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Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. We've just leveled off at 31,000 feet for our flight to Annapolis today. I know that we've got a good number of the Naval Academy Class of 1977 Alumni with us today, but please.....no goats in the aisles. This is your Captain speaking, have a pleasant flight. By the way, LOOKING GOOD '77.

Since the last several columns have dealt with the reunion and the recent Captain promotion list, I thought I'd start this report with something that combined both themes. Our 20th Reunion is fast approaching. Although I'm writing this in the heat of a Norfolk July day, I know that we'll be enjoying Fall in Annapolis in only a matter of weeks. With this in mind, the mailbag continues to fill to the brim, so let's get on with it.

The first note came from **James Coulson** who writes:

In June of '96, I finished up two years of Plebe Summer, otherwise known as a tour as the Ops Officer aboard Big "E" ENTERPRISE. With much help from Classmate **Tom "TK" Keeley** as the CDC Officer, we brought her out of the yards and through workups. Tom took over as Ops from me just in time to go on cruise. Tom and I had served together as COs in the same Air Wing with **Jeff Weddle** and **Pat Walsh**. A veritable '77 reunion, with the emphasis on 12th Co.

Just to prove that no good deed goes unpunished, my choices for orders were Maxwell AFB, AL for the Air War College or stay onboard for cruise. I chose Alabama, although Maggie and the kids stayed in Norfolk. The schools in Alabama are a bold step into the '80s, the 1880s that is, so it was the right choice....even if it meant being apart once more (the story of my marriage). When we met our AWC Navy Classmates, I discovered that one of them was married to the former **Brenda Tierney**, sister of our Classmate, **Mark Tierney**....talk about a small Navy.

Jim lists his email as Navyair@juno.com for anyone that would like to get in touch.

Next was an old 35th Co. Classmate of mine, **Dave Pyle** pyle.dave@mathnt1.sma.usna.navy.mil, checking in from the Maryland eastern shore. He writes:

I am currently teaching in the Math department here at USNA. The work is very satisfying, and the Midshipmen are great to work with. In many ways, life here hasn't changed much since we graduated in '77, yet in others the Mids have gotten much better in my opinion. Many of the gripes are the same, but the level of responsibility seems greater.

Cindy and I are living in our new home on Kent Island. We had it built in 1995 after returning from NPS Monterey. We have two children, Will (age 9) has finished third grade and is active in Cub Scouts. Our daughter, Bethany (age 3) is an active and imaginative preschooler who keeps us in stitches with her antics. I have requested to extend this tour until August 1999 when I expect to retire. We hope to stay here on the Eastern Shore and put down some roots.

As an update on the 35th Co., **Jim Lare's** oldest son, Chris was inducted with the Class of 2001 this Summer. **Tom Salacka** retired in March, and he has a job with the airlines. **Paul Croisetiere** is still active with the Marines at Camp Pendleton. **Carl Fisher** works in the NYC area. Finally, **Richard Coan** is a Captain with American Airlines flying F100s out of Dallas/Ft Worth."

Jeff Stone sent the following jstone@anthem.com:

I'm past due to check in with you. My family and I are fine, living in the San Jose area after leaving the Navy in 1984. My wife, Libby, is approaching 20 years of military service as an Army Reserve LTC nurse. We met while I was her cardiac patient at Balboa. I reacted to swine flu vaccine and suffered a myocardial infarction. I subsequently saw duty at SurfPac in Coronado, very cool. My daughter Jennifer (age 13) plays the piano and struggles at basketball. Michael (12 in December) is fascinated by all things musical or galactic, while Matthew (age 6) is a genuine terror. I work at Anthem Electronics with two other USNA grads and the CEO is a West Pointer, but an otherwise fine and respected gentleman. I hope to drag the family to the 20th Reunion, see you there.

