Arthur D. Goon, vice president for enrollment management, supplied this profile of the collective women and men who entered the College this fall:

• Of the 231 new first-year students, 154 are female and 77 are male.
• 33% have transferred from other institutions, as close as Philadelphia Community College, and as far away as Higashi Osaka College in Japan.
• They come from 11 different states, including Connecticut, Florida, North Carolina, Delaware, Virginia, Maryland, New York, and Texas, and represent 12 different countries, counting Argentina, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, South Korea, Sudan, Ukraine, and Vietnam.
• The youngest classmate is 16 years old; she will turn 17 in December.
• One student who is studying full time this fall is on her way to fulfilling her dream of becoming an elementary teacher at the age of 48.

Meet the Historic Class of 2007

“All Are Welcome” — President Sets Tone at Opening Convocation

The academic year officially began on August 28, 2003 with the traditional Opening Convocation to greet the assembled College community, to introduce student government officers, to note undergraduate scholastic achievements, and to acknowledge faculty scholarly accomplishments.

President Carol Jean Vale, SSJ, Ph.D., called 2003-2004 a “year of refoundation and an historic moment in the evolution of Chestnut Hill College” and named a theme for the year, noting that it is “the characteristic most often associated with Chestnut Hill College; a characteristic that is...substantive to our identity: ‘all are welcome in this place.’”

She told the gathering, “God does not typecast and is never guilty of stereotyping. In God’s mind there are no stereotypes; there are only prototypes, each of which is different from the other and not one of which can be perfectly duplicated.” Describing the magic found in variety and differences, President Vale noted, “At Chestnut Hill College, we respect one another—no matter what we look like, where we come from, how we worship, or who we are because of our DNA.”

“Like Dr. Martin Luther King,” she concluded, “I have a dream. I have a dream that at Chestnut Hill College we will always warmly welcome people — as they are — and invite them to enter fully into the life of our College Community...let us together create by word, deed, and example, an inclusive campus community in which there is no doubt that ‘all are welcome in this place.’”


News crews from the leading television stations in Philadelphia – ABC, CBS, CN8, FOX, NBC, and WB– converged on-campus to cover chapter one of the College as a coeducational institution. The College’s transition to coeducation also received coverage in more than fifty different newspapers, and on Philadelphia news radio.

First-Year Students Hoist Their Belongings as they prepare to move into their rooms in Fontbonne Hall. Although the residence hall will be coeducational, each floor is designated all-women or all-men.

continued on page 3
A Scholar and a City: Contosta Adds Chapters to the Philadelphia Story

by Anne Vey Stewart

Judging by photographs, Dr. David R. Contosta looks much as he did thirty years ago when he joined the history department of Chestnut Hill College. Now, as then, he is a serious-looking scholar with large dark eyes, a trim figure attired neatly in a tie and tweed jacket. He drinks coffee from a more formal china cup and saucer instead of Styrofoam. He is distinguished not only by his manners and dress, but also by his prominence as a leading historian of Philadelphia who is much in demand as a lecturer because of his expertise on contemporary problems like suburban sprawl.

He can tell you that Pennsylvania's Blue Route (476) is a prime example of a project gone wrong that was supposed to reduce congestion. In a recent interview, Contosta explained, "It was projected to take twenty years for 65,000 vehicles to travel on that road, yet the 65,000 projection was exceeded in the first year. Now there are often 120,000 cars using it each year. It's the idea of 'if you build it, they will come,' and new highways bring new congestion because of the residential development that accompanies it."

Sprawl and its "causes, consequences, and cures" is one of the scholar's more recent examinations. Along with landscape architect Carol Franklin, he is also in the process of completing an environmental-historical study, "Philadelphia's Wissahickon Valley." It will be Contosta's fifth book with the word "Philadelphia" in its title, entering the company of "A Philadelphia Family: The Houstons and Woodwards of Chestnut Hill" (1988); "Suburb in the City: Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, 1850-1990" (1992); "Philadelphia's Progressive Orphanage: The Carson Valley School" (1997); and "Saint Joseph's: Philadelphia's Jesuit University" (2000). He also contributed a chapter on "Stained Glass and the Philadelphia Story" to Stained Glass in Catholic Philadelphia (2002).

