



# CU Parent

Parents  
Supporting  
Students

Newsletter for CU-Boulder Parents

Volume 9, Number 4 🐼 Winter 2003

## Family Weekend counts at CU A by-the-numbers look back at October 10–11, 2003

Total families attending . . . . .	1,562
Total guests . . . . .	4,773
Percentage of in-state attendees . . . . .	27%
Percentage of out-of-state attendees . . . . .	73%
Golfers at Friday's tournament . . . . .	87
Sightseers on the Boulder bus tour . . . . .	144
Information seekers who attended the Iraq War panel, the Mummies of the Sudan presentation, and panels on off-campus housing and Study Abroad programs . . . . .	680
Pep rally participants at Saturday's brunch featuring Ralphie, Chip, and the CU cheerleaders and marching band . . . . .	1,628
Buff fans who cheered the team on to an exciting overtime win of 50–47 against Kansas . . . . .	50,477
Music lovers at Saturday night's a capella concert and dance . . . . .	600
Family fun and memories . . . . .	Endless

Join us next year for Family Weekend on October 15–16, 2004.  
We're counting on it!



Family members (above) entering the UMC and (below) attending the Iraq War panel in Old Main.

## CU jazz program earns national and international recognition

FAMILIES OF CU-Boulder students were treated to a free jazz concert at Macky Auditorium during Family Weekend, October 10 and 11. Guest Artist and Grammy-winner Randy Brecker joined the CU-Boulder Jazz Ensemble on trumpet, to the delight of the participating students and the crowd.

In January, Brecker will accompany the jazz band for their performance at the International Jazz Educators Conference in New York, a top honor for jazz programs worldwide. This will be CU's second appearance at the prestigious conference, the first since 1999.

"This is something that every jazz band director aspires to," said CU's Director John Davis. "There is no higher honor than to play for this audience of top jazz educators and performers."

The CU-Boulder Jazz Studies Program is one of the most respected in the country. Faculty and students have received several high honors, including three 2003 *Down Beat Magazine* Student Music Awards for an unprecedented second consecutive year.

The Jazz Ensemble I, a big band under the direction of Professor Davis, was honored for outstanding performance. Pianist Andy Nevala won for his unique arrangement of the jazz standard "Autumn Leaves," and vibraphonist Greg Harris was cited for performance on his own original composition, "Switch."

In 2002, student musicians won national recognition in *Down Beat's* annual competition for outstanding group performance in the instrumental jazz category, outstanding

individual performance by a jazz instrumentalist, and outstanding individual performance of an original composition.

Each July the college's Mile High Jazz Camp provides one of the nation's largest and most successful big band camp experiences for aspiring young jazz musicians.

The Jazz Studies Program offers distinguished instruction in performance composition, musicology, theory, and teacher preparation for graduate and undergraduate students. Jazz courses also may be selected by undergraduate students from outside the program.

For further information visit the web site at [www.colorado.edu/music/AreasOfStudy/jazz.html](http://www.colorado.edu/music/AreasOfStudy/jazz.html) or contact the College of Music at 303-492-6352.



## PARENT PERSPECTIVE

### Financial problems?

*We hope this column will support the ongoing education of you, the parents of CU students. We are continually learning through our son's CU experiences and our membership on the CU Parents Association (CUPA) Board of Directors.*

If you are supporting a university student, almost by definition you will have financial questions and, not infrequently, financial problems. Here are some of the most commonly-seen problems, as compiled by the CU Bursar's Office.

- Student did not fill out a Student Permission Form at the Bursar's Office for the parents to discuss the tuition account with CU staff. (See our column on FERPA in the fall 2003 *CU Parent* ([www.colorado.edu/parentrelations](http://www.colorado.edu/parentrelations)). Consequently, when the parents called in, they could not determine the detail on the tuition account. Late and service charges were assessed.
- Student and parent did not receive a bill for some reason, and thought they did not have to pay until the bill was received. (Tuition is due *on the due date* whether the bill is received or not.)
- Student and family did not realize that if financial aid fell through, the student would be responsible for the entire bill.

- Student dropped out of school without observing proper withdrawal procedures, costing the family thousands of dollars.
- Student did not realize that if she took a "break" from school for a year, all of her Federal Student Loans would come due. When she tried to re-enroll, she found she had to pay back hundreds or thousands of dollars before she would be eligible for Federal Financial Aid again.
- Student did not keep track of paperwork for student loans, ruined her credit, and was ineligible for further Federal Financial Aid until the defaulted loans were paid in full.

This Newsletter's Tip: Prefer to know what *to* do, rather than read a listing of what *not* to do? Read about your obligations in the online CU Catalog ([www.colorado.edu/catalog](http://www.colorado.edu/catalog) → General Information → Expenses).

*by Lowell and Margie Lewis, Parents Association board members.*

### Financial aid reminders and deadlines

You'll find the CU-Boulder scholarship online application at [www.colorado.edu/finaid/scholarships.html](http://www.colorado.edu/finaid/scholarships.html). Using their student identification number and CU-Boulder personal identification number (PIN), your student can easily submit a scholarship application, resume, and essays online.

