



# ON THE VINE

THE IVY CLUB NEWSLETTER

Spring 2011

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## **The Griffin Wing**

| *By Corbin Miller '71*

The Board of Governors recently decided unanimously to name the new wing of the Clubhouse in honor of the Club's Graduate president, James Q. Griffin '55. Due to Jim's humble character there was some convincing required, but he has agreed to accept this honor in recognition of the many years of work that he has contributed to all aspects of Ivy's management and operations.

As our membership outgrew the capacity of our 1898 Clubhouse following the admission of women as members of Ivy and the University's subsequent decision to expand the undergraduate body, Jim led the Board through a comprehensive discussion of the alternatives. His proposed vision for a new space seamlessly integrated with and enhanced the beauty and dignity of the original building, while providing flexibility for a variety of uses.

He was able to persuade one of the world's leading classical architects, Demetri Porphyrios, who had been commissioned to design Whitman College, to take on the project. Having admired Ivy as a Princeton graduate student in architecture, Porphyrios was inspired by Jim's concept and undertook the job with considerable enthusiasm. With Demetri's brilliant design in hand, Jim undertook the task of raising the funds necessary to complete the work, and assembled the team of Board members, builders and project managers who would see it through to the end. While the recent economic downturn made fundraising



photography by James G. Cole

[above] James Q. Griffin '55

more difficult, it also permitted Jim and the design and construction team to realize significant savings, some of which were used to undertake much needed improvements such as a new roof for the original building.

While Jim has always emphasized the contributions of others, it is clear to everyone on the Board that Jim's tireless efforts were the sine qua non of the expansion project, and that the new wing beautifully reflects his inspiration. Thanks to him, Ivy's motto, "To Adorn the Walls of Alma Mater," has taken on new meaning.



## Graduate President's Report

*By James Q. Griffin '55*

In 2001, your Governors met in the New York law offices of John MacMurray to debate the pluses and minuses of expanding our Ivy building. The existing facility was no longer adequate to accommodate the larger class sections which had resulted from the admission of women in 1991. Every Governor at the table recognized that our 19th century landmark building was too cramped and was badly in need of repair.

The debate focused on two points. Could we find an architect who could duplicate the residential nature and beautiful ambience of our original gem? Would we be able to raise the necessary substantial construction funds required to make dramatic improvements?

With hope and prayer, we voted to go forward.

Now, 10 years later, our dream is a reality. In March of this year, the Board again met in

[top left] Great Hall, Griffin Wing  
[top right, bottom] Lower Library, Griffin Wing

MacMurray's law offices to assess the results of our efforts. Those members who have seen the finished project have expressed universal acclaim for our renowned architect Demetri Porphyrios' work. Not only has the addition equaled the standards of the historic building, but it has made the original space more useful and distinctive.

To the hundreds of members whose gifts have financed the new wing and the renovation of the main building, on behalf of all the current and future membership we extend a loud locomotion. You have helped create an outstanding legacy to encourage the growth and development of our fellow members.

The Board recently made the unanimously decision to express our gratitude to Demetri Porphyrios by extending to him membership as an Ivy Fellow, which he graciously accepted.



## News from the Ivy 1879 Foundation

### A New Kind of Leadership Program

| *By Jan Buck '67*

An initiative is underway at the Club to develop a Leadership Program for members starting in the Fall Semester of 2011. The program will be an out-of-class non-credit curriculum designed for gaining insights and understanding about what leadership is, the goals to which it should be directed, and the traits, behaviors and skills elemental to its exercise. The intent is that participating members will be able, after graduation, to utilize these lessons to become leaders in their chosen fields of endeavor and in society at large. The first year's program will consist of approximately 10 once-weekly sessions at the Club. The program will include the initial framing of the issue of leadership, a series of sessions on selected historical figures and several appearances by well-known current leaders. Unlike many leadership courses of study, this program's objective will be to derive insights and conclusions about the subject from the attending membership rather than the imparting of instructions and answers. A committee of undergraduates and graduate members, with some faculty guidance, has been formed to complete the planning and implementation is underway.

### Campaign Update

| *By Charlie Lowrey '79*

Thank you to the more than 580 members that have already donated to our \$8.5 million campaign. A \$2 million campaign balance remains to repay the loans and borrowed funds utilized to construct the Griffin Wing and renovate necessary elements of Ivy's original building. We are within reach of our goal and need your tax deductible support now to close this final gap.