Yet this historian is surprisingly not a Philadelphia native — he has solid midwestern roots. Born and raised in Lancaster, Ohio, he graduated cum laude with a degree in political science from Miami University of Ohio, where he subsequently earned both his master's and doctorate in history. Contosta's doctoral thesis on Charles Peguy, a French poet and critic of the modern world, earned him a prestigious Fulbright-Hayes study fellowship to France in 1972-73. Not long afterward, he moved east to teach at Chestnut Hill College.

Contosta's next book profiled a direct descendent of two American presidents who shared the same worldview as Peguy. "Henry Adams and the American Experiment" (1980) was important enough to be reviewed in The New York Times, the New Yorker, and the Los Angeles Times. It is considered an important book today as well, and Contosta admits that he remains fond of Henry Adams, citing Adams's autobiography as a book that has had a powerful influence on him. (But if he could meet anyone in history, living or dead, it wouldn't be Adams. David Contosta would choose to sit down with Eleanor Roosevelt, and find out what it was like to be in her extraordinary position — as a woman, a wife, a social crusader, and a person of privilege.)

While Contosta's early historical inquiry had focused on international figures like Peguy and Adams, the longer he lived in Philadelphia, the more he became immersed in local history and architecture. A 1984 lecture he gave at the Chestnut Hill Historical Society was attended by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Woodward, who commissioned Contosta to write a book about their prominent Philadelphia families, the Houstons and Woodwards. It proved to be the turning point in the historian's scholarly focus. Contosta followed up with "Suburb in the City: Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, 1850-1990," (1992) a social history so interesting that it evolved into a book, and entailed interviewing more than 100 people, both from the "right" and "wrong" sides of town. But why did people entrust a Midwesterner with their stories? He responds that being an outsider worked for him since he "couldn't be typecast or pigeon-holed." And, he adds dryly, having an Italian surname proved a further advantage when interviewing the Hill's Italian descendents.

Contosta has enthusiastically mined Philadelphia's rich and colorful history through archives and libraries with "fabulous collections going well back to colonial times." His avid research and prolific writing throughout his career have produced fifteen books to date, and more than one hundred articles and reviews. His work has also been featured on television — Lancaster, Ohio, 1800-2000: Frontier Town to Edge City. Contosta's homage to his birthplace, was adapted for PBS and aired on several dozen stations in 2002-03. Over the years, Contosta has had a family life, too — he is raising two sons with his wife, Mary, in suburban Philadelphia, and also has three grown daughters.

Looking back on his passage from Ohio to Chestnut Hill College, David Contosta remembers that he was originally tapped for the position because of the need for a specialist in American history. Yet ultimately, he has been able to broaden his subjects at the College to include a variety of scholarly interests — biography, family history, urban and suburban history, architectural history, historic preservation, and oral history, with a special emphasis on the United States in the Gilded Age and twentieth century. Such curriculum diversity would probably not be possible for a professor at a large university. And so it has been an unexpected gift for Dr. David Contosta to teach at Chestnut Hill. He reflects, "Teaching at a small college has been an advantage. I haven't been stuck with a narrow specialty. That's made me a better historian."
Curtain Going Up On 76th Year of Mask and Foil

Open the pages to the “Clubs and Societies” section of the first traditional College yearbook, the 1946 Aurelian, and you’ll find that the Mask and Foil Drama Club production was Song of Bernadette, the tale of the 19th-century French peasant girl who had a vision of the Blessed Virgin. (Mask and Foil was originally formed in 1927, debuting with The Taming of the Shrew.) Early on, Mask and Foil plays were enacted at the village of Chestnut Hill’s Town Hall, eventually moving to the Gruber Theater in Logue Library. The plays were reflective of their generations: Pride and Prejudice in 1951; Royal Gambit in 1962; The Glass Menagerie in 1967. In the destructured 70s and into the 80s, Mask and Foil productions evolved into one-act play nights and talent shows, which appear to have been immensely popular. (Memories, anyone?) In more recent times, the group has often staged dramas dominated by female characters, such as Steel Magnolias and The Women, although casting women in the roles of men has never deterred the drama club – a 1959 production of Song at the Scaffold called for twelve male characters.