Finally, I received a great, long letter from **John Varney** that I'll have to edit somewhat here Saffon@aol.com:

After 19 years and having never written a letter to *Shipmate*, I figured why wait for more time to pass, so Howdy! My wife, Martha, and I are happily ensconced in New Hampshire—the seacoast region. After duty at the Navy Shipyard in Portsmouth, we loved New England so much that we decided to stay. Upon leaving the shipyard, I worked as a Production Manager in Amesbury, MA before settling in at Simplex Technologies in Portsmouth where I'm the safety guru.

Martha runs her own business out of the home, creating tailor-made equestrian apparel. We have three horses, two dogs, and two cats, so it's like our own little zoo. The true highlight of our lives is our new daughter. We adopted a baby girl from China last year. Marin is an absolute beauty and the perfect child. If any Classmates are in the area, please drop by or call. We're at 66 Ham Rd, Barrington, NH 03825.

Now, back to the rest of the Class of '77 Captain selectees. Last column we started at the end of the list in reverse order. I'll finish up in a more normal style from the top of the list in alphabetic order. Once again the number in parentheses represents the USNA company. **James Adams (28)**, **Robert Andersen (09)**, **Tom Arminio (03)**, **Dave Armitage (34)**, **Duane Baker (13)**, **Robert Barbaree (29)**, **Claude Barron (04)**, **David Beam (13)**, **John Bird (27)**, **Brooks Boatwright (16)**, **Ronald Brinkley (12)**, **Chris Cain (31)**, **Jim Cardosi (18)**, **David Comis (17)**, **Greg Cornish (08)**, **Jose Corpus (13)**, **Rich Current (20)**, **William Daniels (32)**, **Tom Frey (17)**, **Michael Frick (03)**, **Louis Geanuleas (11)**, **Henry Gonzales (15)**, **Dale Govan (27)**, **Ken Graber (31)**, **Dennis Haines (04)**, **Dan "Mountainman" Hansen (26)**, **Tom Hawkins (01)**, **Tom Hejl (25)**, **Al Hochevar (22)**, **Gary Holst (10)**, **Doug Hovland (07)**, **Charles Jamison (36)**, **Ralph Janikowsky (07)**, **Tom Keeley (10)**, and **Mark Kenny (24)**. My personal congratulations goes out to one and all on this marvelous achievement.

I have been in contact with two of our recent Captain selectees. In late June, I was in line in the package store at NAB Little Creek and who was standing in front of me but **Bill Daniels**. It has to have been nearly two decades, but we recognized each other in an instant. Bill says that he is XO on a ship (the name of which escapes me) that's either named for a bird or a bug. He seemed to be pretty happy with the job regardless. The other was **Danny Hansen**. I got a call from NORAD one day. Confident that nobody in my department was raining death and destruction from the skies, I still returned the call with caution. Danny was at the other end as the NORAD watch officer. Now I know Dan very well, and we even lived together for a while in flight training; but somehow I can't see him charged with defending us all from threats from above. Maybe I need to see "Men In Black" one more time. Danny is living in Colorado where his son is a hot prospect high school quarterback. He completed the Space Curriculum at NPS Monterey (most of Dan's friends

know that he's been taking up space for years) before joining Space Command. He's hoping to extend for another year in this tour but may be looking either at orders in the all too near future. He is hoping to make it to the reunion in October.

That's all for this month. I hope to see many of you in Annapolis next month. I'm looking forward to seeing how far we've all come in twenty years, and I'll be looking for a mother lode of material for future columns. Until then....be well.

