

RC Quarterly

ROBERT COLLEGE ALUMNI MAGAZINE
Spring/Summer 2005 • Issue 27



- Commemorating Rodney B. Wagner
- RC Welcomes New Headmaster
- UEFA VP Şenes Erzik RC Yık 65
Makes Turkish Sporting History



ABOUT THE RC QUARTERLY

The Robert College community was deeply saddened by the loss of a long time friend and supporter, Rodney B. Wagner on March 24, 2005.



Rodney B. Wagner, served as the Chairman of the Board of Robert College of Istanbul from 1979-2002, and was a Trustee since 1968. His knowledge of and devotion to Turkey were legendary, and his counsel sought by many. He led Robert College through decades of change gracefully, generously, and with great enjoyment.

His contributions will be remembered and celebrated for years to come. The school community, and indeed many in broader Turkish society, deeply mourn his loss, and offer sympathies to his family.

A Memorial Service to honor Rodney B. Wagner was held in New York, at the Museum of Natural History on April 22, 2005. A Service was also held in Istanbul, at the Suna Kıraç Hall in Robert College on May 13, 2005. Both events were a fitting tribute for Rodney Wagner, a much loved and admired friend whose overwhelming ability to touch so many lives and make a positive impact in so many different areas has been legendary. He will be sorely missed.

The spring/summer issue of the RCQ is dedicated to the memory of this great friend of our school.

*Leyla Aktay ACG 72
Editor-in Chief*

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RC NEWS

NEW RC HEADMASTER ARRIVES FROM KOC SCHOOL

Mr. John Chandler will become the new Headmaster of Robert College, effective July 1, 2005. Mr. Chandler has a long and distinguished career in the field of education. Prior to his nine years as Headmaster of the Koç School in Istanbul, Mr. Chandler has held positions ranging from English teacher at Groton School, MA to Assistant Director of Admissions at Yale University, Director of Admissions at the Brooks School, MA and Headmaster at the Pingree School, MA.

The Koç School is an institution which is only 17 years old, and my time there was one of intense growth,"he said regarding his tenure at Koç, "therefore I'd define my work there mostly as managing change."Of his future at RC, Chandler said "RC is a wonderful school of traditions, and the biggest challenge is to make it continue on its track and reaffirm its position as the leader."

Students at the RC newspaper *Bosphorus Chronicle* recently conducted an in-depth interview with the incoming headmaster. Below we reprint excerpts from the interview.

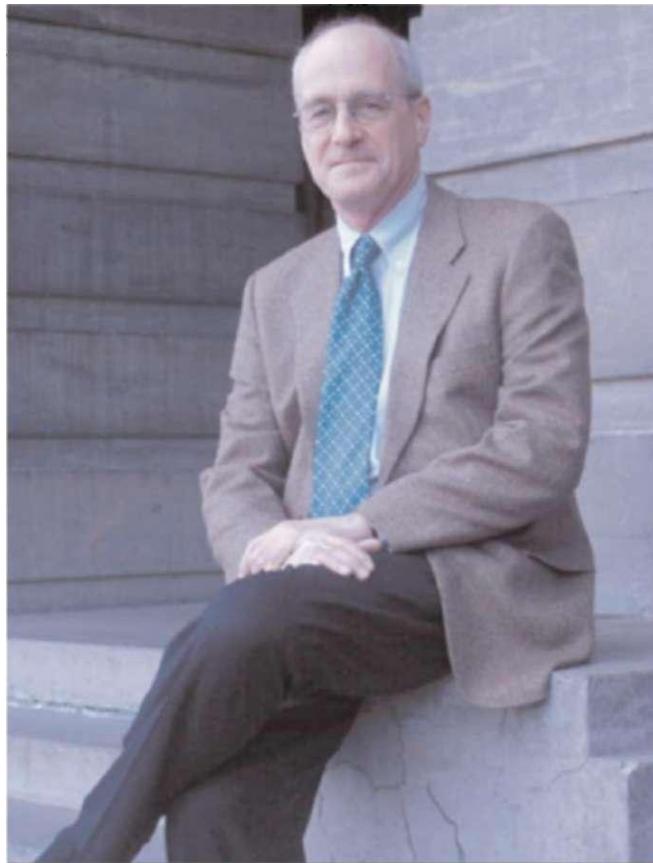
BC: How did you decide to come to Turkey, how many years have you been in Turkey, what do you like most and least about Turkey?

Mr Chandler: I have been in Turkey for nine years. I came here when I was contacted by the people who were doing the search at that time for a new director for Koç School. I really knew very little about the country when I first came, but I was so impressed with the school and its potential for growth that my decision was based primarily on professional reasons.

However, I have come to love the country for itself, and to appreciate very many things about it. There are many things that I like about Turkey. Its history and culture are rich and constantly fascinating; physically, it is a beautiful and diverse country; socially and culturally it is a land of dramatic contrasts; its development is exciting to witness; the opportunity for world-class arts and music in Istanbul is a constant source of pleasure and satisfaction; as a sailor, I have enjoyed sailing along the Aegean and Mediterranean coasts, and kept a boat in Marmaris for several years. Finally, no discussion of Turkey would be complete without recognizing the warmth and hospitality that we have received from so many Turkish people. There is very little that I dislike about Turkey, save only a tendency for decisions to be made at the last minute! Otherwise, I have to say that my experiences, both professional and personal, have been very positive.

BC: What do you think about Turkish students? What differences did you realize compared to American students?

Mr Chandler: It is difficult to generalize. Education in Turkey is more highly valued than it is in much of the US, and I always have a sense that Turkish students are much more serious about their studies than their US counterparts, and also understand better why their education is important for their own futures. In general, I have found the Turkish students with whom I have worked to be very bright, thoughtful, inquisitive and highly motivated, with a very strong work ethic. If I have a major concern it is that the Turkish system forces students to be more results-driven than I think



John Chandler in front of Gould Hall

is healthy, because it tends to get in the way of natural curiosity and the joy of learning for its own sake.

BC: What do you know about RC? What are your expectations for the next year, and are you planning to implement any changes at RC?

Mr Chandler: I know that I have a great deal to learn about RC, and I am looking forward to it. I am arriving with very few preconceived notions and an open mind. However, I am motivated by several basic beliefs. First, I believe that RC is a genuinely excellent school and that we all have an obligation to preserve and protect its commitment to excellence. Second, the history of the school is an important part of its current strength, but it should never be regarded as an excuse for not being open to new ideas that will build upon its traditions and strengths. I also believe that RC has played an important part in the shaping of modern Turkey and that the school has a significant role to play in the future, both in terms of what its graduates will do for the good of their country as well as what the school, itself, can contribute to the shaping of educational policies and programs.

BC: What are your plans for the future? Are you planning to work as a headmaster until you are retired?

Mr. Chandler: Yes, I am. I have been a school head for 23 years now. It is a job that I love and a position that provides constant new challenges, while at the same time the reward of working with students and teachers within the very human environment of a school. I know of very few jobs that are so constantly energizing and rewarding, or which provide such an endless variety of situations.

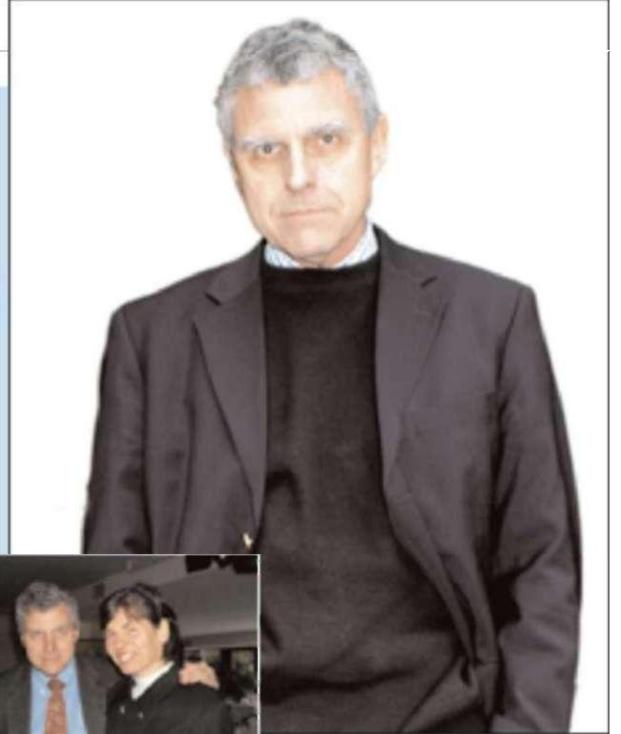
LIVY MERCHANT HEADS TO ANKARA FOR UNIVERSITY POST

Headmaster Dr. Livingston T. Merchant and his wife Christa will leave Robert College at the end of the summer, but are not leaving Turkey. They will move to Ankara, where Livy Merchant will join the faculty of Bilkent University's history department, teaching contemporary methods for teaching history and International Relations.

Dr. Merchant, headmaster at RC since the fall of 2001, came to Istanbul from the International School in Brussels. His university teaching experiences include Dartmouth College and Tamkang University in Taipei to which he will now add Bilkent University.

When asked what he would miss most when he is in Ankara, in an interview he gave to the student publication, the Bosphorus Chronicle, Merchant replied that it would be the RC students and Istanbul itself.

The RCQ wishes the Merchants the best of luck in this new chapter of their lives.



ANNUAL RC SPORTS AWARDS DAY CELEBRATED

The annual RC Sports Awards Day was held on May 18, 2005. The occasion served not only to celebrate May 19, the Turkish national youth and sports holiday, but also to host a variety of track & field competitions.

The morning started off with the athletics events on the plateau, appropriately named the Student Olympics. This was followed by a colorful show of folklore, modern and Latin dance in the Maze.

The afternoon witnessed an awards ceremony. Winners of the morning events received their medals and school sports teams such as fencing, swimming, basketball, volleyball, table tennis, handball and football as well as the school chess team received awards and recognition for the success they showed in competitions throughout the 2004/2005 academic year. The day, under the leadership and coordination of long-time PE teacher Dave Phillips and with the efforts of the entire PE department, was a huge success.



RC NEWS

LII STUDENT POET BREATHES LIFE INTO TURKISH VERSE

Efe Murat Balıkçıođlu RC 06 beat off competition from hundreds of native English speakers to win second prize in the 2005 Princeton University Poetry Awards. Meanwhile, in Turkish, his first collection of poetry, *Fani Atak* (*Fatal Attack*) was published by 6.45 Publishing.

Fatal Attack is without a doubt very original work. In the collection, Efe Murat tries to open up the poetic vein of Turkish poet, Ece Ayhan (1931-2002), to the new "grounds" of poetry. Symmetrically constructed words, "words in words," and "words out words" delineate how to restructure the life of "man", who is economically and politically decayed. Political allusions are deliberately intersected by "the gibbering interminable ennui" because of "the loss of a realove" and also by bold and sexual usage of religious hymns and sermons.

Highly political in nature, Efe Murat's attack is not on the long-rooted cultural history of Turkish civilization but on what he describes as Turkey's false modernity, controlled by false politics and media (he calls these "tramedia.") which "malinfluence" and even poison whole generations,

"I began my poetic pursuit with my first readings at the Robert College Library," says the youthful poet. "After starting with the poems of küçük İskender and novels of Charles Bukowski, Henry Miller and Boris Vian, I found out about the Beatnik Generation which influenced and shaped my outlook as a young adult. I read the works of Ginsberg, Kerouac, Ferlinghetti when I was at 14. A turning point in my life was my discovery of Rimbaud, who like me started his journey at the age of 14. Starting from my prep years, I sent out many poems to respected literature magazines such as *Varlık*,

Kitap-hk and *Adam Sanat*. My first work was published in *Adam Sanat* in 2003 when I was 16."

