David Dorman, Mathematics: Teaching and Playing at Middlebury for 25 Years

Students and fellow Mathematics faculty are familiar with seeing David Dorman in the classroom or his office, but the rest of the College community probably recognizes him as the guy who is always outside doing something active, usually with his dog. “Most people would recognize Char before they would me!” David jokes.

Char, a six year old lab-border collie mix does everything with David; she runs, hikes, swims, skis, plays lacrosse, jumps off the cliffs at the gorge, and in the water can retrieve five sticks simultaneously, routinely fetching two at a time because she gets bored if swimming after only one.

But enough about Char – back to David, whose interests and pursuits are more diverse. Academically, David describes himself as being trained in arithmetic algebraic geometry (the study of the basic arithmetic and geometric structures of mathematics) and since that overlaps with two other professors in his department, he says “I’m retooling myself into mathematical ecology.” It is an integration of mathematics into biology curricula; through mathematical ecology one can model populations (distribution of animals, humans, plant-life), determine how far and quickly diseases will spread, and plan the best places to reintroduce animal species to a region, among many other applications. During his last leave, David developed the curriculum for a mathematical ecology course that he hopes he will get to teach soon. Prior to going to graduate school for mathematics at Brown University, David was an environmental engineer, so his current focus on mathematical ecology is like coming full-circle with his younger professional self.

David calls his fellow Mathematics faculty the most congenial department on campus because “even when there are differences in opinion, they are expressed in a supportive way.” Of his least favorite aspect of his work here David says, “The students are great, the faculty and staff are great. I would teach and run office hours for free. It’s the grading that’s expensive.”

Want to know what is happening at 51 Main this summer? Be sure to check out their new Web presence at www.go51main.com.

51 Main is able to provide special menus for receptions, events and parties. If you are planning a gathering, please consider having it at 51 Main at the Bridge. Call Carl Roesch, manager, at 388.8209 to plan the event.

(Middlebury College to replace the Worth Mtn. Chair Lift)

(BLSE Celebrates 90th)

(New voice mail system to go live August 20)

(This Month in Midd. Hist.)
WORTH MOUNTAIN CHAIR LIFT TO BE REPLACED

In late spring the College learned that the 40-year-old Worth Mountain double chair lift at the Snow Bowl no longer meets the state’s licensing requirements.

Faced with the decision of repairing the lift, replacing it, or closing the Snow Bowl, President Liebowitz and the Board of Trustees decided to replace the lift and launch a special fund-raising effort to cover the $1.7 million cost.

The president weighed the recreational value of the Bowl and its economic importance to the region against the replacement cost of the ski lift at a time when the College is making significant budget cuts due to harsh economic conditions.

“Since 1934,” the president said, “the Snow Bowl has been an integral part of our students’ and our community’s winter recreational experience. Countless children, students, faculty, staff, and townspeople have learned to ski at the Bowl and enjoyed the thrill of winter sports over the decades.”

The new lift will be a fixed-grip triple-chair transport system engineered and manufactured by Doppelmayr CTEC, and the per-hour capacity to the top of the Allen trail will be the same as the existing double-chair Poma lift.

Generous donors have already pledged $600,000 toward the project and, in seeking additional contributions, the College will be selling a limited number of lifetime passes to the Snow Bowl and offering some new naming opportunities at the 75-year old ski area. To learn more about the fund-raising for the Worth Mountain chair lift, go to http://go.middlebury.edu/worthmtchair.

The new lift system will be operational in time for this winter’s ski season.

A young skier in 2007 getting on the soon-to-be-replaced chair lift.

David Dorman, ctd. from pg. 1

David enjoys many athletic endeavors. He is a biker, swimmer, runner, and hiker. The bike is David’s way to really enjoy the Vermont scenery. He has competed in the past with the Middlebury Muffintops master’s swim team, a group he enjoys because “they do not take themselves too seriously.” In June David ran his seventh Mt. Washington road race—yes, it’s running the toll road 7+ miles uphill to the summit. “I’m not built for running, but going uphill even the field for people like me with short legs because no one can take long strides,” says David, explaining his love of mountain running adding, “I do Mt. Washington for the fun of being outside and getting exercise. I’m not going to run if I’m not having fun.” Right after the spring semester ended, David traveled west to Yosemite and Muir Woods for hiking with a group of friends.