Pres: **John Rudder**
 Sec'y: **Vince Balderrama**
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Mail has been zooming down the old technological highway ever since I posted my email address. That would be a really great thing provided I wasn't pretty much still operating in a Model-T mentality. But I'm trying...heck if **Bill "If" Fell** can manipulate the beast, I guess I can. Here's the scoop on him..."If" is alive and well and living in Barstow, CA where he is the XO of the Marine Corps Logistics Base. He'll be retiring next August, having reached as he put it "about three grades (LtCol) higher" than he thought. He's already planning for life after the Corps. He hopes to work in College Athletics Administration; you know, working in the athletics department so as to catch all those football and basketball games for free. Helping coach his kids athletic teams may help land him something more than just ball boy at Whatsamatta U. Speaking of kids and family, it's now 15 years of wedded bliss for the Fells. **Kimberley (13)** got her mom's smarts while the boys, **Billy (7)** and **Jeff (6)** are typical guy woodheads—like **Bill**—playing one sport after another. In the words of **Tim Allen**—"Rharr arrr uhh ahhrrr". If any of you have ever been to Barstow, you'd confirm **Bill's** comment that it "sucks." That's the military term for "Why am I in this godforsaken land?!" Could be worse if it wasn't for the fact that misery does indeed have company—Classmate company to be exact. **Jim Shulson** is also in Barstow. He lives and works right across the street from If. (I think they had it in their contract to be fellow camp followers.) The two of them went to **John Sturges'** change of command several months ago where they also saw **Archie Griffin** and **Billy Poole**. If also wrote that **Jim Harbison** was scheduled to take over the 7th Engineer Support Battalion this Summer. (See Jim, I got your name right this time. Ya see folks, eons ago in one of these columns, I mis-wrote Jim's name as "Mike Harbison". I've been trying to live it down to him ever since. Hopefully, JIM, this and the beer I'll buy you will make amends. Not to mention the gazillion times I wrote "I will not mis-write JIM Harbison's name again, I will not..." Or the fact that I've already written, JIM, a bunch of times already.) **John Wissler** is now in command of the 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion and **Dave Barile** is commanding an Artillery Battalion on Okinawa. **Bob "Bubba" Destafney** is the CO of the Defense Logistics Agency depot in Albany, GA. Actually, Bubba emailed me. He sent his email address and a promise to follow up with news from "Bubba-land". He can be reached at LtCol. Robert_Destafney@smtp.ddre.dla.mil. **Rich Cellon** took his golf clubs to Port Hueneme where he commands a Sea Bee Battalion. That's about all the '78ers whom, uh—who, no it's whom—ahh heck, that's all the Classmates "If" has spotted. Now that we know he has the technology, perhaps **Bill** will be able to squeeze out another letter within the next 20 years. If anyone is out to Las Vegas or passing through Barstow ("the Breezewood of the

West”), Bill invites you stop by and see them. At least call him at 760-255-3541 or email him at Ifuma@aol.com. Barstow is a very lonely place!

Zippping along the middle lane on “Info-I-78” was **Cale Haren**. Cale sent me a bunch of jokes, some funny, but none really worth repeating in this column. (Of course we can blame **Shawn Tallant** for their content). Cale merely forwarded them from Shawn’s email address TALLANTSR@aol.com. Shawn is CO of an F-18 squadron in Japan. Like most of you still on active duty, he’s usually deployed. While he’s gone, Jo (ever the good Navy wife) holds down the fort. Cale is still in Fredericksburg, VA. He left PRC in ’95 and took a year and a half off before the necessities of life got to him—like needing money. He’s now the Director of Federal Operations for Zitel Corporations’ Solution Services Division. They are in the year 2000 software remediation/renovation market and offer conversion service for IBM mainframe systems. You can catch Cale at 540-972-1813 or via email at charen@tidalwave.net.