Born in 1987, the Lycee II student was already well-known-and often described by critics as a new generation poetic genius- before the publishing of his first collection of poems among literary circles in Turkey. His works have been published in a number of literary journals and poetry magazines such as *Kaleidoscope*, *Adam Sanat*, *Varlık*, *Kitap-lık*, *Yasakmeyve*, *Dize*, *Zinhar*, *Şarapya*, *Oda*, *Şiirin*, *Akatalpa*, *Martı*, and *Ücra*. The youthful avant-garde poet won Varlık's National Poetry Award in 2004. He has appeared in two selective anthologies of Turkish Poetry.

In 2004, Efe Murat and his friend Cem Kurtuluş RC 05 presented their poetry 'Materialistic Generation' alongside an innovative manifesto at Robert College. Poets Turgay Fişekçi, Roni Marguiles and literary theorist Zeynep Sayın were in attendance, proclaiming a new vein of Turkish poetry.

His mastery of language has also been disclosed in his translation abilities. To this day, Efe Murat translated the works of Allen Ginsberg, Lawrence, Ferlinghetti, Jack Kerouac, Paul Blackburn, Lewis Carrol, e. e. cummings, Gary Snyder, Philip Whalen, C.K. Williams, Yehuda Amichai from English; and Jesse Thoor, Heine from German into Turkish.

Efe Murat wants to study abroad upon graduation from RC, identifying himself as the perfect liberal arts college student. His main interest, he says, lies in working in different fields ranging from Political Science to Cultural Studies, from Economics to Literature and Philosophy, and then connecting them through his lust for knowledge.



Efe Murat Balıkçıođlu RC 07 signing his books for his readers in the RC library.

YOUNGEST RC GRADUATES JOIN FORCES: "UNIRC"



Established last February, UNIRC is a non-profit organization, which organizes events and workshops for entertainment, educational and self-improvement purposes. Put simply, UNIRC exists for recent graduates to help them make the best of their university years with the support of their community of RC friends.

The first UNIRC event, a welcome party at Bizimtepe, took place on March 4th. With 250 young alumni in attendance, the event was a resounding success. Sponsored by Turkcell and Garanti Bank, the evening even managed to generate an impressive profit for the RC scholarship fund.

Upcoming projects include concerts, career days and conferences. An important role of UNIRC will be in connecting companies with university students, be it for internship possibilities or for research.

UNIRC does not leave out Lise students, either. An Academic Support Project to help students with their university choices is one project in the works. RC students will be matched with "mentors", namely with RC alumni currently at universities, thereby gaining a better understanding of life after Robert College.

Adjusting to university life after Robert College can be hard, much like getting used to a new and different culture. Fuelled by the energy of two 2004 RC graduates, Deniz İlhan and Ozan Erre Sortiriez, the Robert College Alumni Association has launched UNIRC, a committee designed to strengthen ties among recent graduates and offer them a variety of resources they might need during this time.

To contact UNIRC: unirc@rkmd.ors.tr.
For more information, visit www.rkmd.or2.tr

LONG TIME SCHOOL DRIVER HÜSEYİN ABI RETIRES

Hüseyin Abi, Hüseyin Ateş, is a campus icon, familiar to generations of students as the school's always-cheerful driver. This February, he retired from his services at Robert College, a witness to 37 years of campus stories.

Ateş officially started working at RC in 1968, but he was around much earlier. For the Ateş family, the RC campus has been home since 1946. His father, Mehmet Ali Ateş first started working as a builder in the college during the 1940s. The campus marks important landmarks in the family's history. Sadly, Mehmet Ati Ateş lost a leg during the reconstruction of the campus, while Hüseyin Ateş was born in a wooden building near the Yalı in 1946. Hüseyin Abi remembers running around the campus woods as a little boy. In 1968 he started working in the furnace room. 'That was the girls' time,' he says, smiling, 'and I was shy about being close to so many girls.' The Ateş family all worked at the school at some point in their lives. His brother was a carpenter here, while his daughter Elif, also worked at RC for some time. Hüseyin Ateş says he would have gone another 37 years at RC, except he feels it is time to take a rest.



RC NEWS

INTERACT CLUB RESTORES HISTORIC İSTANBUL FOUNTAIN

Frustrated by the state of disrepair of much of Istanbul's rich cultural heritage, 10 students from the Interact Club decided last spring to take matters into their own hands. Their interest was captured by Selami Çeşme, a 205 year-old fountain on the Asian side, which acted as a breather for Ottoman soldiers on military expeditions. The students took it upon themselves to clean and restore the grimy fountain. Working with brushes and sponges, the RC students became the center of attention of Selamiçeşme residents as they cleaned.

Selami Çeşme, a fountain, which also gave the neighborhood, its name, was built in 1800 by the servants of Şuhi Kadın, the sultan's wife, as an area for prayers and the ablution rituals.

"This is also an effort at calling attention to the apathy surrounding our historical heritage," said Efe Murat Balıkçioğlu Lise 11, the president of Interact. "If need be, we can take up our brushes and sponges, and clean up each and every one of the fountains forgotten in the city. We hope that the Ministry of Culture and the İstanbul Municipality will pay their due respects to our history as well."



Interact students were featured in the Turkish national daily *Hürriyet*.

EBRU FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN

Lise students Nil Şenver and Kiibra Komek have taught themselves the traditional Turkish paper dyeing art of *ebru*. They recently held an exhibition in Gould Hall to raise money to help homeless children. They also showed interested students how to do *ebru*.

For who don't know *ebru*, a brief explanation: the Turkish art of *ebru* has been practiced in İstanbul for more than five hundred years. It is an art technique in which you use *kitre* to increase the density of water and provide stickiness; water, ox-gall -to be able to float the dyes on the surface- and special paints.

Before starting, the floating ability of every dye is checked because one of the two parameters which affect the floating ability, ox-gall, is an organic material and loses its strength over time, whereas the thickness of *kitre*, which is also an organic material, either increases

due to further dissolving or decreases due to ageing. This can only be learnt by watching a master, as did Nil and Kiibra. They became interested in *ebru* two years ago. First they watched their master and learned the main rules. Now they are using their own knowledge and creativity.

To give shape to the paints they use needles, brushes, combs and neft. Other Lise 12 students Meliha Sermin Paksoy and Kamer Sultan Oztas are also interested in *ebru*. Nil, Kamer and Meliha have held exhibitions before but this time Kiibra and Nil's purpose was different.

They sold their *ebru* papers and taught others how to make *ebru* in order to raise money to help homeless children. The girls are thrilled that they can use a hobby they love to raise money for charity.



Nil and Kiibra demonstrate the art of *ebru*

GRADUATES IN THE NEWS

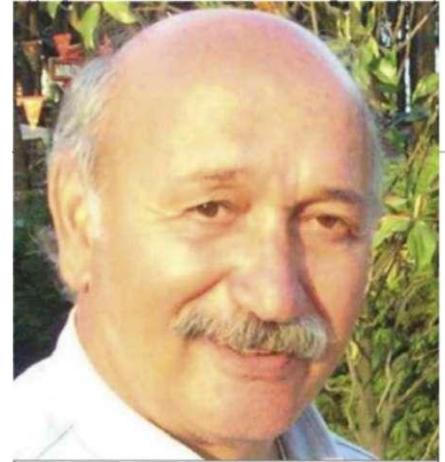
A BOY'S LIFE - RC GRADUATE PENS MEMOIRS OF CAMPUS LIFE FROM 1954 TO 1964

It all began when Asya Orhon RA 64, started corresponding with his classmates in an e-mail group about campus memories. He would recall funny, painful or fearful episodes and e-mail them to his friends. After a year or so, with a lot of urging from his friends, he finally decided to collect these College memories in a book, *Kolejlerin Koteji: Robert Kolej (The College of All Colleges: Robert College)*, published by Epsiton in March.

A fascinating read for those who were on campus during the same time as Asya Orhon, the book will be of equal interest to other readers because it vividly captures the life of high school boys on campus during the years 1954-64. Orhon has transcribed his memories with utmost openness and allows us to fully access the happiness, fear, anxiety and hopes of a 12-year-old boy who came to RC from the Black Sea region. Between the lines, it is also possible to detect school policies regarding nationalism, religion, and how boys should be brought up.

After graduating from RC, Asya Orhon studied at the Ankara University Faculty of Political Science, and then received his MBA in San Francisco. While studying, he worked in hotels to make a living, and in 1974, he moved to Cyprus. Soon after, through his own agency, he set up the infrastructure for tourism in Cyprus, and has been working in many fields since then. He has two sons and a daughter from three marriages. In his spare time, he restores motorcycles and cars, and writes for the magazine *Motor Bike*.

"I am most certainly not a writer," says Orhon. "Frankly, by the time I graduated from Robert College, I hated books. But I figured that if my buddies Gündüz Vassaf and İbrahim Betil have been writing, why couldn't I?"



Asya Orhon RA 64



Asya Orhon

Kolejlerin Koteji

ROBERT KOLEJ



Bülent Akgerman RC 88

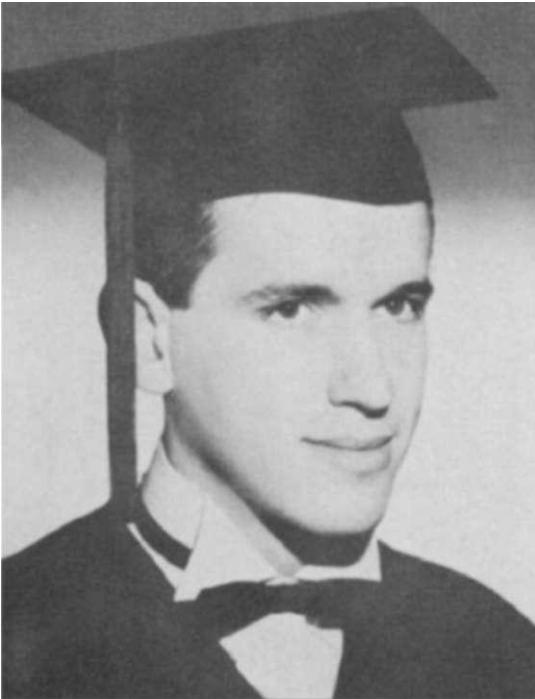
AKGERMAN BECOMES ONE OF TUSİAD'S YOUNGEST MEMBERS

Izmir-based businessman Bülent Akgerman RC 88 became one of the youngest members to join the board of Turkey's leading national business group TUSİAD in January. Members are chosen by secret ballot and serve for two years. Joining the group, Akgerman became head of the TUSİAD special committee dealing with labor group relations.

The son of RC Trustee Oner Akgerman RA 61, Bülent Akgerman is deputy board chairman of Izmir-based Cimstone, the first and only Turkish company which produces high quality quartz-based compound stone, the generic name given to stones that have been refined from natural stone to eliminate undesired characteristics such as hairline cracks, water absorption, fragility and low scratch resistance. The company processes natural quartz, found in the region, into a high quality compound stone that is widely used in construction, particularly flooring.