When asked if he has a favorite place on campus, David lists, “Running the trail around the golf course, the Class of ’97 trail, the pond behind the CFA that Char dives in . . . I like being outside all year.” David truly loves this campus and says, “My backyard is a park which, fortunately, someone else takes care of. I live in a postcard!” When he is out playing with Char on the fields, David sees and gets to talk to the many College staff members who do take care of that backyard. “They are great, fabulous people, the people who make the College run on a day-to-day basis, and I really appreciate them and want to thank them,” David says.

~ Liz Hammel

This month in ~ Middlebury History

25 years ago ● Reginald L. Cook, professor emeritus of American literature and director emeritus of the Bread Loaf School of English, passed away at the age of 80. Gubernatorial candidate Madeleine M. Kunin called for tougher state laws to regulate property development.

10 years ago ● “If I were the czar of baseball,” wrote Addison Independent columnist and assistant professor Karl Lindholm, “I would be diplomat, scholar, negotiator, fan. I would embarrass no one.” The College applied for an Act 250 permit to install five modular residential units west of Ridgeline Woods. “Middle East: People and Perspectives” was on exhibit at the Museum of Art.

5 years ago ● Ted Conover spoke on “Borrowed vs. Stolen: Plagiarism and Prose, with a Firsthand Anecdote” at the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference. The Middlebury Select Board urged the Vermont Agency of Transportation to construct a roundabout at the corner of Route 7 and Exchange Street. Edward Djerejian, former ambassador to Israel and Syria, gave the Language Schools Commencement Address.

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Bread Loaf School of English Celebrates 90 Years

The Bread Loaf School of English celebrated its 90th anniversary by hosting an all-classes reunion at the Bread Loaf mountain campus in Vermont over the weekend of June 19-21. Bread Loaf students, faculty, and staff representing six decades—from Jean Miller, M.A. ’53 to Charles Byrne, who receives his M.Litt. this summer—returned to the mountain and had a wonderful weekend catching up with old friends, visiting favorite spots, and trading stories across the decades. The Bread Loaf Acting Ensemble performed scenes from Shakespeare and alums told stories from their student days at the “Bread Loaf Remembered” panels. One of the biggest hits of the weekend (Bread Loaf alumni are mostly English teachers, after all!) were the dozen mini-classes offered by the Bread Loaf faculty on subjects as varied as the graphic novel, Ovid’s Metamorphosis, and the poetry of Robert Frost. All who attended agreed that Bread Loaf is still a magical place.

Contact Peggy Fischel at fischel@middlebury.edu.

Classifieds, ctd. from page 4

For Rent: 3 BR house, newly renovated, in the country on Rt. 30 in Sudbury. 1st, last & deposit required at $1,250 per month. Call to inquire at 802.558.1069. Would like at least one-year lease.

For Rent: 2 chalets avail. on Lake Dunmore, Salisbury. Each chalet has 2 BR, sleeps 6 on water. Walking dist. to store, snack bar, laundry mat. No pets/smoking. $750 weekly. Summer rentals Saturday to Saturday until Sept. 1. Monthly rentals Sept. 1 to June 1. Call Dolly at 993.3693 after 4 p.m. or 352.4378.

For Rent w/ Option to Buy: Twin Circles, Middlebury, available September 1, 2009. This 3 BR, 2-1/2 BA condo has been beautifully updated. Unit has colors & features that are charming & fun! The Otter Creek room and terrific extra palladium window provide very nice light. Comes w/ a garage & a partially finished basement. A warm, inviting condo. Rental price: $1,200/mo. Reduced sale price: $209,500. Contact kmurti@middlebury.edu.

Wanted

Wanted: One Stokke Tripp Trapp high chair. Please contact kguttent@middlebury.edu; x2024.

Wanted: A Feb (09.5) who is sticking around after graduation and working for the College is looking for a cheap housing option (house-sitting or sublet) for spring 2010. Recommendations avail. upon request. Contact eeglite@middlebury.edu or call 802.989.8669.

where on-campus?

Linda Ross, Dan Celik, & Marion Davis were the only three readers who knew that last issue’s “Where on Campus?” photo was taken in the Performance Space in the basement of Le Chateau!
Classifieds

Classified ads are free for members of the staff, faculty, student body and alumni of Middlebury College. Ads must be submitted seven days prior to the publication date. Guidelines for ads can be found on the MiddPoints section of the HR Website. Please send ads to Classifieds, MiddPoints, HR, Service Building, or e-mail to middpoints@middlebury.edu (electronic submissions preferred).

