



Colorado College Parents Program

Winter 2007

Students, Staff Stranded During Colorado Blizzard(s)

by
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Yes, we all know it snows in Colorado. Rarely, though, does the Front Range get pounded with back-to-back blizzards that make national news, piling up as much as four feet of snow outside our doorsteps and blasting 90 mile per hour wind that breaks trees in half, knocks down utility poles, strands hundreds of motorists, closes roads and the fifth largest airport in the nation, and isolates scores of communities.

The Colorado blizzard was, per Tim Burton's 1993 movie, "The Nightmare Before Christmas."

The last week of block four, we all watched the giant storm on the TV weather maps as it hovered over Albuquerque then slid east to Kansas. Would it come back and hammer the state as predicted? Native and longtime Coloradans bet no; doom and gloom forecasts rarely come to pass.

"Having lived in the Springs area for over 20 years I can attest that weather forecasts are notoriously unreliable," said Ginger Morgan '86, associate dean of students for academic support. "Colorado is also quite proficient at managing most winter storms."

But fanned by El Nino weather conditions, this storm caught many residents off guard. By Dec. 22, snow shovels replaced the Sony PlayStation3 as the most sought-after item on Colorado store shelves (if you could get there!). Mail carriers couldn't deliver, and post offices

here and in Wyoming saw their normal holiday rush compounded by a tremendous backlog of packages, letters and magazines. The governor closed the interstate and most state highways.

Emergency shelters were set up in churches, schools and restaurants near interstate ramps as the heavy snowfall and brisk wind created whiteout conditions.

The Colorado Springs Airport and Denver International Airport closed. All tolled, the blizzard affected an estimated 375,000 passengers as carriers canceled as many as 3,600 flights into and out of Denver.

At noon Wednesday – when students first learned the interstate and airports were closed – one sophomore says frantic classmates were glued to cell phones, trying to reschedule their travel plans. Discovering there really wasn't much anyone could do for several days, they hunkered down in their dorm rooms, watching movies and playing cards. At least 500 students who live in residence halls were still on campus Friday morning. In addition, many students who live off campus were unable to leave once the storm hit on Wednesday. To accommodate these students, college staff kept residence halls open, provided food service and medical service, and arranged transportation.

President Richard F. Celeste and his family hosted a handful of students on Christmas Eve, allowing the campus



Storm(s) Stats
Number of inches of snow in Denver from December's two blizzards: **28**
Normal December snowfall amount for the Mile High City: **8.7 inches**
Snowiest December in Denver history: **December 1919, with 57.4 inches**
Number of hours Denver International Airport was closed in December 2006: **45**
Cubic yards of snow removed from DIA: **4.4 million**
Speed of wind that accompanied the falling snow at the airport: **40 mph**
Height, in feet, of snow drifts along Pena Boulevard to DIA: **7**
(source: Rocky Mountain News)

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Commencement Checklist

Parents of graduating seniors should have received a mailing in December from Jesse Horn '07, senior class president, detailing the weekend activities.

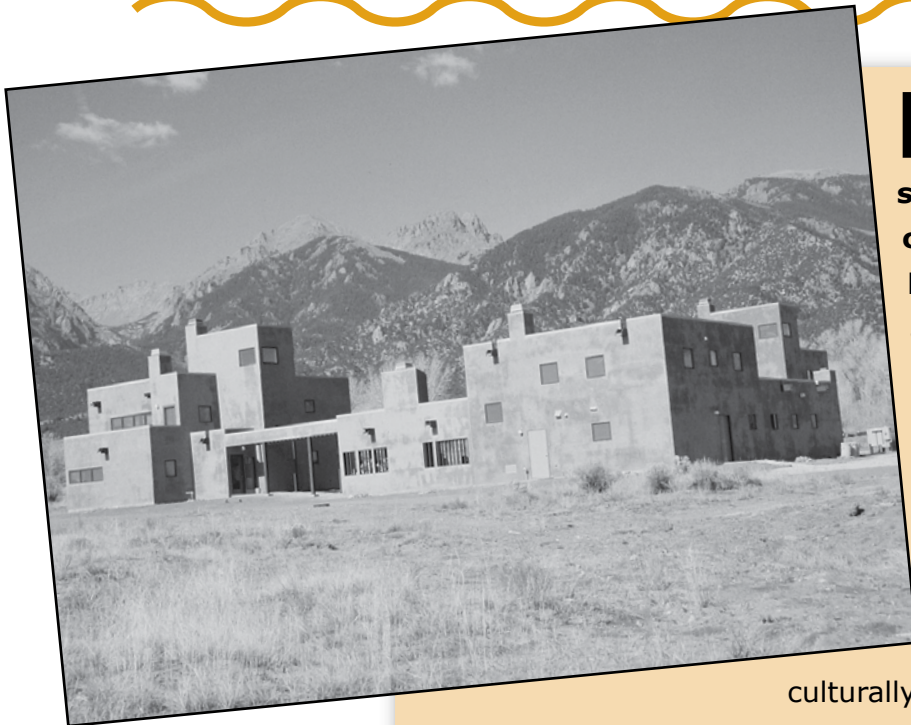
If the letter has been misplaced, visit www.ColoradoCollege.edu/sye/commencement.asp to learn about all the activities slated for Colorado College's 126th Commencement Weekend, which starts