ERZİK SECURES ISTANBUL'S MOMENT OF GLORY WITH UEFA FINAL SUCCESS

Turkey won plaudits worldwide in May for successfully hosting its first major European football final. AC Milan and Liverpool played a flawlessly organized, breath-taking European Cup final in Istanbul's Ataturk Olympic Stadium in front of 70,000 fans and a global television audience of hundreds of millions.



Şenes Erzik's graduation photo, 1965.

It was not chance which brought the UEFA Champions League final - the most prestigious and cash rich football game in the calendar - to Istanbul, but one man's drive and carefully orchestrated teamwork.

Fifteen years ago, when UEFA first vice president Şenes Erzik RC Yük 65 first petitioned to have a UEFA Final played in Turkey, he was flatly rejected. "When I started 25 years ago with UEFA," he says, "I never thought about holding a European Cup or a Champions League final in Istanbul. It was less than a dream. Gradually, thanks to the efforts of the city authorities in building an Olympic stadium costing \$120 million, I was able to make the bid to bring the final here."

Erzik is nothing if not driven. He first made history in 1990 by becoming the first Turk to be elected to the UEFA Executive Committee in Malta. In 1994, he became UEFA vice president, a post he still holds.

The choice of İstanbul as venue was a significant step forward for Turkish football, which has improved dramatically over recent years. Highlights have been Galatasaray's victory in the 2000 UEFA Cup final and Turkey reaching the semi-finals of the 2002 FIFA World Cup.

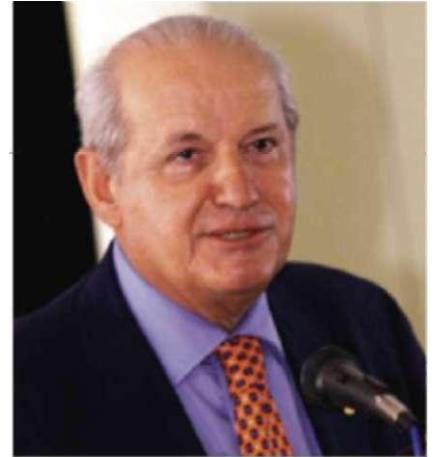
Analysts calculate the European Final earned Turkey the equivalent of \$5.5 billion in advertising and promotion. "The organization was

faultless, and the game on the field extraordinary. People watching the game on television were undoubtedly riveted. This was an important advantage for Istanbul and Turkey," says Erzik. Liverpool came back from 3-0 down at half-time to win the game in a penalty shootout.

A total of 1,260 television personnel were on site in Istanbul with 110 commentary positions installed for 54 TV and 12 radio networks in place. ESPN fed pictures to more than 100 countries outside Europe. The Istanbul Municipality budgeted 40 million Euros to finish stadium access roads, while rooms at Istanbul hotels were sold out months in advance.

The UEFA estimates that the direct financial benefit for Istanbul will be around 20 million Euros and says "The long-term benefits for both tourism and business could also be significant,".

Erzik has served almost half his working life on the committees of UEFA and FIFA. "I like the passion, the successes and to be able to share with others the joys as well as the grievances and the disappointments," he says of football. Erzik, who is married to Dilek Basmacı Erzik RC Yuk 65, was a member of the RC football team as a student - his yearbook write up boasts the beauty of the goals he scored. Also a Field Day Prince at RC, he exhibited signs of aiming for the top since his college days. What next? Plans are already afoot to try and secure the 2008 UEFA Cup Final and the 2012 European Football Championship. We wish Mr Erzik the best of luck!



Şenes Erzik RC Yük 65



Erzik's passion for football dates back to his student days. Here he is shown in his Varsity Football Team uniform.

GRADUATES IN THE NFWS

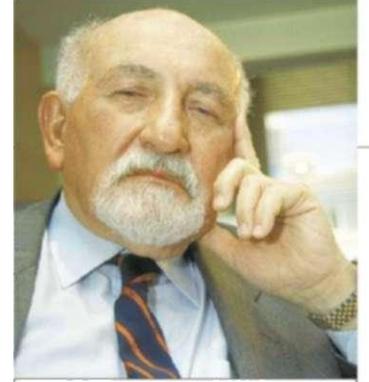
JOURNALIST'S MEMOIR SHEDS LIGHT ON EARLY REPUBLICAN ERA

Veteran journalist Altemur Kılıç RC 44, has published his memoirs *Kılıçtan Kılıç'a- Bir Dönemin Tanıklığı (From Sword to Sword - Witness to an Era)* in which he reveals little-known anecdotes dating from the early years of the Republican People's Party (CHP) and including the Korean War, the 1960 military coup and the subsequent Yassıada executions. Born in 1924, Kılıç is the youngest son of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's close friend Kılıç Ali. In addition to stories from his own childhood and the close circle of friends around Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, Kılıç also later vividly brings to life Ankara and Istanbul in the 1960s.

Kılıç's education at Robert College also features in his book. 'Professor McNeal was a magnificent classical piano player and he also had an impressive record collection,' he recalls. 'He and his wife would invite us to tea and a classical music feast, either on the piano or the gramophone. We would also learn manners at these teas.'

Kılıç's proximity to Atatürk is only part of the reason why this book is interesting to history lovers. It is his experiences as an official working for the young Turkish Republic that connects these stories with a wider perspective on Turkey's history.

Upon graduation from RC, Kılıç studied Political Science at the New School for Research, and returned to Turkey to work as a journalist. He wrote for the newspapers *Tasviri Efkar*, *Milliyet*, *Vatan* and *Devir*. He also acted as press attache at the Washington and Bonn Embassies, as the Directorate General of Press and Information. After working at the United Nations Press Office, he became general manager of UNICEF's Information Office in Europe. At 81, Kılıç continues to write for *Kent Haber*, and the *Ortadoğu* newspaper.



Altemur Kılıç RC 44

NEW NOVEL BY EVİN İLYASOĞLU

Musician and critic Evin İlyasoğlu ACG 66 returns to fiction with *Teodora'nın Düşmanları (Teodora's Enemies)* by Remzi Publishing, about the clash between old and new for Teodora and her middle class family living in yesteryear's Istanbul. A whole cast of colorful characters inhabit the world outside Teodora's house; Platon the cobbler, Hayriyanım the milk seller, İrakli the butcher, Saliha the teacher, Niko the barber and many more... Teodora inhabits a colorful world where Moslem, Jewish and Christian traditions co-exist. She goes to mevlit (Jewish mourning rituals), and teatime dance parties, cooks both aşure (a Turkish pudding) and strudel. As she struggles to reconcile tradition with the rapid onset of modernity and change, Teodora finds escape in a rich imaginary world of dreams.



Evin İlyasoğlu ACG 66

Born in Istanbul, İlyasoğlu began taking piano lessons at seven. Between 1957 and 1963, she studied piano at the Istanbul Conservatory. She graduated from ACG in 1966 with the Halide Edip Adivar Literary Prize. Between 1969 and 1971 she studied music criticism and comparative music history at the University of Michigan. She has presented numerous radio and TV programmes on music and her essays have been published in many newspapers and magazines. She currently teaches at Bogaziçi University and is a music critic for Cumhuriyet newspaper.



Evin İlyasoğlu says: 'This photo, which is on the cover of the book, dates back to 1935 and is from my mother Mualla (Hüseyin) ACG 35 ex Sander's wedding. Behind my mother in her wedding gown, is Şükriye Paşakay ACG 35 (Halil Pasha's daughter) with a big white flower on her chest. I guess everyone in that row belongs to the same class. And of course, the groom is my father, Sadık Sander.'

PIONEERING ARCHEOLOGIST HONORED FOR LIFETIME'S WORK

An eminent scholar and expert in Anatolian archaeology, Halet Cambel ACG 35, was awarded the prestigious Prince Claus Award at the end of 2004 for her exceptional achievements in the field of culture and her contributions to Turkish heritage. Born in 1916, Cambel is renowned for conducting rescue excavations of endangered heritage sites, introducing stone restoration and ensuring proper conservation of significant cultural heritage in Turkey. She founded the chair of prehistoric archaeology at Istanbul University and has taught and inspired generations of students. 'Halet Cambel's meticulous scholarship, commitment to international collaboration and enthusiasm for innovative research are praised both in Turkey and in the wider international community', said the Netherlands-based Prince Claus Foundation.

Speaking at the award ceremony in Istanbul, Cambel's close friend and writer Yasar Kemal paid tribute to the archeologist's courage: 'When Halet first went to Karatepe for a dig, I was terrified of what might happen to her on a mountain in the middle of nowhere. In those days, there were bandits in the Toros Mountains.'

Cambel was always a pioneer. In 1936, age 20, she became the first Turkish woman to take part in the Berlin Olympics, at the special request of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. She had been an expert fencer since her days at RC, where the famous College P.E. teacher Alexander Nadolski coached her.



Halet Çambel ACG 35

Cambel was just 29 when she and her professor found a carved lion's head in Karatepe, central Anatolia. Further excavation unveiled the site at Karatepe known today as Aslantas, Lion Stone, a frontier fort of the Late Hittites. It was built in the 7th century BC as a defense against tribal inroads from the north by the ruler of Adana Plain, Asativatas, and called Asativadaya. Cambel devoted the next 60 years of her life to the site and founded the first open-air museum of antiquities at the Karatepe-Aslantas site.

Since 1997 the Prince Claus Awards, have been presented annually by the Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development to artists, thinkers and cultural organizations that are mainly located in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. Through these awards, the Fund pays homage to the laureates for their oeuvre and their dedication to culture and social engagement. Cambel's award also includes a 25,000 Euro prize.

AUTHOR MILLAS AWARDED TOP GREEK PRIZE

The Association of Greek Writers awarded Istanbul-born writer and political scientist Iraklis (Herkiil) Millas RA 61 the prestigious Dido Sotiriou award for his book *The Image of the Turk- the Image of the Greek*, published in 2001 by Aleksandria. Accepting the award, Millas said: 'We have matured enough to be able to accept both ourselves and others, acknowledging our prejudices and weaknesses.' In his book, Millas addresses Turkish-Greek perceptions of each other, drawing on novels, school textbooks and historic documents.

The Sotiriou prize is awarded every year to a foreign or Greek writer whose work promotes communication between peoples and cultures through cultural diversity, in a statement, the Association said: 'In this exceptionally well-documented and singularly dispassionate work, the author highlights a question of major importance today: the image of the Other, and specifically that of the Greek, as this is created in the neighboring country of Turkey through

ideologies, national stereotypes and opposing political and ideological trends. The exhaustive reference to Turkish school-books, to history and literature books may, in reverse, lead the Greek reader to question his own stereotypes. Equally convincingly, the book examines Greek images relating to what we call - and mean by - a Turk'.

Millas was also in the news recently as a founding member of the Turkish Studies department at the University of Athens, which offers a 4-year undergraduate degree program. At present, 62 students are enrolled in the program. 'There was a real need for a department of this kind,' said Millas in a recent interview. 'If we want to get to know our neighbors, we need to replace an imaginary conception of who they are with scientific observation. When thinking about Turks and Turkey, not just in terms of foreign policy, but personally as well, it is paramount that our views are based on accurate information.' Turkish is not a prerequisite for the program but is



Iraklis (Herkiil) Millas RA 61

taught on entrance, along with Turkish history, literature, language, politics and economy.

