

You, the Collegiate parents, are what make this day possible. You have you each raised one of the greatest children of all time, you have dealt with all of us during the most stressful times of our lives, you have helped each other through hardships, you have taught us so much of what we know; we can only hope to grow up to be nothing like you.

Surprisingly, now I would like to say a few words about my class. For many of us, Collegiate has been our life since the age of 5. That's 13 years, or 91 in dog years, looking at you Bresnick, you dog—probably the longest time most of us will ever stay in one place. So condense with me, if you will, those thirteen years into a time span of but a week here at school. On Monday morning, under this standard, we arrived at school, some of us potty trained, and some of us not quite there, Spaznick you dog, and began our Collegiate careers.

Things started fast that Monday morning. Star Sawyer introduced us all to the language of love. Abby Newlan renamed Pinsky, "Mikey" but was soon left due to a job opening at Oprah's famed girls school in South Africa. Wait, no, wrong joke. K1 ran train on K2, a trend that has since continued. And that afternoon, after nap time, we entered First grade. Sadly, Eliot Snyder overslept and missed moving up day.

Under the reign of Beth Tashlik, our serious academia began. We counted and estimated the number of peanut M&M's in a jar, getting our first proverbial nut. Then, Mrs. Hutchinson met Andrew Newhouse, and it took her less than a month to literally "hit the roof" after his contagious laughter got the better of our entire grade in an assembly featuring several videos of sumo wrestlers. That afternoon we went home, entirely unsuspecting of the rude awakening Tuesday morning and Second grade would bring us.

Second grade was a roller coaster of a year, let me tell you. I had my first kiss, and no, not with Martha Miasaka as the legend suggests, instead it came from the wonder from down under, Mrs. Brydon on Kissmiss eve. We went on "mini-trips" and hit all New York's hotspots. Some went to the Statue of Liberty; some went to Dannie and Eddie's, and some to the Empire State building. We also got our first new kid, a great addition to our grade, William Janover. But, it wasn't all fun and games. We learned to writeursive, which none of us can still do, and we lost some real good men out there: Drew Glicker and Spensor Ong left Collegiate for the greener pastures of . . . God knows where.

We then went to lunch in the third floor cafeteria, came upstairs, and were wonderfully surprised with what the lower school handed us: Mrs. Dopp, Mrs. McCauley, Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Mullis taught us 3rd grade. All were great, but only one gave Doug Gleicher the finger. We learned our times tables and got separated into reading groups. During music, Chris Cargill was crowned our major-minor king, but was soon usurped by his twin, the evil Courtland.

By the end of Tuesday, we were the seniors of the lower school. I finally had final cut on my Iktome story, and Abowitz couldn't do a thing about it. Science got interesting when Mr. Duarte mixed one of his own pellets in with the owls'. Oddly enough, that group still found a mouse's skeleton.

On Wednesday, we were thrown into the world of Tashjiniian metaphors: the Canada Goose, the Pythagorean theorem, Phil the Lobsterman, and the Purple Cabbage provided us all with limitless inspiration. Needless to say, things were different in 5th grade. We were at the mercy of a new set of teachers. We were asked to turn in homework. We got four new kids, four studs, Ola,

Darien, Adam, and Billy Janover. We almost got one more, but instead we were left with the four first names that still make our fingers tingle: Aaron Ashley Marshall Bob.

We then began 6th grade and had a ball. Rolling Thunder Heard our Cry when we were forced to spend three days with the George Jackson School on a wilderness trip. May Mandeep Singh rest in peace. And, in the funniest memory I have of Collegiate, David Wilks body slammed a cello, I kid you not. David felt badly, but Mr. Lastraps kindly turned his blind eye to the wreckage.

Many of us became men on Wednesday afternoon, as Bar Mitzvah season quickly changed our lives. At the time, I was not built for the hora. A portly young man with a sweet tooth, I had trouble with the chocolate fountains, the neckties, and the dance floor. Many of you felt my pain, looking at you Jeff Wilks, but others capitalized on it. Nissan moved well to hip-hop and Lynfield was built for slow songs. Still, I danced with a few cuties on those fine evenings, and all too often the party went from 6 all the way to midnight. Things got even crazier during school, we had sports teams and final exams. I never got above a B in either. Plus, no one felt safe in the lunch room, as Henri MacArthur's ridicule knew no bounds.