Now for its 76th season, the long-running drama club will present You Can’t Take It With You. Director Erin Beirne ’04 explains that she and producer Cara Caruso ’04 chose the Kaufman and Hart comedy classic because it’s “funny, easy to cast, and only requires one set.” Auditions for the play drew several males from the new coed student body.

Rediscover the charm of You Can’t Take It With You. Performances are Friday and Saturday, November 21 and 22 at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, November 23 at 2:00 p.m. in the recently restored Main Chapel Auditorium. Admission is $5 per person. For information, call 215.248.7799.
The Eleanore Dolan Egan ’28 Award for Outstanding Service to Chestnut Hill College recognizes the volunteer contributions of Chestnut Hill College alumnae/i to the College and/or its Alumnae/i Association. The award is named in memory of the first president of the Alumnae Association, who was a member of the College's first graduating class and who founded the Alumnae Association in 1929. The following criteria are applied to this award:

• Nominees must be alumnae/i as defined by the Association's by-laws (Anyone who has matriculated with 30 credits).
• Nominees must have attended or graduated from Chestnut Hill College at least 10 years earlier. Individuals who hold only an Honorary Degree from Chestnut Hill College are not eligible.
• Nominees must have demonstrated a record of volunteerism to Chestnut Hill College and/or its Alumnae/i Association.
• Employees of Chestnut Hill College who are also alumnae/i are eligible on the basis of their volunteer activity and when they are no longer employed by the College.

Posthumous awards are not given.

Name of Nominee: ____________________________
Class: ____________________________
Reason for Nomination: ____________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

Enclose (optional) any available newspaper clippings, testimonials, etc. that support the candidate's nomination. Please indicate any alumnae/i who might support this candidate.

Nominator’s Signature (one only): ____________________________
Class: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________


Mail to: Committee Chair - Awards & Honors Committee
Chestnut Hill College Alumnae/i Association, 9601 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19118
New Faces on the Hill

Richard Black, Ed.D.
Assistant Professor of Education
Ann Cleary
Administrative Assistant, Financial Aid
Nick Demou
PC/Network Technician
Melissa Dunn, B.S.
Financial Aid Counselor
Claire B. Gowen, B.A. (new title)
Assistant Director of Admissions/Transfer Coordinator
Amanda Mahon, B.A.
Faculty Administrative Assistant
Chafika Moussaoui, M.S.
Instructor in Computer Science
Patrick W. McGuffin, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Chair, Professional Psychology Department
Jessica Molano, B.A.
Admissions Counselor/Coordinator of Alumnae/i and Parent Ambassador Programs
Owen C. Schugsta, M.A.
Admissions Counselor/Academic Advisor
Monica Taitt, A.A.
Student Accounts Coordinator
Kristina Wilhelm-Nelson, M.S. (new name/title)
Associate Director of Financial Aid

Founder’s Day Highlighted by Alumnae/i Panel Presentation

The vision of founding Sister Maria Kostka Logue, SSJ, who presided as dean when Mount St. Joseph College first opened on September 22, 1924, was honored with a special Founder’s Day program at the College on September 22, 2003.

The impact of Sister Maria Kostka’s legacy in shaping a Chestnut Hill College education, and in turn, how that education informed the life choices of its graduates, was described in personal terms by four alumnae panelists: Ellen Logue ’47, M.A. (S. Maria’s niece); Catherine Lockerby Bitting ’92, B.S.; Angela Jones Willie ’85/CED, ’89 M.S.; and Marie DiBerardino ’48, Ph.D. Coincidentally, each of the four panelists cited what may have been Sister Maria Kostka’s most enduring assertion: “You are not here specifically to learn to make a living. Sometime, you will do that anyway, because you must. You are here to learn how to live.”

David Contosta, Ph.D., professor of history at the College, presided as moderator of the panel discussion, which was attended by students, faculty, and staff.

Department of History and Political Science to Host Conference on “The Kennedy Legacy”

“The Kennedy Legacy: A Forty-Year Perspective” is the topic of a conference to be held at the College on November 21 and 22, 2003. Earlier this year, the department of history and political science issued a call for papers on the subject that brought in submissions from Kennedy scholars from the United States, Europe, and Canada.