Auto

For Sale: 2005 Chevy Equinox (AWD). Charcoal gray w/ many extras including air, power windows & locks, keyless entry, CD player, tinted rear windows, Michelin tires, trailer hitch. Great condition. Good all-year round vehicle, great winter car. Under 57K miles. $8,800. E-mail jquesnel@middlebury.edu for more details/pics or call x5185.

For Sale: 2003 Toyota Matrix XR 4WD. Silver with dark interior. 76K miles. Bought w/ only 6K miles as Toyota Certified Vehicle. Excellent in all weather. New brakes. $9,000. ewhitake@middlebury.edu or 802.989.1318.

For Sale: 4 used, studded, Winterforce snow tires. 195/60 R15. $15 each, 2 for $25, 4 for $45. Call x5570.

Other

For Sale: Baldwin spinet piano. 19 inch Quasar TV with built in VCR player. 388.4427.

For Sale: Roper brand washer & electric dryer. Heavy-duty, x-large capacity. Washer 27” wide; dryer 29”. Inherited from my mother -- they both work fine. $150 each (sell for around $350 each new), & I prefer to sell the pair instead of 1 at a time. Contact adolber@middlebury.edu.

For Sale: Queen size Ethan Allen sofa-bed: beautiful condit., asking $300. Heavy duty black plastic work box: like new, w/ locking lids, last used in back of Tacoma pickup, $50. Ariens rototiller: some rust, five hp, 18” till, $35. Call Cris Butler x5643.

Yard Sale: Lots of girl’s clothes, for all seasons, sizes 7, 8, 10/12, in excel. condit., gymnastic suits, skating dresses, adult clothes, books, games, toys, household items, & more. Saturday, August 8, 9:00 – 4:00 and Sunday, August 9, 9:00 – 1:00 at 988 Lower Plains Road, Salisbury. tdegray@middlebury.edu.

Yard Sale: Bridport town-wide yard sales August 15 and 16, 9:00 - 4:00. Maps available at all sales and Pratt’s Store.

Real Estate

For Sale: 4 BR, 2,900 sq. foot, in-town Middlebury house with established garden, old house charm, walking dist. to schools & stores. Newly painted, family neighborhood, sellers’ principal home for over 20 years. $325,000. Contact x5262.

For Sale: Bridport. Very well maintained 3 BR, 1-1/2 BA home at end of cul-de-sac in a lovely nbrhd. w/ great play area for children. Spacious screened porch off kitchen/dining area, newer 1 car garage, paved driveway, carpeted full bsmnt., hwrdw. floors in LR & DR. Wonderful home for a very affordable price of $194,000. Contact Bob, 453.5110 or rjansen@middlebury.edu.

For Sale: Condo in Middlebury at Woodbridge Lane. This wonderful condo is the one you’ve been waiting for. Recently renovated, 2 BR, 1-1/2 BA w/ room in the basement for an office or game room. Only 1.5 miles to Middlebury College. $128,000. Call 349.4327.


For Sale: House for sale in very desirable Weybridge nbrhd. Walking dist. to College & dwntwn. 4 BR, 2-1/2 BA, screened porch, open front porch. New Buderus furnace, new windows. $419,000. sharris@middlebury.edu or 545.2664.

For Sale or Rent: Lake Dunmore house. 3 BR, 2 BA, amazing views in Leicester. Yr. lease required, avail. now. Rent $1,500/mo., sale price $585,000. Please contact 802.238.3865 or email cometovt@gmail.com.

For Rent: Marbleworks condo. Amazing downtown Middlebury location. 2 BR, 2 BA, hardwood floors, gas fireplace, laundry room, 2 parking spaces, storage unit. View of falls & farmer’s market. $1,600/mo. includes air/heat, gas for stove & fireplace, water, trash pickup. Available September. 1 year lease minimum. 802.462.2162.

For Rent: House in Middlebury on Washington St. Extension, w/in walking distance of town. 4 BR, 2 BA, and a garage. Available Sept 1, $1,300/mo. Contact Emina at emahmulj@middlebury.edu or call 802.388.1145.

For Rent: Room for rent for school year (August - May) in Lake Bomoseen home (25 miles south of campus). Large room, lots of light; shared bath, laundry, kitchen, & most of house w/ owners, one of whom works at Midd. $450 per month, inclusive: but we are a conserving household, and if utilities rise dramatically the rent may go up. Description & photo of house avail. at adolber@middlebury.edu.

(Classifieds continue on page 3)