Kevin Olsen late night emailed me, but I stupidly dumped the letter. Being no Bill Gates himself, he was unable to send me another. I told him I’d have to rely on memory or the creativity of my imagination if the memory failed me. He said making up stuff was okay with him—provided I imagined him as Louie Freeh’s heir. Sorry, Ols, even I don’t have that big of an imagination. Okay, so he might not be the next J. Edgar Hoover (unless that little chemise in the closet ISN’T his wife’s), but he’s still doing great with the FBI down in Miami. He’s a kung fu ninja and SWAT team warrior and teaches weapons and tactics. Fatherhood and family are as much of a challenge as solving the criminal ills of the South, but the rewards are better and more enjoyable. If anyone gets down his way, give him a call at work 305-473-6220 or just email him at KROYOLS@aol.com. Yes, he does have air conditioning! Some other quick check-ins were: **Charlie Sotomayor** c6fn70@AGF#.NAVY.MIL Soto is stuck on the 6th Fleet staff along with **Jim Loeffler**. **Randy Kahn** and his squash rackets can be found on (Where else?) squash@geocities.com. **Chris DeMarche** is on cdemarche@verio.net. **Craig Diffie** was on 100260.25@compuserve.com. That address may change now that he, Libby and the kids are back in CONUS. **Lloyd Prince** Lprince@aol.com is working to get ValuJet back in the air safely. Lloyd zapped me back to the aging reality when he wrote that his daughter was graduating from high school. Gosh, have we finally turned into our parents?! Representing the other side of the world and 36th Co., **Kurt Tidd** (KTidd@aol.com) emailed me to say he’s among those still on active duty. He has command of ARTHUR W. RADFORD (DD-968) and is having a ball! Going through the PCO pipeline was like old home week for him. Also in his group were **Jim Carr**, **John Sturges**, **Chris Wode**, and **Danny Holloway**. Chris is a squadron mate of Kurt’s in DESRON 26 out of Norfolk. Chris is skipper of SAMUAL B. ROBERTS (FFG-56). **Rick Martinez** (RickMartnz@aol.com) is CO on GROTON. He finishes up in the Fall, then he’s off to the COMSUBPAC Staff in Hawaii (or so the detailer claims). Rick also re-confirmed some things previously mentioned in columns—other sub skippers in New London are: **John Cooke** (OKLAHOMA CITY), **Scott Langdon** (CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI), **Joel Bohlmann** (HARTFORD), **Bill Burke** (TOLEDO), **Rob Zalaskus** (TREPANG), and **Larry Olsen** (MIAMI) are also sub skippers in New London.

Mike Fifer mfifer@shore.net is living in Manchester, MA (on Cape Ann, just North of Boston). He got out in ’83 and went to Harvard Business School. After trying his hand in a mail order nursery, he ran the Sunfish and Laser Division of

Pearson Yachts. Following that stint, he did M&A (that’s a civilian acronym for mergers and acquisitions) for a high tech company. Now he’s the group VP for Watts Industries, a large valve company. He’s got responsibility for their operations in Canada and California. Recently he picked up China too. All-in-all, he’s traveling a heckuva lot more than when he was on active duty in subs. But then again, subs never gave frequent flyer mileage. Mike would like anyone from 26th to give him an email buzz. During my late night “surfing,” my former Plebe Summer roommate, **Ed Bohne**, gave me instant message. I’ll be zapping him back at the very Devil Doggish address of M60A1@aol.com.

John Gardiner JohnGardiner@MCI.Com sent me an MCI minute. Though not on sales, John still continues to plug the merits of his mortgage payer. With all the hassles I’ve had with AOL, I just might have to investigate his InternetMCI. John lays claim to the longest post Navy Class employment tenure having started with MCI while on terminal leave back in ’83. It’s been a diverse employment for John. He’s held construction, engineering, and operations positions with them. Presently, he’s in Cary, NC managing their Facilities Operations Group. He’s sorta like a base commander, taking care of buildings and grounds, diggers and fillers, etc. He retired from the Reserve as a CDR when his unit was decommissioned. He’s fulfilling the “need to serve and command” void with Boys Scouts and community service, not to mention referee soccer and golf. Becky and their three kids are doing well and enjoying Cary immensely. He hasn’t gotten to see too many Classmates; but hey, he works for a long distance phone company so he does call. Here’s some updates he gathered along the wire: **Dave Mercer** is CO of VFA-131 out of Jacksonville, FL. He is due to rotate in October and figures he’ll be flying a desk on a joint tour when he moves on. As of this writing, Dave is still unmarried and may be among the last remaining bachelors of our Class. **John Casey** is in home construction and renovation in York, PA. He and Susan enjoy the rural life. John enjoys running his own business. **Tim Sprague** is CO of NICHOLAS (FFG-45). He may still be out on cruise. He and Ann Marie have three children and live in the Virginia Beach area. **Mark Manthey** is at the Naval Safety Center in Norfolk. He makes the commute from Chesapeake where he, Marissa and their two kids make their home. John would like to have all 4th Co. folks drop him a line. He wants to put together a company directory for the 20th Reunion. Thanks for the note, John. I also got some actual postage-

stamped mail from your company mate and my fellow coxs’n, **Rusty Chang**. Rusty wrote to tell me that **Paul “Munch” Mansfield** finally tied the knot. On May 18th, Paul and Barbara were married.