Leading the conference will be major addresses by two foremost academics. Robert Dallek, Ph.D., acclaimed historian of the American Presidency and author of An Unfinished Life: John F. Kennedy 1917-1963, is professor of history at Boston University; and Edward Berkowitz, Ph.D., is professor of history and director of the Program in History and Public Policy at George Washington University. Berkowitz authored Robert Ball and the Politics of Social Security, as well as ten other titles on modern American social and economic history.

The conference will also include sessions on The Cuban Missile Crisis and Disarmament; Domestic Policy: Social Welfare and the Economic Program; Kennedy and Education; JFK’s Foreign Policy Legacy; the Kennedy Image; JFK and the Turbulent ‘Third World;’ the Civil Rights Movement; and Kennedy and Roman Catholicism.

For information, e-mail mcnallyc@chc.edu or call 215.248.7022.

Germantown Avenue Bridge Re-Opens at Last

As of October 26, 2003, Chestnut Hill College students, staff, faculty, and visitors will no longer have to endure a traffic-choked mile-and-a-half detour coming and going from campus. The Germantown Avenue Bridge has re-opened at last, following a year of construction on a major route closed for 10 years while government officials and citizens’ groups debated how the bridge should be rebuilt.

The opening celebration was held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 26, with President Carol Jean Vale SSJ, Ph.D., delivering the welcome and closing remarks to a group whose invited guests included Governor Edward G. Rendell of Pennsylvania and Mayor John F. Street of Philadelphia.

E-mail!

Do we have your current address?

E-mail is the most efficient and timely way we have to ensure that you receive important news and valuable updates about the College and alumnae/i events. Of course, we won’t share your e-mail address with anyone – it is for our files alone.

So, please – take a moment to update your e-mail address with us! Write ghaenn@chc.edu.
Sister Carol Invites First Work-Outs at Fitness Center Opening

The new Fitness Center, located in Fontbonne Hall, is equipped with a range of cardiovascular equipment, including elliptical trainers, treadmills, and bikes, as well as a variety of stations for weight training. The facility is open to all faculty, staff, and students.

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony Opens Independence Blue Cross Fitness Center

President Carol Jean Vale, SSJ assists as Christopher Cashman, Senior Vice President of Independence Blue Cross, prepares to cut the ribbon for the opening of the College’s newest facility on September 16, 2003. Independence Blue Cross, the largest health insurer in Southeastern Pennsylvania, funded the $50,000 project through a grant to the College.

YOU Could Be An Alumnae/i Ambassador!

One of the most valuable resources of any college is its alumnae/i, and this has surely proven true for Chestnut Hill College. As Chestnut Hill continues to grow and change as a college community, it becomes more difficult to reach all the outstanding students we would like to recruit. The Alumnae/i Ambassadors Program, formerly known as the Volunteer Alumnae Representatives, allows our alumnae/i to help in several aspects of the admissions process. Its mission, under the guidance of the Office of Admissions, is to assist qualified students through the enrollment process and to represent Chestnut Hill at various communities. By participating in on-campus open houses and college fairs, visiting nearby high schools, or phoning prospective students in their areas, Alumnae/i Ambassadors have the opportunity to add a personal touch to the admissions process and demonstrate first hand the spirit of Chestnut Hill.

If you are interested in becoming an Alumnae/i Ambassador, or would like more information, please fill out the form below and mail it to Jessica Moleano, Chestnut Hill College Admissions, 9601 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19118, call the Office of Admissions at 215-248-7001, or e-mail moleanoj@chc.edu.

Name _________________________________________________________________________________________
First Last Maiden

Address ________________________________________________________________________________________
Street _________________________________________________________________________________________
City State County Zip

Phone _______________________________ E-Mail _____________________________ CHC Grad Year _________

Local HS (If interested in visiting) ___________________________________________________________________

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Reconnect with memories and catch up with old friends and former classmates with the upcoming Alumnae/i Directory. This exciting and invaluable resource will include personal, academic and business information about our graduates.

