. Lee journeyed across Mexico to write a travel article, and took a two week bicycle trip in France on his beloved Bianchi.

'83

**Eli Shaivitz** is a Corporal with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, assigned to Community Policing in Wellington. He received a Master's Degree in Human Resource Development and Administration from Barry University last year.

For the past 14 years **PJ Benoit** was involved in International Logistics, and during the past two years he has been working on launching his own company in a totally unrelated field. Recently he launched mejeans, which is an online custom-made blue jean company. His title is Founder/Ceo. PJ feels blessed that it has really taken off. There were company gift certificates in the gift bags at the American Music Awards and the Radio Music Awards, a write up in the Chicago Tribune, exposure in the in-flight US Airways magazine, and a fashion show with an ABC affiliate in Chicago. He lives in Wheaton, a suburb of Chicago, with his wife Susie and their two children, eight year old Sarina and four year old Sophia.



'89

**Alexandra Carpenter Cook** is a supervising CPA with Rukin & Company in Lake Worth. She is completing her Doctor of Business Administration in Accounting from Nova Southeastern University,

graduating in June 2006. Her dissertation is "The Relationship among Personality Type, User Involvement, and Procedural in Accounting Systems Design." She lives in Lake Worth with her family.

'90

**Kerry Gargano** was married to Cecilia McIntosh on June 4, 2005, in Siesta Key, Florida, where they had played on the beach together as children. The wedding was held at St. Michael's Catholic Church,



Cecilia McIntosh and Kerry Gargano

followed by a reception at the Ritz Carlton in Sarasota. His sister, **Colby** '98, was a bridesmaid. Kerry is a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University, with a Bachelor of Science in History. He is the Strategic Planning Manager for NASCAR and PGA with Turner Broadcasting, and his wife Cecilia is an account executive with Yahoo. They are living in Manhattan.

'92

**Helene Sned** was married to William Spurgin, III on Saturday, November 12, 2005, at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in West Palm Beach, followed by a reception at the Everglades Club in Palm Beach. Helene's sister, **Tate** '95, was matron of honor, and brother **Trey** '99, was a groomsman. Bridesmaids included **Blair McCracken Sonville** '92, and **Sabra Kirkpatrick van der Poel** '93. **Seaton Johnson** '15 was a flower girl and **Stewart Johnson** '13 was a ring bearer. Both Helene and William are graduates of Southern Methodist University. They are living in Dallas, where Helene is an advertising manager for Neiman Marcus.

**Tammy Gorfine** was married to Jarrod Petrelli, on November 12, 2005, at Breakers West Country Club. Tammy is the sister of **Danny** '96, **Ori** '01, and **Alexis** '15. She earned a Masters Degree in social work from Barry University. She

is a social worker and event coordinator for Family Preservation Services. Tammy and Jarrod are living in West Palm Beach.

'95

**Toby Keller** '76 writes that her son **Brent** '95, was married to a wonderful girl, Melissa, on May 7, 2005. **Brian Kirkpatrick** '94, was his best man. Brent and Toby started a business in 2002, called Desert Surf Co, an idea created from Brent's working days at PB Boys Club, in Palm Beach. The business is similar to PB Boys Club, and they now own three stores, with an internet sales site coming soon. Brent oversees all the store operations and also does some of the buying. Other Keller news: **Chelsea** '00, attends the University of Arizona, where she is a psychology major. **Ashleigh** '03, is a senior at Xavier College Preparatory and will be attending the University of Arizona in the fall of 2006. **Matt Keller** '05, is a sophomore at Brophy Prep and plays lacrosse. Kate is graduating 8th grade and will be attending Xavier in the fall. Life is great in the Keller household. Toby also writes how much she enjoys receiving *SeaViews*.

*Editors note:* The Kellers were part of PBDS for many years. **Lewis** '68 and **Toby** '76, returned to Palm Beach, where four of their five children attended PBDS before they moved to Arizona in 1996.

'96

**Elena Del Portal** was married to Michael Roscoe on Saturday, October 15, 2005, at St. Clare Church in North Palm Beach, followed by a reception at the Jupiter Beach Resort & Spa.

**Lauren Lester** '96, was a bridesmaid. Elena and Michael met while



Michael Roscoe and Elena del Portal

while attending Cardinal Newman High School. Last May they both graduated from the University of Miami with Masters Degrees in Business. Elena is currently doing

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## Alumni Notes

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Marketing and Business Development for the Florida Aircraft Credit Union. Elena is the sister of **Carlos '90**, and daughter of PBDS faculty member, Senora Maria Del Portal. They are living in Palm Beach Gardens.

**'97**

Since graduating from Fairfield University in '04 with a B.A. in English, **David Schneider** has worked at a TV station, New 12 Connecticut. Currently he is in graduate school at the University of Missouri's School of Journalism. He plans to get a Master's, with a focus in broadcast journalism, and to become a reporter.