Finally, Wednesday afternoon and 8th grade provided our first taste of entitlement. We didn't get away with much though, as Ms. Bell made men of us boys. By then Alvin, Will Grant, Yuri David Yan and Bill Janover had joined us due to the gigantic void left by Cary Jones. Alvin and Grant sang us the ballad of Bubba Grandoo, at first this and their other songs seemed impressive, but later we found out they stole all but the nonsensical lyrics from Madonna. The other two were even more controversial. Yan took away Sam Bresnick's only claim to fame: height. And Yuri made us all look like morons.

Hump day had passed and when a new day dawned, 9th grade slapped us all across the face. Along with 11 new kids, William included, Mrs. Hansen joined our grade in entering the Upper School, and she loved everything about us from day 1. Things definitely changed for us, grades started to matter, which gave Mr. Rubin way too much leverage. The work was more demanding, but our classes and teachers were more dynamic. Yes, Biology and Mr. Wong intrigued us all, but you all know that's not what I'm talking about. I'm talking about our Geometry teacher, whose name I am not permitted to say. I cannot begin to describe him to younger grades, I dare not make fun of his table manners, teaching style, physique or general disposition in front of his colleagues, and uncovering the truth behind he and Dustin Satloff's SatBat contract may require legal action. So, I decided it best to leave him out entirely. Some things didn't change though. Maybe it was something in the water, or maybe it was the fertility pills hidden in the Muenster bagels, but French teachers came and went like they had since Middle School. And even though school took over my entire life starting Thursday morning, I truly believe it was the start of a great four years, an endeavor that improved and matured us all.

There was a fire drill on Thursday afternoon. That was 10th grade.

TGIF had a whole new meaning as Junior year began. You all remember the constant work, the SAT prep, and the terrors of applying to College looming at all times. If it weren't for the constant influx of cheerful show tunes from Dr. Maglione I doubt I would have made it through the year. But we all did make it through, and we came out much stronger than we went in. We learned a lot about each other and our grade came together, especially after our trip to Shelter

Island. In fact, I think the 4 time champion Collegiate Basketball team owes a lot to Shelter Island and to Matt Roth. Finally, Friday nights were filled with spirits, spirits that cheered our team to victory.

Friday afternoon was our turn to show Collegiate what we were made of. With Nissan at the helm, we made use of our final year. At first though, our future was uncertain. Overwhelmed with College apps, we rarely made time for fun or games. Some just couldn't take the stress. After his year of fine women and tanning, Jamie broke out in hives upon his first glance at the common app. But we all calmed down after a while. We slowly recuperated and got back to our roots. We cared and we shared. Cared about each other, and if you're Jesse, shared Taxis with girls. We then emerged as a talented bunch. The debate team, with outstanding speaker Hunter Ford competed valiantly at Yale and the Science Olympiads made states and traveled to West Point. Eric Judge finally decided to get a freakin' job and the basketball team made us all so proud when they brought back a 4th consecutive championship. And finally, let us not forget, we produced Upper West: the duo that has been called Sultry meets Punk meets Rap meets Tectonique meets . . . Dub Step meets Flogenic meets a lot of criticism.

To top it off, one more extraordinary thing happened, joking aside. When Carlo broke the silence last year, I thought I'd never see something more moving or inspirational. This is not something to be overlooked. It is rare. It is powerful. It is a testament both to the strength of Carlo and of our entire school. We hope we've risen to the occasion, and we thank you for your example.

I never thought we would be seniors, and certainly never imagined we would graduate, not because we're not smart—we're geniuses, and not because we're bad people—we're saints, but because 2011 was always the year that was miles away.