As pictures within this newsletter demonstrate, the Griffin Wing surpassed our greatest hopes. Its classic yet distinctive architectural character, the seamless integration with our original 1800's building and the timeless craftsmanship dedicated



[above] Great Hall, Griffin Wing

to each detail, make it truly a distinctive landmark and exquisite expansion of our Club. The warmth and functionality of the space has dramatically increased member use. The Club is now filled most hours with members working quietly in the library's elegant nooks or assembling for lively study group discussions in the comfort of the great hall. The versatility of the wing also allows for seamless transition in to a social collecting spot that can fit all members and has allowed portions of the Cope & Stewardson building to return to their original purposes. If you haven't seen it already, we strongly encourage you to visit Ivy to the peruse the addition.

The Griffin Wing is an exceptional legacy. Join us in helping to pay back the bank loans extended for this project by making a donation today. Contributions can be made through our website at [ivyclub.net](http://ivyclub.net) or by contacting Molly Jones at [ivy.club.board@gmail.com](mailto:ivy.club.board@gmail.com) or (609) 423-8136. Thank you!

## Club Close-up: Joey Cheek, '11

| By Gwen McNamara, Special Writer

photography by James G. Cole



[above] Joey Cheek '11

Walking across campus dressed in shorts and a T-shirt, earbuds in and backpack slung over one shoulder, Club member Joey Cheek may look the part of your typical Princeton University student, but there's more to his story than meets the eye.

Joey, a 31-year-old senior, is an Olympic gold medalist, global humanitarian and soon-to-be online media entrepreneur. "I guess my only claim to fame can't be that I'm the oldest active member of the Ivy Club, well according to Betty (Rascher) our house steward anyway," he said.

Originally from North Carolina, Joey started racing on inline skates in the 1990s, setting national records and becoming a junior national champion. After watching the 1994 Olympic Games in Lillehammer, Norway on TV with his family, he decided to become a long track speed skater. Just a few years after trading in his wheels for blades, he quickly rose through the junior ranks and arrived at the Olympic Games in 2002 in Salt Lake City where he won a bronze medal in the 1,000 meters. At the 2006 Olympic Games in Torino, Italy, he asserted his dominance in the sport coming home with the gold medal in the 500 meters and the silver in the 1,000 meters.

"When your skating well there's nothing like it," he said. "It's an adrenaline rush, but more than that long track is the fairest thing. It's all time trial—the fastest guy with the best time wins. You've got no one to blame but yourself. It's you and your ability. Almost nothing else in life is as clear cut.

Following his Olympic success, Joey also made a commitment to help others. He donated his Olympic medal bonuses to help children in

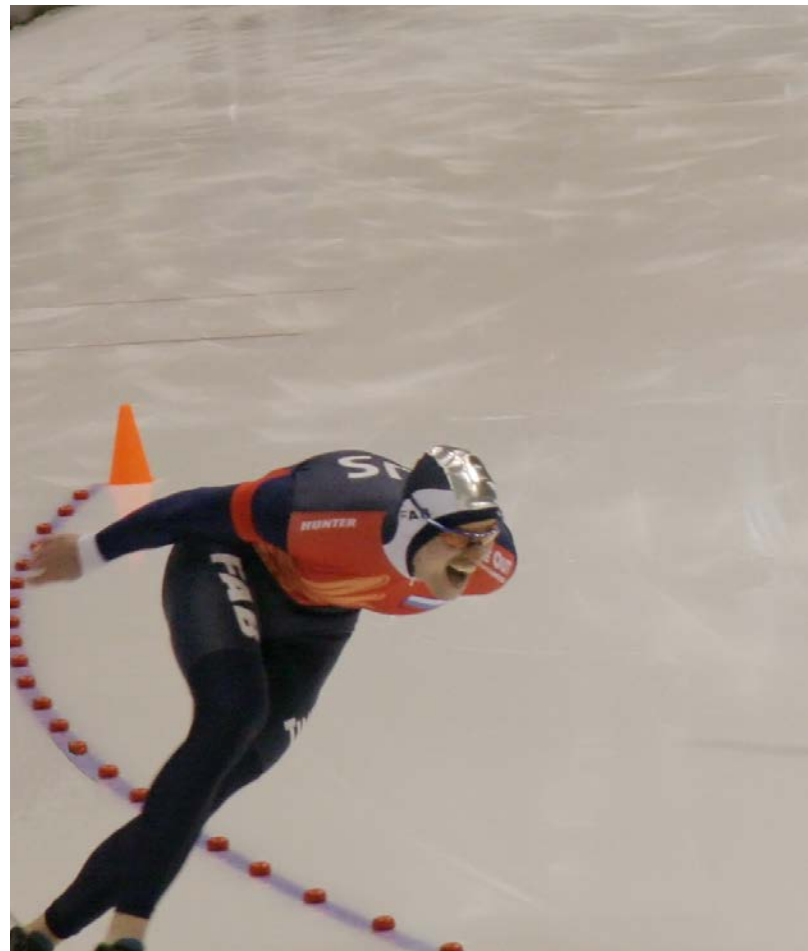
Africa and teamed up with UCLA water polo player Brad Greiner to co-found Team Darfur, an international coalition of athletes committed to raising awareness about and bringing an end to the crisis in Darfur, Sudan. Team Darfur now includes 450 athletes from 75 countries.