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on Saturday, May 19. Lodging information is also accessible at this website.

Other Web sites with helpful information and checklists for our graduating seniors can be found at: www.ColoradoCollege.edu/sye/commencementschedule.asp and www.ColoradoCollege.edu/sye/seniorchecklist.asp.



For five days in January, 36 winter start students gathered at the Baca campus in southern Colorado, bonding with classmates and doing much appreciated community service in the area.

CC's Baca campus is located in the San Luis Valley, a remote outpost isolated from the economic and political core of the state. The Valley is a historically- and

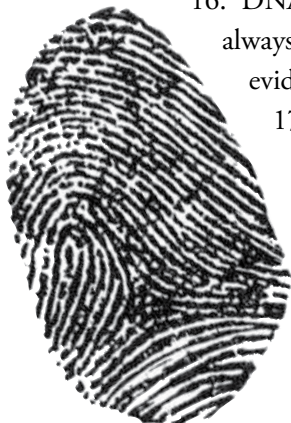
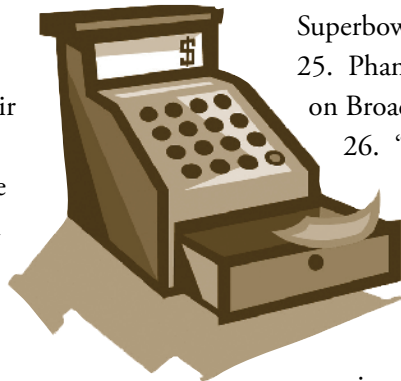
culturally-rich community with a large rural population and low average income. Working with area non-profits, our winter start students engaged in community service activities there, greatly benefiting organizations that typically have few volunteers.

Small groups set off to explore the area by day, regrouping at night as a large group for orientation activities coordinated by college staff and faculty.

Yes, it was cold (subzero!) but winter start students packed well, learning one of the most important lessons about living in Colorado: dress in layers and avoid cotton, an inadequate insulator ... especially when wet.

Welcome to CC, parents of winter starts!

1. The Soviet Union has never existed and therefore is about as scary as the student union.
2. They have known only two presidents.
3. For most of their lives, major U.S. airlines have been bankrupt.
4. Manuel Noriega has always been in jail in the U.S.
5. They have grown up getting lost in “big boxes.”
6. There has always been only one Germany.
7. They have never heard anyone actually “ring it up” on a cash register.
8. They are wireless, yet always connected.
9. A stained blue dress is as famous to their generation as a third-rate burglary was to their parents’.
10. Thanks to pervasive headphones in the back seat, parents have always been able to speak freely in the front.
11. A coffee has always taken longer to make than a milkshake.
12. Smoking has never been permitted on U.S. airlines.
13. Faux fur has always been a necessary element of style.
14. The Moral Majority has never needed an organization.
15. They have never had to distinguish between the St. Louis Cardinals baseball and football teams.



16. DNA fingerprinting has always been admissible evidence in court.

17. They grew up pushing their own miniature shopping carts in the supermarket.

18. They grew up with and have outgrown faxing

as a means of communication.

19. “Google” has always been a verb.

20. Text messaging is their email.

21. Milli Vanilli has never had

anything to say.