Witnessing the event were: **John “Woody” Woodward**, **Stan Labak**, **Ken Colby**, **Mike Holden**, and of course, Rusty. Woody just finished up his MBA at William and Mary and stays pretty active in rowing with the Naval Academy Alumni Rowing Club. Woody mentioned to Rusty that **Russ Gordon** will be changing from a “Beltway Bandit” to a “Pax River Parasite” as NAVAIR makes its move to Lexington Park, MD. **Stan Labak** was leaving the Connecticut area to work down in Washington, DC. **Mike Holden** is our webmaster at Monterey, where he is an instructor at PG School. **Ken Colby** has been working for a computer company in Atlanta for a number of years. **Steve Bartie** is down the road in Westport, CT. He’s finally off standby and is on a “real” schedule with American Airlines. As for Rusty, he’ll be leaving FACSAC VACAPES in December and heading for sunny San Diego and a world of more coherent acronyms.

Marty Drake abl@salts.icpphil.navy.mil sent an email from the NAG (North Arabian Gulf). This technology is amazing. I remember when you had to wait for a port call, helo drop, mail buoy or a MARS line to be able to send and receive news on ship. Marty wrote that a good many of the greyhounds of the fleet in the NAG are commanded by ’78ers. Besides Marty, there’s **Tim Sprague**. Tim and Marty are part of the same squadron and are affectionately known as the “Battle Pair”. **Charlie Martoliglio** is in command of FITZGERALD. Charlie’s time in the Gulf is about up, and his ship should be heading home to the West Coast via the liberty ports of Seychelles, Australia and New Zealand. That course has Marty suffering with homeport envy. The newest skipper among their midst is **Tom Abernathy**. Tom assumed command of PAUL F. FOSTER. As for the remainder of the ’78ers in the Gulf, they are liberal arts school grads. Always thinking, Marty tried to drop hints to the Commodore and Admiral that this unique year-grouping posed the perfect opportunity for a photo op. Imagine the symbol of America’s power projection, the carrier, surrounded by a ring of escorts—all commanded by ’78ers. It coulda made recruiting posters, TV, you name it. Ah, but the Kodak moment either got lost among the warfighting stuff or maybe the “flags” were liberal University grads and never got the hints. Marty says that Ops are typical—each hour is 58 minutes of boredom followed by 2 minutes of terror. One minute their chasing away poten-



Barbara and Paul Mansfield’s Wedding Day

tial sanction violators and the next they're just drifting with the tide. But still, when you're the King, life onboard ship ain't all bad. His better half, Leigh is CINCHOUSE. Besides keeping the house in order, she also keeps Marty's spirits up with email and calls, not to mention a visit or two when he gets to a port. Thanks for the email Marty and stay away from shallow water.

Mark Nault nault@hst.org should be in Carlisle, PA by now. He got selected for Army War College. After graduating for Naval Post Grad in '95 with an MS in Info Tech Management, he lingered around NPS. He helped the weather guessers with their computer stuff. Seeing as it's the place that generates all the weather stuff to the Fleet (joint service, civilian federal agencies and some foreign folks), you can partially blame Mark for any reported CAVU weather that turned into dog doo. When he's done with War College, he'll head on to Kings Bay, GA for a staff weenie job.