Born in 1940 in Istanbul of Greek descent, Millas moved to Greece in 1971. A civil engineer by training, he completed a doctorate in Political Science at Ankara University and embarked on an academic career. He has also translated numerous novels, plays and poetry from Turkish into Greek, and vice versa, and is a frequent commentator on Turkish-Greek relations.

GRADUATFS IN THE NEWS

NASA SCIENTIST TO HEAD NEW TURKISH AMERICAN SCIENTISTS AND SCHOLARS GROUP

Dr. Süleyman Gökoğlu RA 74, of NASA Glenn Research Center, was selected the first president of the newly formed Turkish American Scientists and Scholars Association (TASSA) in the USA. The group held its first annual meeting in Washington, DC on February 19-20, 2005. After the opening remarks by the Conference Chair Dr. Murat Tarımcılar, Turkish Ambassador Dr. Faruk Loğoğlu and Dr. Kenan Şahin RA 60, President of TIAX LLC, expressed their strong support for the establishment of an organization like TASSA. Both expressed their pride in being involved in TASSA's establishment efforts and holding honorary memberships.

The credibility of the conference was evidenced by the plenary address delivered by Prof. Erdal İnönü, former deputy prime minister of Turkey, to more than 300 participants. His subject matter, the history of science in the Turkish Republic, drew many intriguing questions from the audience. He concluded his lecture with a personal wish and a charge to all Turkish scientists that he would like to see a Turkish Nobel Prize winner in his lifetime.

The first day of the conference focused on science. World-renowned Turkish scientists and scholars presented the findings of their state-of-the-art research in different sessions ranging from Engineering and Applied Sciences to Health and Biomedical Sciences to Social Sciences. The presenters also included Özgür Şahin, a Ph.D. student at Stanford University, whose recent invention of a nanoscale microscope won the \$50,000 grand prize in the 2004 Collegiate Inventors Competition.

The keynote speaker of the second day was Dr. George Atkinson, Science and Technology Adviser to the U.S. Secretary of State, who talked about the role of science and technology in global security and U.S. foreign policy. He mentioned Turkey as a key country for the U.S. to establish collaborations with in the areas of science and technology and proposed ways to bring some equity to the brain migration issue. The second day included representatives from TÜSIAD and Turkish private sector, and a session on Turkish-American scientific cooperation with representatives from the Turkish Higher Education Council, U.S.



Dr. Süleyman Gökoğlu RA 74

National Science Foundation and U.S. National Institutes of Health. The last panel discussion was devoted to possible cooperation opportunities between universities and research institutions in Turkey and in the U.S. and included several presidents of Turkish universities and representatives of government agencies.

TASSA is an independent, non-profit and non-political organization established in June 2004 promoting communication and co-operation among its members and their counterparts in the United States and Turkey. Its programs also aim to improve educational advancement opportunities, scientific exchanges, and fellowship between the United States and Turkey. For more information about TASSA, please visit the website at www.tassausa.org.

YOĞURTCUOĞLU PUBLISHES FIRST POETRY COLLECTION

Ahmet Hasim Yogurtcuoglu RC 72, has brought together 37 years of writing poetry in his first collection of verse, called *Daii (About)*. As its title suggests, the poems are about life's special moments and each manages to capture Yogurtcuoglu's honest impressions of love, nostalgia, pain and joy.

Yogurtcuoglu says that poems are not written, but that 'they write themselves'. Structurally, however, his poems show a careful attention to detail that reflects his background as an architect.

Yogurtcuoglu was born in Tokat. After Robert College, he received his Bachelor of Science degree from Bogaziçi University and received a Masters degree at Manchester University. He worked as an administrator for six years, after which he established his own company. Ahmet Hasim's daughter Gökçe Su RC 97, who recently made headlines of her own for initiating the RES digital film festival here in Istanbul, lives in the United States.



Ahmet Haşim Yoğurtçuoğlu RC 72

BOLD NEW GALLIPOLI DOCUMENTARY MAKES BIG SCREEN DEBUT

Ninety years after the historic event, the Gallipoli War is making a comeback on the silver screen. Six years in the making, director Tolga Örnek's RC 89 documentary *Gallipoli* hit cinemas worldwide after a special screening on March 18, 2005 in Çanakkale. A war which forged the national identities of Australia and New Zealand and a historical event which laid the ground for the Russian Revolution, the Gallipoli War also introduced Mustafa Kemal to world history.

In a recent interview, Tolga Örnek defined war as "a fall from innocence" and emphasized the importance of understanding personal histories to grasp the atrociousness of war. Örnek has told the story of the campaign, in which as many as 87,000 Ottoman soldiers and 52,000 Allied troops died, through letters, documents and photos from the battles from over 70 archives in England, Germany, France, Australia, New Zealand, and Turkey. Working with an international team of expert historians, Örnek ensured that the film vividly captures human stories; the anxiety felt by the soldiers, the missing of distant loved ones, and the deafening experiences of bombardment in the trenches.

Though a Turkish production, *Gallipoli* is unique in that it not only reflects the lives of Ottoman soldiers but also crosses the trenches without any discrimination regarding religion, language, race and nationality. Unlike on other battlefields, the Çanakkale battlefield had no respite- neither the Turks nor the allied soldiers could take a break from the front. Told through the eyes of two Australians, two New Zealanders, two Britons and two Turkish soldiers, the film captures the violence of the war, while paying tribute to the heroism both of those soldiers who traveled across the globe to fight an enemy they did not know, and of the others who were destined to die for the independence of their homeland. In addition to being an epic tale of courage, self-sacrifice and stubborn endurance, *Gallipoli* is also the story of enemies who displayed mutual respect and even became friends after the war.

Perhaps predictably, the film's objective approach - Örnek says that 'war is the only enemy in this film'- brought on some criticism from nationalist circles and journalists angered by the fact that the film pays equal attention to soldiers on both sides. A case was even taken to the Edremit District Attorney for the film's censorship nationwide. When we asked him what he made of this, Örnek said, "Anyone who's interested in learning about Gallipoli and our soldiers' sacrifice and valor without imposing any ideological agenda or ulterior motives enjoyed the film. And those people are my target audience, not the people who have made up their minds many years ago. It's often difficult to discuss our national history on a productive platform because we don't know our national history very well and what we know is limited and often wrong. And when we are faced with the facts, we immediately react emotionally and defensively."

The film is the first of its kind to reach such a wide audience with an impressive series of world premieres at the London Imperial War Museum, the New Zealand National Museum and as part of the War Memorial Day events in Australia. In Turkey alone, the film played on 75 screens, an unprecedented success not just for a documentary but also for most Turkish films.

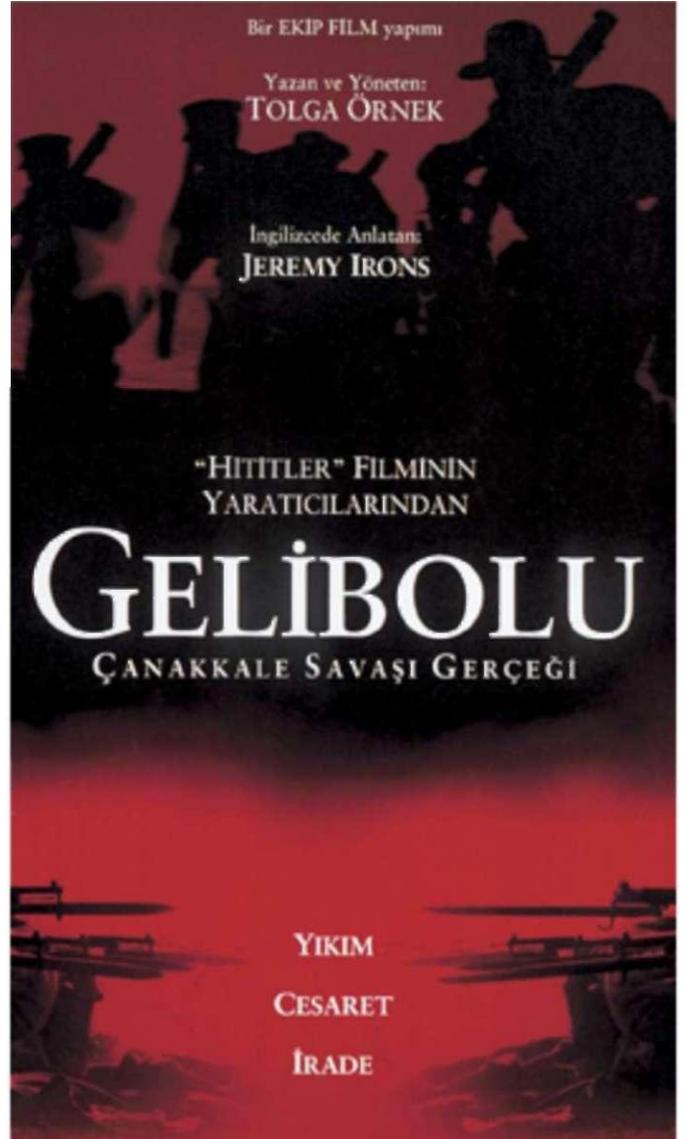
Tolga Örnek already had a very impressive filmography before the release of *Gallipoli*. After graduating from RC in 1989, he studied Metallurgical Engineering at İstanbul Technical University and completed a Master of Sciences at the University of Florida. In 1996, he

moved to film and finished another MA degree at the American University in the Cinema and Video Department. His work, all documentaries that he wrote, directed and produced, *Atatürk*, *Fenerbahçe and Mound Nemrud: The Throne of the Gods*, have won him international acclaim.



Tolga Örnek RC 89 speaks to RC students during his visit in March.

Örnek met with RC students on March 18th to share his experiences related to the making of *Gallipoli*. March 18 is the day RC commemorates the Gallipoli war with talks by students and faculty. 'Coming back home to RC was very special for me, particularly on March 18th' the youthful director said. 'I was unbelievably impressed by the students. Their presentation, their grasp of their history really moved me and my talk paled in comparison to their presentation.'