22. Mr. Rogers, not Walter Cronkite, has always been the most trusted man in America.

23. Bar codes have always been on everything, from library cards and snail mail to retail items.

24. Madden has always been a game, not a Superbowl-winning coach.

25. Phantom of the Opera has always been on Broadway.

26. “Boogers” candy has always been a favorite for grossing out parents.

27. There has never been a “skyhook” in the NBA.

28. Carbon copies are oddities found in their grandparents’

attics.

29. Computerized player pianos have always been tinkling in the lobby.

30. Non-denominational mega-churches have always been the fastest growing religious organizations in the U.S.

31. They grew up in mini-vans.

32. Reality shows have always been on television.

33. They have no idea why we needed to ask “...can we all get along?”

34. They have always known that “In the criminal justice system the people have been represented by two separate yet equally important groups.”

35. Young women’s fashions have never been concerned with where the waist is.

36. They have rarely mailed anything using a stamp.



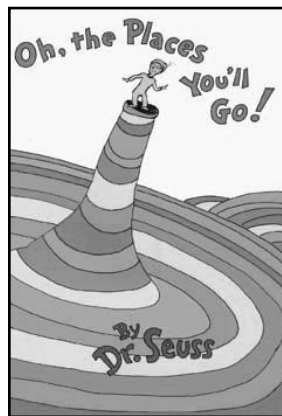
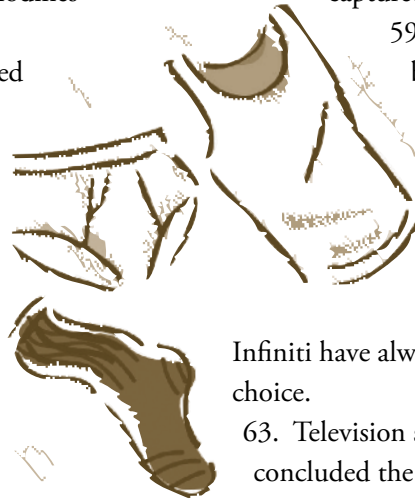
Beloit College’s Mindset List® for the Class of 2010

Members of the class of 2010, entering college this fall, were mostly born in 1988.

For them: Billy Carter, Lucille Ball, Gilda Radner, Billy Martin, Andy Gibb, and Secretariat have always been dead.



37. Brides have always worn white for a first, second, or third wedding.
38. Being techno-savvy has always been inversely proportional to age.
39. “So” as in “Sooooo New York,” has always been a drawn-out adjective modifying a proper noun, which in turn modifies something else
40. Affluent troubled teens in Southern California have always been the subjects of television series.
41. They have always been able to watch wars and revolutions live on television.
42. Ken Burns has always been producing very long documentaries on PBS.
43. They are not aware that “flock of seagulls hair” has nothing to do with birds flying into it.
44. Retin-A has always made America look less wrinkled.
45. Green tea has always been marketed for health purposes.
46. Public school officials have always had the right to censor school newspapers.
47. Small white holiday lights have always been in style.
48. Most of them never had the chance to eat bad airline food.
49. They have always been searching for “Waldo.”
50. The really rich have regularly expressed exuberance with outlandish birthday parties.
51. Michael Moore has always been showing up uninvited.
52. They never played the game of state license plates in the car.
53. They have always preferred going out in groups as opposed to dating.
54. There have always been live organ donors.
55. They have always had access to their own credit cards.
56. They have never put their money in a “Savings & Loan.”
57. Sara Lee has always made underwear.
58. Bad behavior has always been getting captured on amateur videos.
59. Disneyland has always been in Europe and Asia.
60. They never saw Bernard Shaw on CNN.
61. Beach volleyball has always been a recognized sport.
62. Acura, Lexus, and Infiniti have always been luxury cars of choice.
63. Television stations have never concluded the broadcast day with the national anthem.
64. LoJack transmitters have always been finding lost cars.
65. Diane Sawyer has always been live in Prime Time.
66. Dolphin-free canned tuna has always been on sale.
67. Disposable contact lenses have always been available.
68. “Outing” has always been a threat.
69. Oh, The Places You’ll Go by Dr. Seuss has always been the perfect graduation gift.
70. They have always “dissed” what they don’t like.
71. The U.S. has always been studying global warming to confirm its existence.
72. Richard M. Daley has always been the Mayor of Chicago.
73. They grew up with virtual pets to feed, water, and play games with, lest they die.
74. Ringo Starr has always been clean and sober.
75. Professional athletes have always competed in the Olympics.