Beginning January 1, 2004, your student can submit their FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) for the 2004-05 academic year. The FAFSA is required to apply for financial aid, including scholarships, from CU-Boulder. We strongly recommend applying online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). The hard copy version of the FAFSA is available from the financial aid office.

March 1, 2004, is the deadline to apply for scholarships offered by CU-Boulder for the 2004-05 academic year. **This is an absolute deadline.**

April 1, 2004, is the "priority" deadline for applying for financial aid (other than scholarships) from CU-Boulder. Your application consists of your FAFSA and signed copies of the first two pages of both your and your student's 2002 federal tax return. After April 1, we continue to offer aid based on fund availability.

For more information about the above or any financial aid questions you may have, please contact the Office of Financial Aid at 303-492-5091, [finaid@colorado.edu](mailto:finaid@colorado.edu), or visit us on the Web at [www.colorado.edu/finaid](http://www.colorado.edu/finaid).

### Boulder off-campus housing market improves

**T**HERE'S GOOD NEWS ON THE HOUSING FRONT! Bear Creek Apartments, the new apartment building at Williams Village, opened last August and a second building will open in August 2004. In addition, vacancy rates for rental units around the city of Boulder are higher than in recent years and rental rates are slightly down.

All of this translates into a better market for student renters in Boulder and more time to shop around for optimal off-campus housing.

Off-Campus Student Services offers a number of helpful services to CU-Boulder students who wish to find housing in Boulder and surrounding areas. Listings of available rooms, houses, and apartments and requests for roommates are accessible online and at the office in the University Memorial Center (UMC), room 313.

Helpful staff also review leases and offer suggestions for solving landlord-tenant disputes. Maps of Boulder are available for purchase and free copies of the *Boulder Tenants Guide*, an easy-to-read outline of tenants' rights and responsibilities, are provided online.

The Off-Campus Housing Fair will take place on March 3, 2004, in the UMC Glenn Miller Ballroom. Students who attend will have the opportunity to meet a number of landlords, property management company representatives, real estate brokers, and owners offering housing.

The Off-Campus Student Services office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. For more information, visit the web site at [www.colorado.edu/OCSS](http://www.colorado.edu/OCSS) or call 303-492-7053.



Did you miss our excellent fall newsletter? Find it online!

All issues are available on our web site at [www.colorado.edu/parentrelations](http://www.colorado.edu/parentrelations). Due to increased printing and mailing costs, every other issue of *CU Parent* will be found only online. We will continue to mail the fall and spring issues. So look for us in your mailbox AND on the Web!

## Disability Services empowers students toward independent living

**C**U-BOULDER'S OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES HAS A NATIONAL REPUTATION for excellence. Disability Services staff member Jim Cohn attributes the program's high marks to their emphasis on empowering students.

"We have high expectations for all of our students," Cohn said. "We don't lower the bar for what they can expect to achieve."

The staff of 12 work daily with individual students to help them build self-awareness, learn self-advocacy, and assist them in becoming more independent. They offer a network of resources to support students with disabilities in meeting their academic requirements and developing the social and independent living skills that are so important to college life.

Disability Services offers assistance to students with visibly-apparent disabilities as well as those who have challenges that are not outwardly perceptible, such as learning disabilities or psychological disorders. Individual support from a disability specialist can help in assessing and attending to students' personal needs.

Some of the regular services facilitated by the office include deaf and hard-of-hearing services, interpreting, Braille, and books-on-tape. They also have a career program and writing lab as well as information on disability parking and community services.

The Office of Disability Services publishes a newsletter that includes information on volunteer opportunities as well as personal stories by and about people with disabilities. It is available online at [www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/newsletters/fallnews03.html](http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/newsletters/fallnews03.html). For more information on CU-Boulder Disability Services, visit the web site at [www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices](http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices) or call 303-492-8671.

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## CU Parents Association (CUPA) Parent Fund Committee Report

**T**HANK YOU TO ALL THE PARENTS WHO HAVE PLEDGED to our Parent Fund student callers this fall. To date we have received over \$375,000 in pledges from over 4,000 parents. Parents, be sure to get your pledges paid by December 31, 2003, so that your contribution will offset your 2003 tax liability.

These past few months have been a time of exciting change for the Parent Fund. A new group within the existing CUPA organization has formed to "assist the CU Foundation in soliciting CU parents' financial donations to the Parent Fund." A particular committee focus will be to increase in-state giving. The new Parent Fund committee met during Family Weekend.

Parent Fund donations are unrestricted gifts used for Student Affairs programs such as Honor Code, civic engagement, and leadership that directly impact CU students. Sounds great, so how do we go about this? One way is to learn from other schools that have successful programs under way and are willing to share their methods of success. We also want to increase donations from all possible areas of interest, in and out of state as well as possible foreign contributions.

Three Parent Fund Committee members attended the 18th Annual Parent Fundraising Conference in July 2003, hosted by Georgetown University in Washington, DC. We were certainly in the company of other great institutions and were able to gain from their methods and sharing of ideas.

