



Melanie and Jim Doherty



Landon Howe '01 listening gleefully to Chris Hubbard performing



The proud father, Mark Hubbard, between the bride and groom

77 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 6%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 67%

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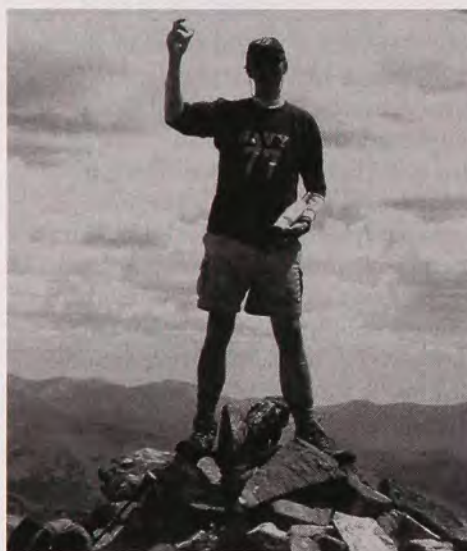
From the Yard

Well, we must be back to our slow time of the year again since this month's column has only a single submission (from a classmate who also happens to be one of my company-mates from 31st Company). So without further adieu, here we go on to the Mail Bag . . .

From the Mail Bag

On 14 July 2004, after 21 years of climbing, **Dan Bereck** (dbereck@csd.net) became the 10th person to ever climb all of Colorado's 637 peaks that are

higher than 13,000 feet. His last climb was on Whale Peak where he was accompanied by 14 other people, one dog, and several bottles of champagne (to celebrate the event, naturally). As you can see by the picture below, he honored the event by wearing a '77 shirt from his USNA days, which appears to have lasted quite well (just like many of us). He also claims that he decided to save Whale Peak for his last climb since it gave his achievement more of a "nautical" touch (when in reality he saved the peak for the end since it was close to his home in Boulder and was also fairly easy). Our heartiest congratulations go out to Dan and we hope he has another opportunity to spend some time with the rest of us at sea level one day. He keeps threatening to take me up on my offer to visit the east coast, and says that I'm welcome in Colorado as well (with the caveat that he may need to get a special permit to have two ex-military people together in Boulder!).



Dan Bereck representing the Class of '77 at the top of Whale Peak

Dan also had a pretty inspiring story from one of his climbs from many years ago. It seems that when he was in Alaska in 1988 attempting to climb Mount McKinley, his team stayed at a lodge where the son of the owner was thinking about applying to Annapolis. Dan had a grand discussion with the son about our alma mater, and his dad was very grateful to him for that. When he returned to summit the peak five years later, the son was getting ready to graduate from USNA, and the dad treated Dan's team like royalty since he

said that Dan's 1988 talk convinced his son to attend our beloved institution. Sometimes you just never know how much influence you have on people whose lives you touch; I'm sure Dan will always remember this story and the good that came from it.

Class Communication

Apparently there's not much going on in the Class Communications area this month, but I did note an interesting approach that was used by the Class of '76 in last month's *Shipmate* issue to elicit more classmate participation. They sent the March 2005 edition of *Shipmate* to every classmate (whether they belonged to the Alumni Association or not) so that they'd get a better appreciation of the alumni activities that they'd been up to in recent months, with the hope that more of their classmates would start to participate in future activities. Interesting idea . . . I wonder how that might work for the Class of '77?

Closing Remarks

That's it for this month, gang. See you in May! Go Navy!—**Bob Sanderson**

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LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 76%

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79 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: 0%
LIFE MEMBERSHIP: 90%

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Greetings, 79!
"Play ball!"

It's April, and for baseball fans, April only means one thing: "Opening Day". The beautiful thing about Opening Day is that the whole schedule is ahead. Possibilities abound. Every team is a contender for the post-season. No one is thinking "There's always next year." It's this year, right now. We've got a shot. This is an optimist's nirvana.

And this year, the Land of the Chesapeake will have something it has not had for 33 years: two major league baseball teams. Yep, this year marks the