GRADUATES IN THE NEWS

Tolga Örnek's Teachers Reminisce:

Candan Başat (Lise History Department):

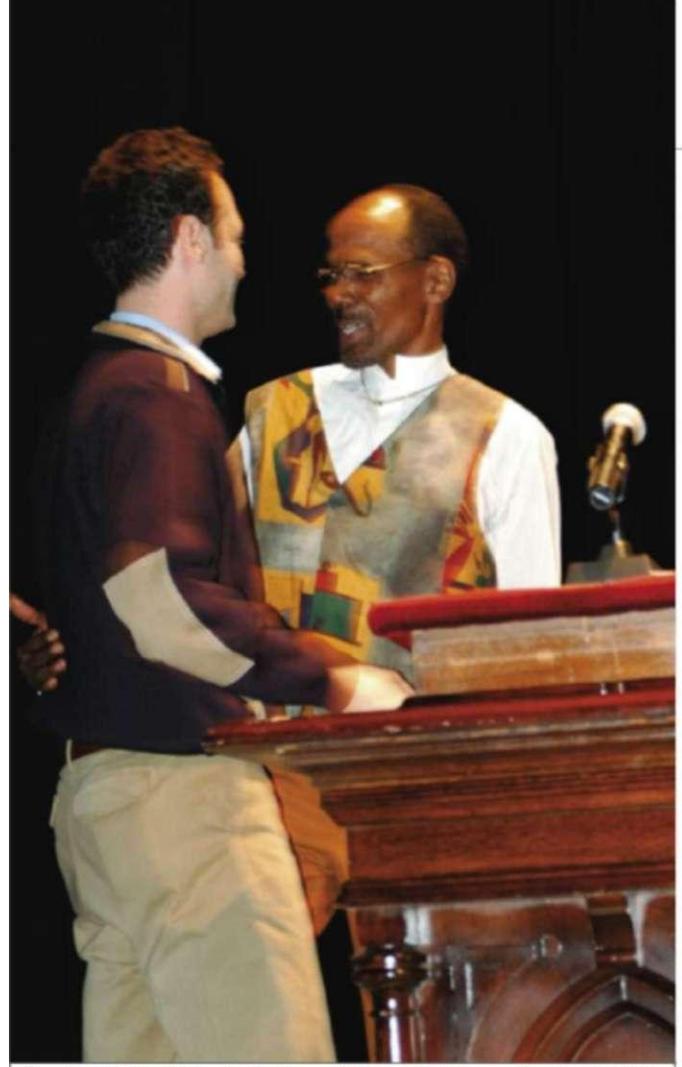
Whenever I walked into my classroom, I remember being struck by Tolga's good manners, and bright looking eyes. At a time when the history lesson was just a bore for many students, I remember him asking the right questions at the right times, and making the best of his background- which was certainly not limited to the curriculum assigned. He was good about understanding strategies, focusing on the right points of understanding history. When I saw his film, I was especially proud of him because for the first time, I encountered a documentary about history, which did not just look at the events, but the human factor behind them. He brought human psychology into history, and I think that is in and of itself a great success. When I saw him at RC on March 18th, I asked him 'How did you manage to accomplish so much good work in such a short period of time?' Now, when I see him on TV, I get so emotional and proud.

Hafize Değer (Lise History Department):

I will not say much about his academic capabilities, I think it is more important to emphasize my memories of Tolga as a very nice, bright and respectful person. He always had a spectacular personality. And I was more delighted than anything to see that he has not changed a bit in that respect.

Dave Philips (P.E. Department)

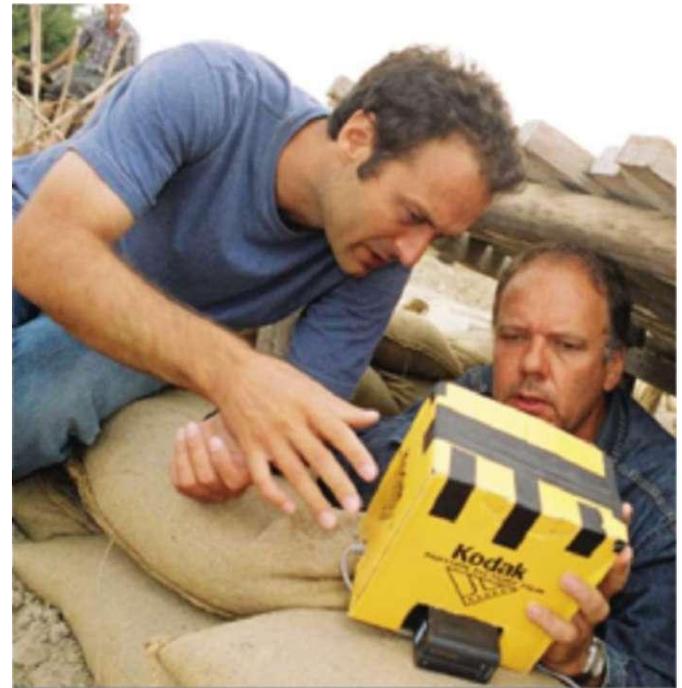
He was a very good basketball player. He was the top scorer for two years in the Istanbul regionals and nationals against club teams like Galatasaray, Eczacıbaşı and Fenerbahçe. He was also the most humble and modest student athlete. Even though Eczacıbaşı and Efes wanted him on their team he was focused on what he wanted to do, not basketball. Tolga had the most incredible pain threshold of anyone I know. He had two knee surgeries and was back practicing within a month like nothing had ever happened. Tolga really cared about his teammates; he was a real team player on and off the court.



Örnek with his RC basketball coach Dave Phillips on March 18, 2005



A still from the film



Tolga Örnek RC 89 on set during filming

ERGIN APPOINTED NEW HEAD OF MİLLİYET NEWSPAPER

Much respected Hürriyet Ankara bureau chief Sedat Ergin RC 75 was appointed editor in chief of the daily newspaper *Milliyet*, starting on March 17. 'I firmly believe that the experience and knowledge as a journalist that Ergin brings to Milliyet will take the newspaper to new heights,"said Aydın Doğan, chairman of the board of Doğan Holding, which owns both *Hürriyet* and *Milliyet*. Ergin is a familiar figure for Quarterly readers as a contributor to the magazine on diplomatic news.

The appointment of Ergin, a senior journalist at *Hürriyet* for 18 years, was welcomed by observers as a sign that *Milliyet* would enhance its reputation as a premier outlet for quality news and analysis. Ergin takes over from Mehmet Y. Yılmaz.

Ergin's illustrious career has earned him the confidences of many of Turkey's movers and shakers, from politicians to army generals. His work has won numerous national awards, most recently for the series *Bizden Saklananlar* ("What Was Kept From Us") detailing the behind-the-scenes negotiations before March 1, 2003, when Turkish deputies famously vetoed a bill that would have allowed US troops to use Turkey to invade Iraq from the north.

Ergin got his start as a journalist as a university student in 1975, at the Türk Haberler Ajansı (Turkish News Agency). In 1979, he moved to daily *Cumhuriyet* and became a diplomatic correspondent for their Ankara bureau. In 1987, he left *Cumhuriyet* to become *Hürriyet's* Washington correspondent. In 1993, he was appointed *Hürriyet* Ankara bureau chief where he remained until this year.



Sedat Ergin RC 75

The *Milliyet* post will be the first time Ergin works in Istanbul, where he was born in 1957. After graduating from RC, he studied International Relations at Ankara University. Renowned among Ankara's diplomatic circles for his keen sense of style, Ergin is also a musician in his spare time. He was head of the Ankara Jazz Association and also plays a number of instruments, including the mandolin and bass guitar. We wish him all the best in his new post, and welcome him to Istanbul!

PROCTER & GAMBLE FEMALE MANAGER HEADS FOR THE TOP

Sirma Umur RC 85, recently became the highest-ranking Turkish female at multinational household goods giant Procter & Gamble (P&G) when she was made general manager of the company's personal hygiene division in North America. Umur has been with P&G since she graduated from university, first in Turkey, then Brussels, Geneva and now Cincinnati.

"My goal is to climb even higher. I would like one day to become president,"Umur told *Sabah* newspaper in a recent interview. Although women buy a majority of P Et Gs household and consumer goods, one has never run the corporation.

Umur is one of 15 female general managers at the P&G headquarters, with 130 executives reporting to her. She is

responsible for the production and new product development of the company's soap, liquid soap, shower and bath gel lines for brands like Olay, Best, Ivory, Camay, Safeguard, Old Spice and Escudo. Although individual countries make production decisions, all national units work in close consultation with Umur.

Born in 1967, Umur is the youngest of four children. She began working at P&G after graduating from Boğaziçi University, and was product manager for Alo, Ace and Ariel washing supplies in Turkey. She was transferred to Brussels as marketing manager for washing detergents in Western Europe, and then Geneva as marketing director for women's health products. Five years later, she became general manager for P&G North America personal hygiene products and is now based in Cincinnati.



Sirma Umur RC 85

GRADUATES IN THE NEWS

KORTUN TO CO-CURATE 2005 INTERNATIONAL ISTANBUL BIENNIAL

Vasif Kortun RC 78 is to co-curate the 9th International Istanbul Biennial, which runs from September 16 to October 30 this year, together with renowned Dutch curator Charles Esche. Organized by the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts, the Biennial has grown from humble origins into one of the world's top rated large-scale international art exhibitions; in 2003, it featured 85 artists from 42 countries, and was seen by thousands of art-lovers.

This year marks the first time the Biennial will be co-curated, with Esche and Kortun working together on an exhibition structure based on the city of Istanbul. Titled, appropriately enough, "Istanbul", the exhibition intends to draw both on the real urban location and the imaginative charge that this city represents for the world. Istanbul as a metaphor, as a prediction, as a reality, and an inspiration has many stories to tell and the Biennial will attempt to tap directly into this rich history and its possibilities", they said in a statement.

Rather than using any of the monuments located in the city's historical Sultanahmet peninsula, Kortun and Esche have chosen to use more every-day sites in the city center that are emblematic of the physical legacy of modernity and the shift to a consumer economy.



In an attempt to give individual artists greater substance than is traditional in art biennials, Esche and Kortun have organized long-term residencies for several artists, and are working with fewer artists than in previous years. They also began by choosing artists from the region before working concentrically outwards to include Asia, Europe and beyond.

Director of Platform Garanti Contemporary Art Center in Istanbul, Kortun was recently chosen by Art & Auction magazine as one of the top 100 people who influence the development of contemporary art worldwide. He was the founding director of Proje4L Istanbul Museum of Contemporary Art (2000-2003), and the chief curator and director of the 3rd International Istanbul Biennial (1992). Between 1994 and 1997, he worked as the founding director of the Museum of the Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College.

ILLUSTRATION ARTIST ERKMEN COMMEMORATES OMAR KHAYYAM

Vice Dean and head of the Graphic Arts department at Marmara University, Nazan Otar Erkmen ACG 65 has also specialized as an illustration artist. She held her 23rd exhibition in December together with her husband, Aydin Erkmen, who is a prominent graphic artist, at the Austrian consulate in Istanbul. The ensuing exhibition book, *Poems of Omar Khayyam*, was published by Dünya Publishing House.

Prof. Erkmen completed her undergraduate, Master's and Doctorate degrees at Marmara University's Faculty of Fine Arts. She has been acting as the Vice Dean since 1986 and is head of the Graphic Arts department as well as acting as the Director of the Women's Library and Documentation Center.

She has specialized in illustration. Recent awards she has won include an honorable mention in the East European Illustration Biennial, Japan (2001); the Mevlana Friendship Association award for service to the public in the field of plastic arts and the First Asian Illustration Biennale Honor Award (2004). Erkmen has participated in international biennials in Belgrade, Japan, Sarmede, Bratislava, Korea, Germany, Tehran and Italy.



NEW JEWISH COOKERY BOOK BLENDS MEMOIR WITH MOM'S RECIPES

Jewish cooking might bring to mind matzo balls, gefilte fish and other Eastern European-born fare. But in *Dina'nin Mutfağı - Türk Sefarad Yemekleri* (Dina's Kitchen - Turkish Sephardic Cooking) author Deniz Alphan ACG 67 sheds light on another rich Jewish food tradition, the cuisine of the Mediterranean Sephardim, Jews who were expelled from Spain in the 15th century and made their homes across what was then the Ottoman Empire. Dishes such as *Börek* (Stuffed Pastry) with Eggplant fr Rose, Leek *Köfte* (Balls) and *Kaşkarikas* (made from courgette skins) exemplify this delicious legacy.

Part a collection of her mother Dina's recipes, part a personal memoir, this beautifully photographed book will prove inspiring to all cooks. Two years in the making, it is much more than a recipe manual, using personal tales to shed light on the turbulent history and colorful traditions of Turkey's Sephardic Jewish community. (As Alphan explains, a majority of Turkish Jews are Sephardic, Sefarad meaning literally "from Spain".)