**'98**

**Colby Gargano** graduated last May from Saint Lawrence University in Canton, New York, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. She is living in Manhattan and working with Wenner Media, publishers of Rolling Stone Magazine, US Weekly, and Men's Journal.

**Chis Callahan** graduated from Georgetown University last June and he is working for Bear Stearns in New York.

**'99**

**Charlie Scheerer** is a finance major at Southern Methodist University. He will graduate in the Spring. This past summer he interned with Dixon Boardman's Optima Fund Management group in Manhattan. He was recently booked to appear as a model in the Abercrombie & Fitch catalog.

**'02**

**Drew Montgomery**, a freshman at Florida State University, was named to the Dean's list for the first semester. He has continued with his tennis, which he really enjoys.

**'03**

**Michael Horowitz**, a senior at Suncoast High School's IB program, has been accepted for the fall semester at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. His parents, current PBDS trustee Ken and his mother Barbara, attribute much of Michael's success to the solid educational foundation he received at PBDS.

**'05**

After winning the Novice State 2005 Debate Title in Domestic Extemporaneous

Speaking, **Charlie Metzger**, a sophomore at Suncoast High School (Math, Science, and Engineering IB program) recently took 4th Place in both Domestic and Foreign Extemporaneous Speaking at the University of Florida's Blue Key Speech and Debate Tournament. He is ranked 14th in the country for Extemporaneous Speaking. Charlie is the Captain of the Suncoast WorldQuest Politics and Geography Team, which placed 8th at last year's National Competition in Washington, D.C., after winning the Regional / State Competition.

### Former Faculty

**Judy Babcock** was a faculty member from 1977 through 1985. She sent the following note.

Seeing Dana Koch's photo, reading about Claudia Kirk Barto's baby, and seeing Nancy Lydon's picture and bio. in the November/December *SeaViews* which arrived yesterday, all prompt me to jot this note to say "Hello!" It has been twenty years (Count them!!!) since I reluctantly departed from my position as a third grade teacher at PBDS. The eight years that I spent influencing the minds of my young students there, were some of the most enjoyable of my 40-year teaching career. Now, at age 70, I reflect upon what has transpired since I began teaching in a third grade classroom at South School in New Canaan, Connecticut, in 1958, and realize that were it not for the fact that scads of children have been in my life since I, myself, was a child, I wouldn't feel as though I am still 16. It is good to keep reading about the people who were or who still are actively involved in the doings of the Day School, and *SeaViews* brings to mind the many exciting years that I got there early so as to not have to park my car down by Seaview Field and lug my stuff all the way to the Day School door. Many doors have opened and closed since then, but I wish all of those with whom I came in contact from 1977 to 1985 the very best of New Years and thank you for the wonderful memories. After fifteen years in Miami, Blake and I live in Orlando now, right near UCF, and are surrounded by college students. We are active substitute teachers at nearby Trinity Preparatory School, from which our son-in-law graduated several years

ago. Autumn graduated from Rollins, and is now a Vice-President in the mortgage division of R.G. Crown Bank. She and husband, Kevin, live in Winter Park - just 15 minutes from us - with our granddaughter, Kennedy, who just turned four and has begun her first school experience. Taylor, a graduate of Johnson and Wales University, Culinary Division, Charleston, is a private family chef in the Pinecrest Village of Miami. We still summer at our lakeside cabin in Maine, and find "retirement" busier in many ways than were our "working" years. We extend our good wishes and happy thoughts to you all.

### Birth Announcement

**Cassie Foley Glover '87** and her husband Paul are overjoyed to announce the birth of their twin daughters, Cecilia Grace and Olympia Clare, who were born on October 19, 2005. Cecilia was born one minute before Olympia. All are well, happy and healthy, and thriving at home in New York City.

**Deborah Beriro '87** and her fiancée are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Pablo Simon Weir-Beriro, born on October 8, 2005. Deborah states that "Having a son is the best thing she has done in her life!" They have a design showroom called, The Kitchen Store, in West Palm Beach. They are living in Lake Worth.

### In Memorial

**Oliver "Trip" Conger, III '83**, passed away suddenly on November 22, 2005. He was thirty-eight years old. Trip was born in Philadelphia, PA on September 1, 1967. He lived in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, and attended The Episcopal Academy in Merion until 1975, when his family moved to Palm Beach. Trip and two of his three brothers, **Andrew Conger '80** and **Carter Conger '84**, attended Palm Beach Day School. After PBDS, Trip attended and graduated from The Hill School in Pottstown, PA, where he was a fourth generation alumnus. He earned a BA in Psychology from Southern Methodist University in 1990 and a BS in Finance and Accounting from the University of Maryland in 1994. His professional career was in the securities industries as a financial analyst and in-house accountant in Washington, DC, Fort Lauderdale, and St Petersburg, FL. He is survived by his parents, three brothers, two nieces, and three nephews.