So how did he make it to Princeton? A visit to the university amidst the non-stop hubbub of his humanitarian work and Olympic celebration sealed the deal.

"When I visited Princeton in 2006, everything at that time was crazy," he said. "I was going to three to four cities a week with no time to catch my breath. Princeton was beautiful and everyone I met was amazing, not just because of test scores, but in so many different aspects of their lives. I may have been a 28-year-old freshman, but I've never felt out of place here."

The Club in particular holds a special place in his heart. "I really love Ivy," he said. "I really believe the

[below] Joey, at right, wins 2006 World Sprint Championships





[above] Joey just after winning the Gold at the Torino Olympics

Ivy, more than anything else, is truly definitive of my time at Princeton. From the amazing people to the storied history of the club, it's incredible to part of such a special place. I'm honored to be a part of it."

What's in store next for this economics major? He's started an online media company. Set to launch this spring, Joey will be debuting CompleteSportsReport.com, a website dedicated to covering Olympic sports, women's professional sports and more with "behind the scenes" coverage written by athletes.

"I realized there was a real need for more in-depth coverage after the Olympic trials for the Vancouver Olympics," Joey said. "Here I was, the previous gold medalist and I couldn't even find the results to see who made the Olympic team. If I couldn't find the information, the average Joe would have no clue."

Using his unique connections with both a vast network of athletes and business leaders and university academics, he plans on providing readers with "inside" stories and profiles not found in the typical sports section.

"I love media as an enterprise and venture," he said. "It's all about story telling. There are so many athletes doing amazing things in the off season, as they train, in and out of competition. I want to bring these fascinating stories to light"—a fitting goal for someone with a fascinating story of his own.

*To learn more about Joey and Team Darfur, visit [www.teamdarfur.org](http://www.teamdarfur.org).*



## Undergraduate President's Report

| By John Zacharias '11

portraits by James G. Cole



Ivy has been an incredible place full of amazing people for 132 years, and I am happy to say that the Club is still as strong as ever. It is a vibrant environment which promotes the growth of the individual by providing a community of talented and friendly peers. Walking in

to the dining room, one can find a Rhodes Scholar, an Olympic gold medalist speed skater, the Editor-in-Chief of *The Daily Princetonian*, the President of *Business Today*, an All-American squash player and the winners of the TigerLaunch entrepreneurship competition, only to name a few of the members in a room with tables full of the University's best artists, athletes, and students. It is hard to imagine a more dynamic and engaging group of people.

On a personal note, it has been a privilege and an honor to serve as the Undergraduate President for the past year. It has been a formative part of my Princeton experience, and I feel fortunate to have been given such an enjoyable responsibility. For sharing that responsibility and making it enjoyable, I would like to thank and congratulate the outstanding officer corps of Kate Adamson, Spencer Zakarin, Stephanie Evans, Scott Baxter and Tom Gasparini.

Lastly, on behalf of all the undergraduates, I would like to extend our gratitude to the alumni who enable Ivy to continue to shape the lives of its members. In just two short years, Ivy provides a lifetime's worth of memories and friendships, and we thank you for making that possible.

### Undergraduate Officers (2010-2011)

*John L. Zacharias (President)*  
*Kathlyn W. Adamson (Undergraduate Governor)*  
*Spencer L. Zakarin (Treasurer)*  
*Stephanie E. Evans (Bicker Chair)*  
*Scott R. Baxter (Social Chair)*  
*Thomas G.C. Gasparini (House Manager)*

### Incoming Undergraduate Officers (2011 - 2012)

*Caroline R. Shifke (President)*  
*Brian T. Kusiak (Undergraduate Governor)*  
*Adam-Jorge M. Hyndman (Treasurer)*  
*Tess K. McNamara (Bicker Chair)*  
*Spencer K. Gaffney (Social Chair)*  
*Lukasz Mosakowski (House Manager)*

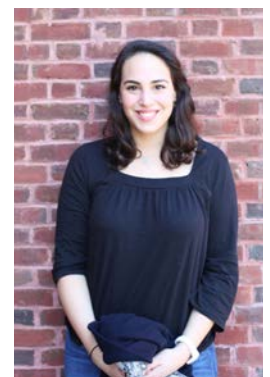
*The incoming officer class represents a historic landmark for the Ivy Club as our first female President takes the helm. Please join us in extending our warm welcome to Caroline Shifke.*

## Incoming President's Report

| By Caroline Shifke '12

After joining the club last spring, I soon learned what everyone reading this newsletter undoubtedly knows so well—that Ivy is indeed much more than a building where students come to get their meals. Ivy is a tradition, a culture in and of itself, a community that instills its members with values and a sense of camaraderie that extends well beyond the few years we spend together at Princeton. When someone suggested that I run for president, I was excited and intrigued by the prospect. I saw becoming Ivy's undergraduate president as a unique opportunity to help carry on and maintain the legacy and traditions of a place I love so much. After discussing the realities of the position with my brother, Jonathan (Undergraduate President '10), I decided that I would enjoy taking on the challenges and responsibilities that accompany helping steer the Ivy Club ship.