Ray Luevano raymoon@theconn.Eng.Sun.COM is with Sun Microsystems in Palo Alto. He sent me an interesting article from the *San Jose Mercury News's* *WEST Magazine* which profiled our good buddy and fellow former Marine **Mike Sears**. The article chronicled Mike's rising star at Sun Microsystems and his decision to leave the corporate ladder. Suffice to say, the Corporate Ivory Tower lives up to its name. Armed with a multitude of talents and experience, a Stanford MBA/JD, and all that great Marine Corps TBS training, Mike is consulting. He has his own management firm—The Reticle Group—which helps position budding technology companies for venture-capitalized growth. He and Julie adopted a baby (Matthew) last July and they make their home in Los Altos, CA. He's making it on his own terms and having fun free-lancing, so the article said. I hope so 'cuz we all deserve some fun in our lives and work. Drop us a line, Mike, and let me know what was Bull and what was Gouge about the article.

Jim Fiorelli 75721,3120 added a few more email addresses. Here goes: **Mike Kozlarek** 71501,3636; **Bill Kramer** WKRAMER@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com; **Todd Lesh** 73634,2364; **Pat McCormick** 73152,200; **Krisan** and **Mike Murphy** 100043,3246; **Bob Tobey** RJTOBEY@NPS.NAVY.MIL; **Dennis Viera** Dennis.Viera@den.mmc.com; **Rich Benson** 76173,1031; and **John Watters** John_H_Watters@cmail.orl.mmc.com. (I think all the numbers are compuserve.) Jim provided an update on **Vince Bellezza** which I put in a previous column input. To recap; in a nut shell, Vince is doing great and his recovery is on track and miraculous! As for Jim—he, Jan and their three boys, Michael (7), Matthew (5) and John (1 1/2) live in Virginia Beach, VA.



The Fiorelli Family

They are part of a ministry team, The Navigators, which serves military personnel and their families. He drills with CARGRU 0466 which augments CARGRU 4 at NAF Andrews. This September he'll head for the reserve 2 week joint military ops course at the Naval War College, provided he gets his paper done in time—and passes.

In closing, Jim also passed on some sad news. A few articles ago, I mentioned that **Misti** and **Art Athens'** youngest, Daniel, was to undergo heart surgery. Well, Daniel made it through the surgery; but unfortunately, a post operative infection set in. Despite the remarkable courage little children seem to muster to our amazement, the infection finally got the better of him; and he succumbed. Our prayers and condolences go out to Misti, Art and their remaining children. They're a deeply spiritual family; and in that, we can know with certainty that they have solace...

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Membership: 94%

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Well I've just completed my monthly Elvis channeling exercises with my old pal and spiritual advisor, Koko the Signing Gorilla, so I'm knee deep in the hoopla and oh so ready to hand out the info ploppage. Without much more comedy intro filler (oh yeah, I can see the pouty looks all across the country right about now) than this, and most of you wondering, "Man, how can we lose this goofball?", let's get on with the info shall we? One thing though, I'm gonna try using my Great Aunt Lena Yubetcha's accent, being as how I'm here where LOTS of Norwegians settled. So then yashur yubetcha, let's get goin' then yet. Well...maybe not.

Most of this month'll be off "No Controlling Legal Authority" Al's very own Info Superhighway. First up is an update about **Wayne McMullan** from Wayne's wife Cathy. Here goes:

In hopes of giving you something to put in your next article, I thought I would write you about my husband. He is known to me as **Wayne McMullan**, but was known at the Academy as George. Though it has been a while, I'm fairly sure he was in 29th Co. We got married in August 1980 and did the flight school thing before moving to New River, NC for the squadron thing (CH-53Ds). We are now living in a little town in the northeast Georgia mountains called Dahlonega. Should you ever be on a quiz show, this is the site of America's first gold rush. Wayne (aka George) left the Marines in 1985 and began working for the Torrington Co. He is now a data-base administrator. We have four children, George (15), Helen (13), James (9) and John (3). Just so you'll know what a wonderful person Wayne married, I'll tell you I really enjoy reading your articles and love your subtle advertisements. Please put me down for two un-homecoming mugs. Well I feel at long last one of us has done our duty to assist you in giving your all to the Class of '79. Wayne can be emailed at mcmullan@stc.net and if anyone out there is gathering info on WWII Naval Battles he would love to hear from them. This is a major hobby for him; maybe one day he'll write a book, and you can give him advice on advertising techniques. That's about it; if you ever want to scope out the competition, come on down and I'll take you on a tour of pot throwers around here.