The AppreCCiate ScholarTrip!

Robin Dunn '06 and Ari Stiller Shulman '06 established the AppreCCiate Scholarship, the first ever student-initiated and student-run scholarship at CC. The scholarship is intended to make CC more accessible to students with financial need and to educate the student body about the importance of need-based financial aid in higher education.

The duo conducted their biggest fundraiser yet as they rode their bikes across the TransAmerica Trail, asking their peers, professors, family and friends to pledge money to AppreCCiate for every mile they pedaled. Their

journey from the Pacific to the Atlantic began in Oregon at the end of August and they touched their bikes in the Atlantic Ocean in mid-November, much to their delight!

To learn more about the AppreCCiate Scholarship please visit online at www.ColoradoCollege.edu/students/AppreCCiate/



In case of emergencies at the college, such as the blizzard last December, Colorado College sends information to all parents via email. The list that is used for these emergencies is not used for any other purpose. If you want to receive these emergency messages, please make sure that the college has your correct email address and update us on any

changes at parentrelations@coloradocollege.edu. Emergency emails will be sent from this email address. To ensure that these important messages reach your inbox, please add this email address to your address book or safe list. If you wish to receive email updates from the college on other topics as well, then please indicate that in your request.

Make sure you receive up-to-date emergency info from the college

Medical insurance for your new graduate may end with graduation. Temporary medical insurance is available, sponsored by the Colorado College Alumni Association. Call (800) 635-7801 or visit www.meyerandassoc.com for information. A special mailing with additional information will come your way prior to graduation.

Parent Elaine Chan P'06, '09 shares news about international travel insurance. "I know that CC students are such adventurers and once they are

off their parents' policy it can get very expensive to get international health insurance coverage. My son Ian is traveling in Europe and possibly beyond after the expiration of his study abroad course's insurance coverage ends. I got \$250,000 in coverage with no deductible and a rider to cover Ian's snowboarding ...all for \$60.45/month!"

Elaine's contact is Myra Altschuler at Travel Protectors, telephone (877) 515-9055 or www.travelprotectors.com

Insurance for new and globetrotting grads

Continued from front page

Sodexo food service staff to have time with their families. Faculty, staff and community members with students assigned through CC's Adopt-A-Student program also made room at their holiday tables for dozens of stranded students. Prof. Kathy Bizzarro in the Romance Languages department welcomed 10 students in her home.

Even after the interstate reopened, problems continued. At DIA, the wait in security lines was as long as six hours. Students and staff who had successfully rebooked their flights couldn't make the gate on time. Some students carpooled to airports in neighboring states to avoid the bottleneck of travelers and flights in Denver.

The Colorado College switchboard fielded hundreds of calls from parents. Two email blasts were sent from this office, informing all of our emergency plans to house and feed students until roads and airports were safe and operational.

Bob Winkelblech, transportation supervisor in CC facilities department, ran at least three dozen shuttles from Dec. 21 until Dec. 25. No student was turned away, and the normal \$35 fee was discounted to \$7.

Since the storm(s), we've heard from many of you, including parent Karen Aczon whose daughter Lauren was featured on an AP radio news show talking about the blizzard. "The efforts you're making to keep our children safe, warm and fed till they can come home is most greatly appreciated."

"You helped make our holiday brighter with your ongoing concern for the welfare of our daughter and hundreds of other students," wrote a worried mother in Iowa. "We could not have asked for more."

Jeff Garrison, an alumnus from the class of 1978 and the parent Doug '10, told us that when his son's flight was canceled, the parents of a CC classmate housed him and "two other stranded waifs" so they wouldn't have to spend the night in the airport.

"For many years, Douglas said that he wouldn't apply to CC because I went there," wrote Jeff. "A visit to campus without me changed that. Doug said he felt a sense of community at CC that he hadn't felt at other campuses he'd visited. Your message to parents represents that sense of community — and the parents who opened their home to three stranded students represent that community as well. Susan and I thank you all for your efforts."

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