As president, there are a few things in particular that I look forward to working with my fellow officers to achieve in the year ahead. We all believe that the Club's membership is an important part of what makes it such a remarkable institution. In that vein, I first hope to help the senior class have an amazing and memorable final semester as



[above] Caroline Shifke '12

undergraduates. In the longer run, I am excited to work towards securing another strong bicker class next spring. Lastly, I hope to do my part in keeping Ivy the special, welcoming home that it is for so many of us by helping preserve the club's traditions and values. The officer corps and I are excited about the year ahead of us and look forward to meeting and visiting with those of you who are able to return for Alumni Night.



## New Staff Member Joins Ivy



[above] Molly Jones

We are happy to welcome Molly Jones as a new staff member to the Ivy Club. Molly joins us in a part-time capacity to assist the Club and Foundation with Board support, communications and fundraising activities. A Maryland native, Molly obtained a Business Administration degree from Emory University and then went into the Peace Corps, where she served as a business advisor in rural Guatemala. Upon return from Central America, Molly entered the field of nonprofit fundraising and has spent more than a decade working with organizations of varying size on capital campaigns and major gift initiatives. Molly currently lives in Princeton, with her husband, a faculty member in the Physics department, and two young daughters.

## Stunning New Chairs Have Arrived

The elegance of dining at the Club has been further enriched with the addition of 60 exquisite new dining room chairs. Hand carved in Indonesia from the finest teak wood, these chairs seamlessly align with the warmth, comfort and age-old sophistication of the dining room. Seating in the dining room now allows for 90 members to dine in unison as they enjoy good food and thought provoking conversation.

Thank you to the many members whose generous contributions made the purchase of these chairs possible!

## Annual Alumni Dinner

The Alumni Dinner will be held on Saturday, May 7th. The evening will begin with cocktails at 6:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. The cost will be \$90 for Sections 1929-2005 and \$60 for Sections 2006-2010. Attire for the evening is black tie. Seating is limited and reservations are required with Betty Rascher at [ivybetty@princeton.edu](mailto:ivybetty@princeton.edu) or by calling (609) 924-2236.



## Ivy Club 2011 Reunion Schedule

**Friday, May 27, 2011**—The Club will be open until midnight. There will be no food service, but refreshments of beer and soda will be available.

**Saturday, May 28, 2011**—Brunch for members and their guests will be served from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Following the P-rade, food and beverages will be available from approximately 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Refreshments of beer and soda will continue to be available until the Club closes at midnight.

**Sunday, May 29, 2011**—There are no events scheduled at the Club on this day.

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William J. B. Brady III '87  
 Peter L. Briger, Jr. '86  
 James M. Buck III '81  
 Kevin T. Callaghan '83  
 Leonard S. Coleman, Jr. '71  
 Robert A. Engel '86 (Secretary)  
 George L. K. Frelinghuysen '73  
 James Q. Griffin '55 (President)  
 Benjamin H. Griswold IV '62  
 Frederick P. Hitz '61  
 J. Regan Kerney '68 (House Chair)  
 George C. Knight '89  
 Paul G. Koontz III '82  
 Charles F. Lowrey, Jr. '79  
 John C. MacMurray '61  
 Corbin R. Miller '71 (Treasurer)  
 Dominic H. R. Moross '90  
 Jonathan Shifke '10  
 Macol M. Stewart Cerda '91  
 Marco A. Tablada '93

**Ivy 1879 Foundation, Board of Trustees**

John F. Cook '63 (President)  
 Erik M. W. Caspersen '92  
 Robert V. Chartener '80  
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 Alexander D. Evans '90  
 Gregory L. Guyett '85 (Treasurer)  
 Paul M. Ingersoll '50  
 Frances P. Nagy '97 (Secretary)  
 Chris S. Schade '83  
 T. Randolph Harris '72 (Counsel)

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**Board and Fundraising Support**

Molly Jones  
 ivy.club.board@gmail.com  
 (609) 423-8136

# Paying Your Dues or Making a Donation

If you'd like to pay your graduate member dues or make a tax deductible donation to the Ivy 1879 Foundation, you can utilize the Club's website at [theivyclub.net](http://theivyclub.net) or contact us as (609) 924-2236. Thank you for your support!