The committee would like all CU parents to use this opportunity to give what they can and exceed last year's goal of \$500,000. If you are a resident of the West Coast, Texas, and the East Coast, your gift will be matched by the Parent Fund Challenges. Parent Fund Challenges are made by parents in geographic areas as a way to double the resources contributed to the Parent Fund, and are a big part of why the Parent Fund is growing. Parents may give online at [www.colorado.edu/cufoundation](http://www.colorado.edu/cufoundation).

*by Bernie McClure, CUPA Parent Fund Committee Chair*

## "Forever Buff" graduation gift

**I**F YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER is graduating after four (or five) wonderful years at CU-Boulder, it doesn't have to mean the end of their CU experience! The CU-Boulder Alumni Association offers career assistance, mentoring, an events calendar, and much more on a comprehensive web site. With national and international clubs, the Alumni Association provides opportunities for students to network and develop friendships with CU alums in many cities across the country and around the world.

The Alumni Association also offers a gift pack for new grads that includes a \$15 one-year membership, t-shirt, license plate holder, and business portfolio—a thoughtful and inexpensive gift idea for parents, grandparents, family members, and friends.

To purchase a "Forever Buff" gift membership, call the CU-Boulder Alumni Association at 800-492-7743/303-492-8484 or visit the web site at [www.cualum.org](http://www.cualum.org).



# Parents Association

Office of Parent Relations  
A-4 University Club  
972 Broadway  
120 UCB  
Boulder, CO 80309-0120

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[www.colorado.edu/parentrelations](http://www.colorado.edu/parentrelations)

## Changing Your Address

To update your mailing address, e-mail Judy Myers in the Office of the Registrar at: [judy.myers@colorado.edu](mailto:judy.myers@colorado.edu) or call her at 303-492-5821 (e-mail is preferred). Be prepared to provide the following:

- Your name, and, if applicable, your spouse's name
- Your student's name
- The last four digits of your student's ID number
- Your old address
- Your new address

To add a parent or additional address, your student must e-mail Judy Myers with the last four digits of their student ID number and the name and address of the parent they wish to add.

## Important Dates for 2003–04

### Fall Semester 2003

Last day of classes.....	Dec. 11
Final exams .....	Dec. 12–18
Residence halls close (10:00 a.m.).....	Dec. 19
Commencement .....	Dec. 19

### Spring Semester 2004

Residence halls open (10:00 a.m.).....	Jan. 7
Classes begin (8:00 a.m.).....	Jan. 12
Martin Luther King Jr. Day .....	Jan. 19
Tuition deadline (6:00 p.m.) .....	Jan. 21
Spring Break .....	March 22–26
Last day of classes.....	April 30
Final exams .....	May 1–6
Residence halls close (10:00 a.m.).....	May 7
Commencement .....	May 7

### Maymester 2004

First day of classes .....	May 10
Memorial Day .....	May 31
Last day of classes.....	May 27
Final exams .....	May 27

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*CU Parent* is published quarterly. Spring and fall issues are mailed to parents of CU undergraduates, while all four issues and back editions are available online at [www.colorado.edu/parentrelations](http://www.colorado.edu/parentrelations); click the newsletter link.

### Office of Parents Relations

Information: 303-492-1380  
E-mail: [parents@colorado.edu](mailto:parents@colorado.edu)

### staff:

Director: Peter Simons  
Coordinator: Jan Avery

### CU Publications & Creative Services staff:

Editor: Linda Besen  
Design and production: Polly Christensen  
Photography: Casey A. Cass

### Contributors:

Gayle Lalich, Bernie McClure, Monteith Mitchell,  
Meg Preo, Allison Sylvest

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# A brick . . . a gift that will always be remembered!

Honor your graduating student, alumni, teachers, loved ones, and friends of the university with a custom engraved brick on the CU-Boulder campus.

Your brick will be a lasting, visible tribute and commemorate your contribution to the University of Colorado Parents Association Scholarship program.

Each brick will be installed in the walkway of the Norlin Quadrangle, a historic area adjacent to the original campus buildings. The brick pathway will grow for generations and recognize those who have contributed to quality and excellence at the University of Colorado.

## Take a moment to make a permanent tribute

PLEASE PRINT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Today's date                      Your last name                      Your first name                      MI

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone                      Street address                      City                      State                      ZIP

Make your \$125 check payable to the CU Foundation or charge:

VISA  MasterCard  American Express  check  \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit card #                      Exp. date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name as it appears on card                      Signature

You will receive a certificate acknowledging your contribution. If this is a gift, please write the name of each person to be acknowledged, including yourself.

Please write your message as you would like it to appear on the brick. Limit 20 characters per line, including spaces.

Line 1

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Line 3

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CU Parents Association reserves the right to edit all requests. Mail this form to:

**CU Foundation**  
**P.O. Box 17126**  
**Denver, CO 80217-9155**

Questions? Telephone the Office of Parent Relations at **303-492-1380** or e-mail **parents@colorado.edu**.

Contributions benefit the CU Parents Association scholarship program. You will receive a certificate for the person being honored. If you would like the names of the gift givers, including yourself, to appear on the certificate, please list below:

\_\_\_\_\_