The stories Alphan recounts span many moves; her family for instance moved from Thrace to Istanbul to Israel and even further afield to America. The burning of Jewish homes in 1934, known as the Thrace incidents, and the September 1955 Istanbul pogrom are all events which find their way into this book. Alphan manages never to be bitter, and the recipes are always delectable.

In his foreword, the late gourmet Tugrul Savkay says: 'The first thing you will notice about this cuisine is its simplicity. There are no fancy sauces or garnitures in this tradition. In this sense, it is incredibly similar to Turkish cooking'. Sephardic cooking shares with Mediterranean cultures a love of olive oil, which is extensively used. Unlike them however, onions and garlic feature very little. Jewish kosher cooking rules apply to Sephardic cuisine; milk and meat are never eaten together, seafood is only allowed if it has scales and fins, for example.

Deniz Alphan began her career as a journalist at *Yeni Istanbul*. She was editor in chief of *Vizon*, then *Vizyon* and *Vizyon Dekorasyon*. She is currently editor of *Milliyet* newspaper's weekend supplements.



Deniz Alphan ACG 67

Dina'nin M Mutfağı

Türk Sefarad Yemekleri



D e n i z A l p h a n

• DOĞAN
KİTAP

COVER: IN MEMORIAM

RODNEY BELKNAP WAGNER
MAY 25, 1931 - MARCH 24, 2005



Rodney B. Wagner during the ground-breaking ceremony for the three new buildings at Robert College, 1988.



On vacation in 1991.

Rodney B. Wagner was a Trustee of Robert College since 1968. He served as Chairman of the Board for 23 years between 1979 and 2002. These were times of major change at the school: the merger of Robert College and the American College for Girls; the construction of Feyyaz Berker Science Building, the Nejat F. Eczacıbaşı Gymnasium, and the Suna Kıraç Theater; and the elimination of the Orta and the development of a new Lise. Without his insistence and guidance, the new buildings would never have been built.

A generous supporter of Robert College throughout the years, Mr. Wagner made a gift of a million dollars to the school at the time of his retirement as Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

A graduate of Yale University, Mr. Wagner joined J.P. Morgan Et Co. in 1954, and for much of his career worked with clients in the Near Middle East. In 1962, he joined the US Agency of International Development and, was named deputy director of its office in Ankara in 1965. The three years he and his family lived in Ankara marked the beginning of the Wagners' ongoing love affair with Turkey. Upon his return to J.P. Morgan, Mr. Wagner served for 3 years as general manager of a Morgan-affiliated bank in Beirut. He subsequently headed J.P.Morgan's businesses in the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

Mr. Wagner retired in 1996 as Vice Chairman, Director, and Member of Corporate Office of J.P. Morgan. He continued to serve on a number of not-for-profit and corporate boards after his retirement and was devoted to interests such as the Sesame Street Workshop, World Wildlife Fund and the Population Council whose board he chaired at the time of his death.

Mr. Wagner is survived by his wife of 46 years, Sukey Nichols Wagner; a son Benjamin of Sacramento, Calif.; a daughter, Quinn McClean of Washington and six grandchildren.

A Memorial Service to honor Rodney B. Wagner was held in New York, at the Museum of Natural History on April 22, 2005. A Service was also held in Istanbul, at the Suna Kıraç Hall in Robert College on May 13, 2005. Both events were a fitting tribute for Rodney Wagner, a much loved and admired friend whose overwhelming ability to touch

so many lives and make a positive impact in so many different areas has been legendary. He will be sorely missed.

The following pages celebrate the life of a true friend of Robert College and Turkey, through various memories and pictures.

Excerpts from Benjamin Wagner's eulogy on April 22, 2005 in the Museum of Natural History, New York:

'People, who met my dad as a kid growing up in Shreveport, Louisiana or Camden, Arkansas, could not have imagined the life that we are here to celebrate today. He was one of three children of a man in the railroad cross-tie business. He contracted malaria when he was a child so he was a bit of a sickly skinny kid. By the time he moved to St Louis in junior high school he had become a good student and an excellent athlete. He was already showing the determination, curiosity and eagerness to taste the world that characterized his whole life.

Soon after that, he had the first of what I think of as three experiences that shaped his young character and determined everything that would come after. First, during summers while he was in high school and college, he took jobs all over the country doing hard physical labor. He worked as a lumberjack in the Ozarks, on oil rigs in Oklahoma. He harvested wheat in Eastern Colorado and he worked in the hot sun in Missouri, laying railroad track in integrated groups of laborers black and white. And he never forgot those experiences. He always respected people who worked hard with their hands and their backs and who sweat when they earned their living.



The Wagner family, with the captain of their boat in Bodrum, late 1960s.

Second, he went to Korea with the army. He had not been overseas before. It was just after the major fighting had stopped, but conditions were harsh. He told me it was the coldest he had ever been in his life, and he loved every moment of it. It was a new culture. He met people from all over the world who were with the UN forces and it was the beginning of a marvelous engagement that he had with the world. Toward the end of his service together with Peter Eisenman and Tern Williams he hop-scotched across Asia. They saved up all their leave and used it at the end went from Tokyo to Angkor Wat to the Taj Mahal. And he loved it.[..] For the rest of his life, he would be exploring cultures and history and people around the world.

And the third thing: He married a young woman from New England, Sukey Nichols. She shared his intelligence, his ebullience, his roving curiosity about the world and his eagerness to see it and to make it a better place. And for 46 years they were a fantastic team. She went with him wherever he went, worked or played. Some of my early memories from Ankara, Turkey when he was with US AID are of our week-end activities as a family. It wasn't sitting by the pool or playing in the yard. We were off to tour factories and mines and dams. And she went everywhere and of course they both passed on to their children not only a lifetime of memories but this thirst to see the world and be a part of it.

My dad had a contagious enthusiasm and for him every day was like the beginning of a new adventure... His enthusiasm for the world took many forms. He was deeply absorbed by things like monetary policy and global oil markets but he was also passionate about the NY Giants. He was interested in everything Turkish. He loved the outdoors, especially trees and birds.[..]

He took joy in the smallest things - in his favorite jacket or in an old canoe. He loved watching Carmine bee eaters in Botswana but he was just as happy sitting on the deck of his home in Connecticut with a glass of wine and a pair of binoculars watching the cedar waxwings flip from tree to tree. He had worries and concerns about the world, of course. He was quite troubled by



Rodney and Sukey with daughter Quinn and son Benjamin

the unilateralism and militarism that has characterized our foreign policy lately; he lamented the loss of wild life habitat and pollution of oceans, he thought about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict often, but these weighty concerns could not squelch his fundamental optimism about the world. John F. Kennedy, who was one of the people who inspired my father to go into public service, said in 1963 that the problems of the world are man made and therefore they can be solved by man. And that was my dad's philosophy, as well. He believed that if you reached out to others and treated them with respect, generosity and understanding, that you could change the world in a small way. He won other people over to those values not by talking about them but by living them.

It was his wish to continue to do something even after his death, and so someone out there, who knows what color or religion or sex, is living on his liver, and someone else is carrying his kidneys.

My dad loved his job, his career, but he never let that overtake his love of his family. He was totally devoted to my mother. He was always happiest when they were together. They went everywhere together.

[..] As we celebrate his life and think of the impact that he had on us and on our world, I think we should think of it as he would, which is that it is a wonderful thing the life he had and he was happy with it, we should be happy with it. And really, I think we are the lucky ones for having known Rodney Wagner and having him make our lives brighter..."

COVER: IN MEMORIAM

Eulogy delivered by Emre Gönensay RC 57, RC Trustee, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, on April 22, 2005, in New York

'Soon after Rodney's death, a piece in a major Turkish newspaper ran the headline 'Uncle Rodney has died'. (Güngör Uras, Milliyet)

Indeed, for my country Turkey, Rodney was an uncle. And, for many of us, a brother, a mentor and a dear friend.

It was not as a banker alone that Rodney won the hearts of Turks, but because of his love of people and his deep aspiration to make sure that his extraordinary gifts have an influence beyond the merely professional—that they should be of help to others—to humanity.

It was this aspiration that drove Rodney to Turkey, to Robert College, to the Population Council, and to the World Wildlife Fund.

He was trying to help humanity in global development, education, nature, the environment, and in health.



At the 1988 ground-breaking ceremony, with (from left to right) RC Trustee Feyyaz Berker RC Eng 46, former Istanbul mayor Bedrettin Dalan and Trustee Ali Neyzi RC 46

I wonder how many of us remember that delightful children's television workshop called Sesame Street, where Rod was a board member. I remember how he persuaded our Prime Minister of the time Turgut Ozal, to have the series shown on our rather austere government television. They added a human touch to "governmentspeak" and gave joy to millions of Turkish children. In his love for people, he did not neglect the children of the world.

Rodney moved to Turkey with his wife and young children in the mid-1960s working for USAID agency during a break in his Morgan career. As an AID representative in Turkey, Rodney Wagner formed professional and personal ties that made him, until his death, the most respected international banker in Turkey, trusted by Turkish governments, financial institutions, corporations, and individuals.

During that period, he befriended Turgut Ozal, an electrical engineer at that time. They had many conversations about the future of Turkey, conversations, which had an impact on the significant economic changes and the liberalization that took place once Ozal rose to be the Prime Minister. In the late 1970s Turkey faced a short-term debt crisis. And Rodney Wagner orchestrated the first significant sovereign debt restructuring in his quiet, behind the scenes way. He successfully collared over 200 bank lenders, the Paris Club, the World Bank, and the IMF to come together in a debt rollover thus demonstrating his financial genius, creativity and foremost his credibility as a person. His solution to that debt crisis became a model for many such larger crises to come in the world where Rodney continued to play a key role.

Over the last 35 years, I had the opportunity and the luck to come across Rodney in his many different capacities.

First when I was a business executive where he gave me and my colleagues deep insights every decade as Turkey faced different financial challenges.

At the Robert College Board, where he was the moving spirit for a multi-million dollar-donation campaign that completely renovated and upgraded the College.

In government, when I was charged with getting Turkey out of its 1994 crisis—and when the first person I called was Rodney.

True to his tradition, he pressed the right buttons, we started with bankers breakfasts in New York, then the IMF came on board and we sailed through with a very good stand-by agreement.

And finally, but foremost as a friend and as a family.

We consider ourselves to have not only Rodney as a friend, but also you Sukey. We honor you for the loyalty and love you gave this man on his wonderful journey, and your

children and grandchildren who were such a joy to him.

I want to leave with you now, a stanza from a poem by Byron, which I think is a fitting one to remember Rodney by:

There is a tear for all that die,
A Mourner o'er the humblest grave;
But Nations swell the funeral cry,
And triumph weeps above the brave.

God bless Rodney Wagner and all the countries he loved."

'One of the most surprising facts about Rod Wagner is that, when he died, the New York Times had almost no information about him in its files. During his long career as a banker Rod negotiated some of the most innovative and highly publicized transactions I know of, including the Turkish debt restructuring in 1978-79 and the "Brady bonds" used to stabilize the financial position of the Government of Mexico.

Rod always knew what he wanted to accomplish before he went to a meeting; always listened respectfully to the views of others before speaking himself; always spoke in a very quiet voice; and never stopped smiling. Somehow, by the end of a meeting, the group almost always agreed on the conclusion that Rod had wanted it to reach in the first place.