That brings us to this moment, Friday afternoon of our final day at school. Collegiate has made us who we are today, and we will strive to live by the values we learned here. We leave Collegiate with the hopes of a fun weekend ahead—a weekend that should last the rest of our lives. Thank you.●

WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

● Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I am honored to have the opportunity to congratulate the Wisconsin Technical College System on their centennial celebration marking 100 years of contributing to my State and our Nation.

The early 1900s brought the Industrial Revolution and marked the onset of what would ultimately become a pivotal time in our Nation's history. In Wisconsin, our paper, shipbuilding and steel industries were poised for growth and required workers who were highly skilled and educated in these burgeoning trades.

It was this critical need that inspired one of Wisconsin's foremost educational pioneers, Dr. Charles McCarthy, the first director of what is now known as the Legislative Reference Bureau, to suggest a new model of education for Wisconsin. Dr. McCarthy's idea was based on the belief that, for many in Wisconsin, higher education could be obtained through a new model of learning. This model of learning would not only assist in meeting the

new workforce demands of the Industrial Revolution, but would also provide expanded access for all residents to a higher level of education. In 1911, my home State of Wisconsin became the first State to establish a system of support for technical, vocational and adult education.

What ensued in the following decades through the first World War and the Great Depression emphasized the importance of vocational skills training and propelled the growth of the technical system. By the time that World War II began, Wisconsin's Technical College System had garnered a national reputation for excellence, prompting the Federal Government to allocate over \$4.6 billion into the State to aid the war effort. By the 1960s, the success and value of the system had been firmly established and the State legislature mandated that vocational districts be established throughout Wisconsin by 1970.

What began with an idea more than a century ago, the Wisconsin Technical College System has continued to set the standard for our Nation. The system currently serves 400,000 students on 47 campuses every year, helping to shape the future of our State and prepare the workers for tomorrow. Even in these difficult economic times, access to high quality education for all people remains crucial in ensuring that not only Wisconsin but the Nation, moves forward. I am very proud to recognize the Wisconsin Technical College System on its centennial celebration and for all it has done for the State of Wisconsin and its citizens.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1249. An act to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform.

H.R. 2279. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 4303, and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees of Gallaudet University: Mr. YODER of Kansas and Ms. WOOLSEY of California.

The message further announced that pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 2702, and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Speaker reappoints the following member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: Mr. Jeffrey W. Thomas of Columbus, Ohio.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 194 of title 14, United States Code, Mr. MICA, Chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the United States Coast Guard Academy Board of Visitors: Mr. FRANK GUINTA of New Hampshire, Mr. ANDY HARRIS of Maryland, and Mr. RICK LARSEN of Washington.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1276. A bill to repeal the authority to provide certain loans to the International Monetary Fund, the increase in the United States quota to the Fund, and certain other related authorities, to rescind related appropriated amounts, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2021. An act to amend the Clean Air Act regarding air pollution from Outer Continental Shelf activities.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 1249. An act to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2279. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cloquintocet-mexyl; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 8877-2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 24, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2280. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Diethylene glycol mono butyl ether; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 8876-5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 24, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2281. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Office of Policy, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Propylene Oxide; Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL No. 8877-7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 24, 2011; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2282. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations" ((44 CFR Part 67)(Docket No. FEMA-2011-0002)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 23, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2283. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Television Broadcasting Services; Nashville, TN" (MB Docket No. 11-29; RM-11622) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 24, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2284. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Brackettville, Texas)" (MB Docket No. 09-219) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 24, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2285. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "West Virginia Regulatory Program" (Docket No. WV-117-FOR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 24, 2011; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-2286. A communication from the Chief of the Endangered Species Listing Branch, Fish and Wildlife Services, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for Tumbling Creek Cavesnail" (RIN1018-AW90) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 24, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2287. A communication from the Chief of the Recovery and Delisting Branch, Fish and Wildlife Services, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reinstatement of Listing Protections for the Virginia Northern Flying Squirrel in Compliance with a Court Order" (RIN1018-AX80) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 24, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2288. A communication from the Chief of the Recovery and Delisting Branch, Fish and Wildlife Services, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of Bull Trout in the Clackamas River Subbasin, Oregon" (RIN1018-AW60) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 24, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2289. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,