The book is being researched and compiled by Harris Publishing, the leading publisher of alumni directories in the U.S. When you receive your directory questionnaire, don’t miss your opportunity to be part of this important project. Take a few minutes to update and return your information — and be sure you’re included so old friends can find you.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.

Find the old friends you promised you would never forget.
**Mediterranean Cruise**  
April 23 – May 3, 2004

Departing from Rome on Oceania Cruise Line's *Insignia*, you'll sail the Mediterranean for 10 glorious days, with stops at architecturally rich Florence, fabled Monte Carlo, and Spain's famed Palma del Mallorca. Cruise fares begin at $1,344, which includes port charges. Philadelphia air departure date is April 22; airfare is additional. **Book airfare for two by December 1 and second person pays air taxes only!**

**Heart of Alaska**  
June 28 - July 9, 2004

Take a 12-day cruise on the *Sun Princess*, touring Glacier Bay, Mt. McKinley, and Denali National Park. You'll spend time aboard the famous Princess Midnight Sun Express luxury rail cars, Alaska's best rail experience. Following the Alaska Railroad route between Anchorage and Fairbanks, the incredible vistas are complemented by tableside beverage service and natural history narratives from our car managers. Starting from $3,014 per person (including air, taxes, and government fees) for a twelve-day cruise-tour.

For more information on these Alumnae/i Association sponsored trips, please call: Craig Martin at Cruisin’ Inc. at 610.341.1979 or 800.506.7447 or visit the website at www.alumnivacations.com
Special Events...

Information Sessions
School of Continuing Studies
Thursday, November 20, 2003, 6 p.m.
Saturday, December 13, 2003, 10 a.m.
Social Room, Fournier Hall
Information: 215.248.7001

Empty Bowl Dinner
Thursday, November 20, 2003, 5 to 8 p.m.
Rotunda, St. Joseph Hall
Information: 215.248.7031

“The Kennedy Legacy:
A Forty Year Perspective”
Conference, Department of History and Political Science
Friday & Saturday, November 21-22, 2003
Information: 215.248.7184

Fall Open House
School of Undergraduate Studies
Sunday, November 23, 2003, Noon to 3 p.m.
Sorgenti Arena
Information: 215.248.7001

Carol Night
Friday, December 5, 2003, 7:30 p.m.
Rotunda, St. Joseph Hall
Information: 215.248.7194

Mask and Foil Drama Club
“You Can’t Take It With You”
Friday & Saturday, November 21-22, 2003, 8 p.m.
Sunday, November 23, 2003, 2 p.m.
Admission $5 per person
Information: 215.248.7799

Alumnae/i Association
Christmas Open House
Sunday, December 7, 2003, 2:30 p.m.
Rotunda, St. Joseph Hall
Information: 215.248.7144

Christmas Concert
Sunday, December 7, 2003
Performances at 3 & 7 p.m.
Information: 215.248.7194

Information Session
Graduate, Transfer and ACCELERATED
Students
Saturday, April 3, 2003, 10 a.m. to Noon
East Parlor, St. Joseph Hall
Information: 215.248.7001

Reunion Weekend
June 4, 5, 6, 2004
Classes: 4’s and 9’s
Information: 215.248.7144
Or e-mail ghchc@aol.com

Winter Sports Schedules: Home Games

**Women’s Basketball**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>December 5</td>
<td>Wilson College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>December 9</td>
<td>Valley Forge Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>December 13</td>
<td>Eastern College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>January 6</td>
<td>Wesley College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>January 10</td>
<td>Delaware Valley College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>January 28</td>
<td>Hood College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>Mary Baldwin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 3</td>
<td>College of Notre Dame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>Chatham College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>February 14</td>
<td>Arcadia University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>February 20</td>
<td>Trinity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Men’s Basketball**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>December 9</td>
<td>Valley Forge Christian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>December 6</td>
<td>Kings College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>January 6</td>
<td>Rutgers-Camden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>January 17</td>
<td>Brooklyn College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>January 19</td>
<td>Delaware Valley College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>January 28</td>
<td>Hood College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>Lincoln University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>February 2</td>
<td>Manor College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>February 18</td>
<td>College of New Jersey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>