Rod accomplished amazing things, but almost never took credit for what he did. As a result, his name almost never appeared in print."

Charles Hoppin, Vice Chair, RC Board of Trustees, April 14, 2005.



Rodney Wagner with Jim Maggart in Esma Sultan, Ortaköy in May 2002.



In front of the house the Wagners bought in Ortaköy in 1986. They renovated it and it became their home in Istanbul.

There were times when Rodney would summon me to the Bank for lunch before one of my many trips to Istanbul while the new buildings were going up. During these sessions he would figuratively rap my knuckles in order to persuade me that my direct and confrontational style might (or might not) fly in New York, but it would not fly in Turkey. He would school me and rehearse me in content and behavior to render what contribution I might offer the most effective. This is leadership at its best.

Rodney had a grasp of international politics and finance that was beyond anything I could imagine. He understood the issues at stake, and the behavior and motives of people and organizations that created the issues and policies. He moved with the same authority, ease, confidence, and grace in the slipstream of world affairs, as he moved on our Board, with his friends and with his amazing wife, Sukey, his children, Ben and Quinn, and their spouses and children.

I will sorely miss the hooded eyes, wry smile and gentle voice."

*Lale Armstrong, RC Trustee
April 19, 2005*

'What captivated me from day one were Rodney's hooded eyes and their essential blueness, the shock of thick white hair, the slightly asymmetrical smile (complete with charmingly chipped front tooth), the soft voice - soft because nothing louder was needed if one knew as much as he did of what he spoke and to whom he was speaking. I learned first hand of Rodney's intense

and spontaneous generosity when out of nowhere and without fanfare, he presented me with an antique silver watch chain when I was still new to the Board. No reason, no explanation. He thought I might like it. I love it and wear it all the time. There are comparable examples of his generosity all over the world.



May 1985, in the "gymnasium". Rodney Wagner with (from L to R) Margaret Johnson, Oya Başak, Jane and Walter Page at the presentation of "The World of RC" by Talat Halman.



With fellow Trustee Suna Kırac, after whom the new theater hall was named, in 1990.

Excerpts from the address of Muharrem Kayhan RC 73, RC Trustee on May 13, 2005 at Suna Kırac Hall, Robert College

'Rodney led Robert College through one of the most challenging periods of its existence, despite legal and financial constraints, the college was able to maintain its leading position in secondary education, true to its statement of purpose.

...His guidance was invaluable during the school's difficult but ultimately successful transition to a four year Lycee, a national school aiming for nothing less than excellence.

Students at RC are aware of the existence of these invisible Trustees who support the school, but they rarely get the opportunity to meet one. Those students who have met Rodney, chatted with him during his frequent stays in Istanbul are the lucky ones for having made the acquaintance of a man with gravitas, accomplished yet humble, serious and quiet yet witty, and genuinely engaged.

For the rest of us on the Board of Trustees, and his numerous friends from all walks of life in Turkey, he was bit more than that.

His friendship was not just warmth but also a heartfelt interest in who you were and what you did.

...Well, Rodney, one thing we know for sure: You are in the company of good people where you are; you deserve to be in our prayers and in our best memories for being the friend and the man you were, and for what you did for Robert College and education in Turkey."

'I think of Rodney and the first adjectives that come to my mind are calm, wise, soft spoken, and yet mischievous, witty, amusing. A unique combination of strength and softness.

He had that rare ability to make those around him feel both stronger and better. He was where the buck stopped. Not being a man of words, I will borrow from the master:

'His life was gentle, and the elements So mix'd in him that Nature might stand up"

Hasan Subasi RA 61, RC Trustee, April 2005



On one of many canoeing trips with Sukey.



Sukey and Rod Wagner at the dinner held in their honor at Esrna Sultan Yalisi, Ortakdy in may 2002.



The Board during a Trustee a trip to the Adana region in May 1995. John Guest, Rodney Wagner, Ginny Maxwell, Leyla Aktay, Margaret Mathews, Lori and Chris Wadsworth, Joan McMenamin, Jane Page

Excerpts from the speech given by Mr. Hasan T. Çolakoğlu on May 13th 2005, Suna Kıraç Hall, Robert College

"... As you are all aware, Rodney had a special affection for Turkey and all things Turkish. I considered him to be as much a part of this culture as I. He knew the Turks and Turkey so well that I remember visiting him in his offices in the mid 90's when the Turkish markets were extremely volatile due to certain events taking place at the time and witnessing many prominent senior figures from all over the world calling him for his opinion and advice. He responded in such a calm, confident and rational manner, saying 'Turkey is an exciting country, such things occur from time to time and given a couple of weeks it will pass' that I could almost feel the tension and the stress of the person on the other end of the line fading away. Afterwards he turned to me and said: 'I'd better be right'. Time eventually proved that he was right. His serenity was passed on to all those with whom he came into contact.

As you all know, he was integral in putting Turkey on the map with regards to the international financial markets, however there was another side to Rodney, perhaps not known by all, for he was a very discreet man; if today most of the Aegean coast is unspoiled as well as a fashionable place for both the Turks and tourists, it is due to a conversation between Rodney and the late President Ozal while swimming in the region. Rodney, in his own style, mentioned to him how impressed he was by the natural beauty of the environment and that it would be a shame if it were to be ruined by mass construction. A week later, the President declared most of the coast a National Park and sent Rodney a copy of the Official Gazette

[..]Rodney was a man of many different talents and interests.

It will certainly not be the same without him. Not only will we miss him but Turkey will miss him. Sukey has lost a husband, his children lost a dad, I lost a true friend and Turkey has lost a genuine philanthropist.

I ask you all to keep the memory of his kind actions alive in your hearts as will I."

Speech given by Meg Taylor, former Ambassador, Papua New Guinea on April 22, 2005, Museum of Natural History New York

'Sukey asked me to speak on behalf of Rodney's government, organization, or community service activities. So friends and colleagues from the World Wildlife Fund, the Population Council, Sesame Street Workshop shared their thoughts of Rodney Wagner with me, and I trust that my comments will thread together theirs and my sentiments.



Trustees C Hoppin, J Maggart, J McMenamin, R Wagner, B Williams at a student performance in Suna Kıraç Hall, 1999.

Rodney Wagner was a man at ease with international financiers and with children learning their numbers. He was a man of curiosity and imagination who put those rare gifts to work to invent a new category for conservation, the debt for nature swap, now a hallmark of conservation efforts around the world.

He saw detail in the big picture. He understood the difference good children's television could make for a single boy or girl, and he understood how to establish a firm financial foundation to secure the future of children's television here and abroad-in Turkey, Africa, and the Middle East.[..]

He was a man who understood the God of small things. He knew specific birds that lived in specific countries. He was familiar with rare flowers and where they bloomed and when. He celebrated villages painting his and Sukey's face in the shadows of tribal spirit houses along the Sepic River in my country.

He was a man who understood the big things. He knew that costs could derail good work, and he sought ways to imaginatively fund important efforts. But he also knew that success comes when people invest themselves, and as Elizabeth McCormick of the Population Council said to me, he never counted the cost of service.

He also lived and worked in the quiet spaces. He liked to keep his good deeds quiet. Many never knew all the NGO groups he served. He knew how to keep quiet so that he could listen-to a child, to the natural world, to a villager, to a head of state. Without his trying, gatherings would quiet around him when he spoke because people of all walks of life wanted to hear what he had to say.[..]

I saw him always as a member of a great Sukey and Rodney enterprise, weaving a basket of intricate relationships across the world, from the United States to Turkey, to Mexico, to the Philippines, to the western Pacific, to Africa. This basket that they have woven is filled with their kindness. It is a basket that has been opened for all of us to reach into to find the treasures of their friendship...."

'I was first introduced to Rodney Wagner through our bank relations. Most people in Turkey also know him as a banker who has done a lot for Turkey. Rodney was a key person who provided serious support for the Turkish economy, especially during critical times. But I believe that one should have known him more closely, to understand why one feels so much grief from his loss. I had the opportunity to work with Rodney on the Board of Trustees of Robert College for 16 years where I got to know him more closely, and learned a lot from him...He was calm, quiet, and a good listener; he had the ability to analyze, to manage, to reconcile; he was respectful, caring and determined. But, above all, Rodney was a cherished friend by all. May he rest in peace."

A translated excerpt from the article by RC Trustee Korkmaz Ilkorur RC 67, Radikal newspaper, April 5, 2005.

FOVFR: IN MFAMORIAM



Headmaster Livy Merchant addressing the Class of 2004 at graduation, in the Maze.

RODNEY B. WAGNER MEMORIAL MAZE

One of the most significant ceremonial spaces on campus, the legendary Maze, was renamed by the RC Board of Trustees on May 2005. It will henceforth be known as the Rodney B. Wagner Memorial Maze.

Mr. Wagner, given his love of the outdoors and interest in the protection of wild life, had always appreciated this wooded area on campus, 'a jewel of a space', with its birds and hundred year old trees. It is quite befitting that the location where graduation is held every year and from which generations of RC graduates enter the world, will carry the name of one of the most dedicated supporters of Robert College, Rodney B Wagner.

• Source: *The Story of RC Old and New* by May Fincanci, Intermedia

The Legend of the Maze

There are several versions of the legend connected with the Maze, which has lost its original labyrinth appearance and is now used for outdoor performances and graduation exercises. One of the more colorful versions is as follows:

The Sultan had chosen as his bride a young Circassian girl of singular beauty but proud, defiant, and unhappy despite the grandeur and the riches of the Palace.

One night, the Sultan had a fantastic dream; he dreamed of a beautifully fashioned ring which he was convinced could make his bride happy if only he could find a jeweler who could visualize the design. The Sultan had the best jewelers in the land summoned to undertake the task of making this ring. Finally, when they had all failed, a certain jeweler, who was reputed to have a telepathic gift as well as being a skillful jeweler, was summoned to the Palace.

Legend has it that this jeweler did indeed fashion a ring like the one that had been haunting the Sultan for so long. The splendid ring pleased the Circassian girl and made her so happy that it finally brought a smile to her lips.

As his reward, the jeweler was rowed up and down the Bosphorus in the royal boat to select a property on which to have a palace built for himself. The estate, which the jeweler chose, was many years later to be purchased for the campus of the American College for Girls. In the "Maze", shrubs and trees were cleverly planted and trimmed to resemble the ring that the jeweler Duz had designed like the Sultan's cipher.

ONES TO WATCH

PUBLISHING DIRECTOR MAKES MARK WITH HOME DECOR MAGAZINES

Turkey has changed rapidly over the last 15 years, and these changes are perhaps aptly reflected in the plethora of home decoration and lifestyle magazines that fill bookstore shelves. Interior design is all the rage; and appears set to reach frenzied new heights with the opening of the country's first Ikea superstore in Istanbul this month.

As younger Turks increasingly reject the chandeliers and gold gilded furniture of their parents' homes, they have been replaced with hip, modern decor and buzzwords like individuality and designer. "Good taste" in home decorating no longer means a single stereotypical form.

Part of the new generation leading this design revolution is Nil Güler Sipahi RC 93, a Johns Hopkins economics graduate who made her name as director of *Country Homes* magazine from 2001 to 2004. She is now editor in chief of a brand new magazine *Elle Decor*, a Turkish version of the international edition, which hit the stands in April. 'I started out at the Doğan Burda Rizzoli magazine publishing group as new business development director in the marketing department," says Sipahi.