Thanks Cathy; and if you get near Pigeon Forge, TN, stop in the American Collection to see some of our stuff. Next up is some info from my pal and our Give Prince, **Frank Dombrowski**. Let her rip Frank:

Hello to the Reunion North Coordinator. I'm still looking for my brochure from Yankton to determine what the accommodations might be in that sprawling metropolis. I'd like to push for a cow-tipping competition instead of a football game. I've taken to doing that to my neighbors' cows, and it's a blast! Can we get Paula Jones to sing the National Anthem? Just some thoughts...On to the REAL news...met with **Sean Cate** yesterday, and I think I poked him enough times with my electric cattle prod to get him moving on the Reunion. He does have some great plans; now it's time to make them real. Looks like the new hotel, right next to the stadium is in the queue for "Reunion Central." Seems Loews Hotel is building a brand spanking new place right next to Tailgater Heaven and that means a simple roll out of bed to get to ROUND TWO of drinking for the weekend. Just read through *Shipmate* and you've mastered another article. I can see why other Classes have taken to "eye-balling" your piece. Good *miemba* there, buddy! Best wishes and prayers for continued success of Arlington Pottery. As for me, I'm living the good life in rural Virginia. Commuting into the DC craziness but coming home each night to geese flying and the sweet, pungent aroma of manure. I'll keep poking **Sean Cate**, you keep writing at the Laptop of Love; and in 1999 we'll meet. Best to Vicky and the kids and I promise to spread lots of bad rumors about South Dakota. *Omnes Viri*.

Thanks Frank. Please do spread those rumors about how awful it is here. A few folks from California and Texas have escaped up here to these beautiful plains. They too are telling their friends back home that "it's such a terrible place, how could we have been so stupid and please don't tell anyone else we knew back in California what a huge mistake we made, okay???" **Jon Brazee** threw some tronage our way:

Just read the column. As Web Consulting/Creation constitutes about 25% of my work (being a professor, a reservist, and my international business ventures making up the rest) I can give up the web space and time to create a site. That is, if there is a demand for it and if there will be contributions to it. Your column would be a natural inclusion, but more would be needed. Anyway, let me know if I can be of service. I'll be gone during the later part of July to Russia, then I get to play Marine in Korea during August, but I should be available pretty steadily after that, at least for awhile. By-the-way, I had a nice article written up in the *San Diego Union Tribune* concerning the tuna industry. My doctoral dissertation on the tuna/dolphin issue was used by both sides during the recent congressional legislation on the subject, so I guess I am now a gosh-darned expert witness. I am even going to Vladivostok as a consultant with this. Saw **Bill Toti** while I was doing some Reserve time at MARFORPAC. Met him and his lovely wife just as he was getting ready to ship out for six months as part of the Admiral's staff (like he wanted me around right then). He hasn't changed an iota since we roomed overnight in some grad's house the day before Plebe Summer began.

Jon, there's lots of scuttlebutt about a webpage and whoever gets theirs done first wins. I for one, volunteer to be the webmaster and will heartily maintain it once the thing is complete. Koko will give the web creator that finishes first a brand new car. Got another tron-o-gram from **Steve Heida**:

Just read your column in our Alumni mag... fantastic...as usual. I was appointed to USNA from SD as were **Dan Vortherms** and **Denny Olson**. If you could send Dan V my email address, I'll straighten out his memory (only two '79ers from USNA???? Dan, Dan, Dan) including things like how we rode to the yard together the first day of Plebe Summer way back in '75...how soon we forget and a good thing too!! Anyway, I appreciate if you could forward this to him so I can catch up with him. I don't know Denny's whereabouts either. Thanks—(Omnes Viri) heidahouse@cfanet.com.