Nil Güler Sipahi RC 93

Encouraged by the support of then DBR general manager Neslihan Tokcan (familiar to many RC alumni from her years working at the Orta office), Sipahi launched into magazine editorship. 'I can't say I had a special interest in interior design and home decoration," says Sipahi 'but coincidence led me to this field."And that has been welcome news for Turkish home design fans.

NEW COMPANY ON A MISSION TO IMPROVE TURKISH PUBLISHING

After almost a decade as publishing director at the prestigious Yapı Kredi Yayınları, writer and editor Cem Akaş RC 86, is spearheading Turkey's first company providing professional editorial and publishing services, g yayın grubu (g publishing group). The group's members, all individual freelance editors and writers, have a collective 75 years experience working in the industry. They offer an impressive range of services; from tutoring first-time writers to assisting in memoir writing, and cover all of the steps a book might take from inception to hitting the shelves.

Akaş likens their services to that of "a good coach or doctor". 'If you look at writers like Paul Auster, Orhan Pamuk, Arundhati Roy or Martin Amis, what they have in common is that their books go through a really good editor before they hit the shelves. No matter how masterly a writer is, he or she may never be able to look at his or her book objectively,"he says. In addition to Akaş, the g group includes Ayşe Erdem, Burak Şuşut, Ceyda Akaş, Elif Gökteke, Gökçen Ergüven, Zeynep Ereklı and Esra Özdoğan.G also offers companies corporate publication services, as well as translation from English to Turkish and vice versa.

Akaş began working in publishing on returning from New York in 1996, where he completed a Masters in Political Science at Columbia. He was offered a position at Yapı Kredi Yayınları as publishing director. 'Up until that point I had never really considered publishing as a career option. I thought I would make a living as an academic and author,"he says.



Cem Akaş RC 86

A prolific writer, Akaş has published five novels, four collections of short stories and a volume of essays. Critics have praised his work for a strong sense of structure and intrigue, humor, and command of dialogue; in fact, he has been dubbed "the play-setter of Turkish literature". Most recently, in 2002, Akaş published his collected short stories under the title *r*, "a consonant he has trouble pronouncing"according to his web site.

Born in Mannheim Germany in 1968, Akaş moved with his family to izmit in 1974. Readers take note, his first ever-published story *The Window* was in the RC magazine *Objective*, albeit censored! (School administrators decided to replace the word 'balls" with 'chest".) He studied Chemical Engineering at Boğaziçi, and completed a double Masters in Political Science at Columbia University and Boğaziçi. He is working on a doctorate from Boğaziçi in Turkish political history.

FOR LOVE OF THE GAME

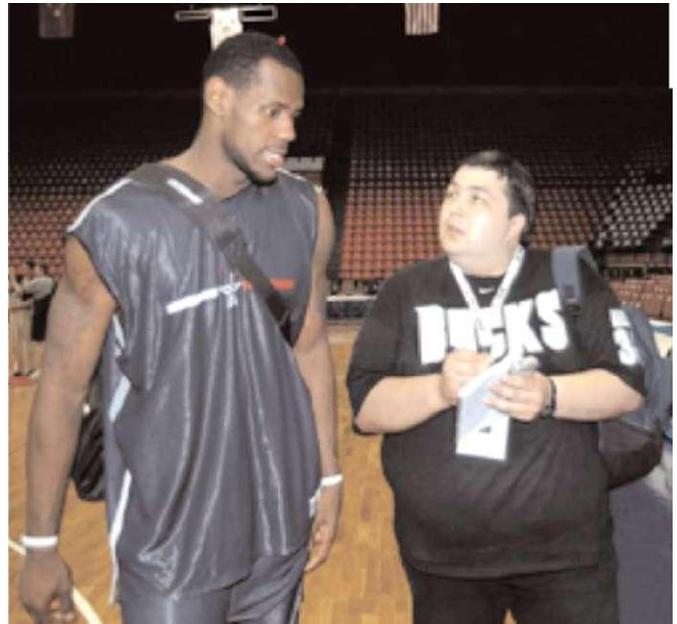
For millions of Turks, Kaan Kural RC 92, is the NBA. Since the introduction to Turkey of NBA TV, a cable channel broadcasting live US basketball, last August, the 31-year-old basketball commentator has become a household name. Previously already an established TV presence, he is now on almost daily, commenting on NBA matches as they are played live.

Appearing on television each week sporting a different NBA team sweatshirt, Kural admits to a 'love affair' with hoops dating back from his days at RC. In addition to his grueling TV schedule, he also writes a column in the daily newspaper *Vatan*, and is a frequent fixture at Turkish basketball league games.

Kural says his passion for basketball began at Robert College. "As a teenager, you are looking for something meaningful, and basketball became very important to me. My passion became a full-blown love affair during the 1988 Seoul Olympics. Watching Yugoslavia come back from 9 points down with 45 seconds to go, I was blown away. I was also on the team at Robert College - although I was often on the bench! - and our coach Dave Phillips played a key role in my involvement with the sport." (Kural's ability to shoot hoops while seated on the bench has become something of a school legend!)

As an International Relations major at Boğaziçi University, his interest in basketball continued. 'I regularly read a basketball magazine called *Spor & Spor*. It had great NBA articles. One month, the magazine abruptly discontinued these articles. I waited for a month or two before calling the magazine - as a reader- to ask why. They told me that the person writing the NBA articles had left and they were still looking for someone to fill his shoes. I told them I would like to and explained I had been a serious NBA fan since I was 13. They asked for a sample article and soon I began contributing, albeit as an amateur."

Kural still gave no thought to pursuing a career in basketball reporting. Graduating from Boğaziçi, he applied to Garanti Bank for



Kaan Kural interviews NBA player Lebraun James.

a job in finance. He passed their internal exam and was about to take up a position when fate stepped in. "I received a call from Yigiter Ulug [an established sports commentator]. It turned out Ulug had been offered the job of editor in chief of *Fast Break*, a basketball magazine. But he was moving to NTV [television channel] so he asked me if I wanted the job," says Kural. "At first I couldn't believe it. I didn't even know what an editor's job entailed. He told me that I would suffer for three months, and then get used to it. Plus they were offering me a better salary than Garanti." It was tough going at first. "The first month I think I wrote practically every line in the magazine," recalls Kural. But the magazine soon expanded and became successful. Shortly afterwards Kural was offered a column in the newspaper *Yeni Yizyt*, and has been a columnist for several major Turkish newspapers ever since.

He is often asked whether he will make the jump from commentator to coaching for a club, but Kural says he has no interest in making that move. "At heart, I am a basketball fan. I love the game. But as a coach, I would have to pick a side, and I really don't want that." One dream he has is to take some time out to write a book. Basketball fans will no doubt be waiting...



Kaan Kural's graduation day, 1992, with former RC P.E. teacher Gill Bloor, RC P.E. teacher and basketball coach Dave Phillips and Eczacıbaşı team coach Benjamin McGilmor.



Orta basketball team founder and coach Kaan Kural with the team at the Turkish finals in Cyprus, 1990.

RC IN THE CITY: VENUES WE RUN

TAKE A DEEP BREATH AT KUN



explains Devapath, a breathing instructor who visits Istanbul several times a year to give workshops. 'Our brains and psyches are being bombarded, so we need to meditate more than ever. But traditional meditation techniques don't necessarily work on today's man.' Osho's answer to this was dynamic meditation, a technique

that involves lots of dancing and movement in addition to breathing, quite unlike the stereotypical cross-legged position. In fact, the Osho ideal is referred to as 'Zorba the Buddha' -- someone whose feet are firmly on the ground but who can also touch the stars, someone who loves to sing and dance but who also loves silence.

Introducing Turks to these techniques has been an uphill battle. Celikiz says she is often 'exhausted', but the rewards are gratifying. "We're breaking new ground here," she says of KUN. "As stress and anxiety levels rise in today's society, more and more people are finding they need spiritual well-being. But people are much more used to taking a pill to get better. We don't offer any quick fixes; personal development requires determination and guts." Osho once famously said: "To truly enjoy meditation, do it continuously for 21 days. Seven days to get rid of old habits, 7 days to gain a new habit and 7 days for the body to accept it."

Located in the heart of Istanbul's busy Beyoğlu district, a stone's throw away from the hullabaloo of the main street, Istiklal Caddesi, KUN is a spiritual sanctuary, an oasis of whitewashed walls and calm in a charmingly restored 19th century building, run by Aysem Celikiz RC 84 Ex. Offering meditation, yoga, and alternative self-awareness classes, KUN draws its inspiration from the teachings of the Indian spiritual leader Osho.

More than anything, KUN is a labor of love. Celikiz met KUN founder Alp Eksioğlu by chance in 1999 at the Osho center in Pune, India. Returning to Turkey, the pair later took turns hosting different meditation workshops in their own homes. In September last year, Eksioğlu asked Celikiz if she would run the KUN center. "I was in Greece at a similar center, cooking in the kitchen when it suddenly occurred to me that I hadn't done anything to help Alp. I had sent him students and chipped in occasionally, but never actually rolled up my sleeves; so I decided I would," says Celikiz.

Osho taught at the Osho Commune International in the southern Indian town of Pune, which is still home to hundreds of his students. 'Osho, like Buddha, refers to an enlightenment technique. But one that was created specifically for today's person,"



Aysem Celikiz RC

Bodrum retreat

KUN offers different types of meditation. Every morning begins with Dynamic Meditation, while in the evenings they offer Kundalini meditation. In addition, depending on visiting international therapists, they offer a range of workshops from Hellinger family constellation to hypnosis and aura therapy. "All of our instructors are people whom we have personally worked with and been impressed by," says Celikiz. "They all have very strong backgrounds, educated as either doctors or psychologists, with another 20-30 years experience in their respective fields, be it breathing or body awareness."

In the summers, KUN closes down and relocates to Bodrum, Karakaya for three months.

For more information:

KUN

Asmalı Mescid sok. Atlas Apt. 912

Teşnel İstanbul

Tel: 212 245 75 10-11

www.oshokun.com



The main studio space at KUN

RC REACHES OUT

A DECADE OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS ADVOCACY

Women's rights advocates in Turkey achieved a great victory on September 26, 2004 when the Turkish parliament approved a major reform of the Penal Code-including the adoption of more than 30 amendments that safeguard women's individual rights, sexual autonomy, and bodily integrity. The reforms were adopted following a three-year campaign to ensure that the reform process resulted in a Penal Code that promoted gender equality and offered women equal protection under the laws. The campaign was led by Women for Women's Rights (WWHR), founded by ipek Ilkcaracan RC 85, her sister Pinar ilkcaracan and their friend Leyla Gulciir.

The new Penal Code effectively criminalizes marital rape and sexual harassment; ensures strengthened penalties for rape, sexual assault and sexual abuse; and does away with the distinctions between crimes against virgins and non-virgins or married and unmarried women, abolishing provisions legitimizing rape and abduction in cases where the perpetrator marries the victim. It is expected to take effect in the summer.

In short, the new Penal Code is revolutionary for women in Turkey.

Separately, but in a similar vein, in January the United Nations met to evaluate Turkey's standing in terms of women's rights. The main question was Turkey's compliance with CEDAW (Convention for the Elimination of All Discrimination Against Women), which Turkey had signed in 1985 with several outstanding reservations.

In addition to the official state report presented to the Committee, two NGOs presented alternative reports, ensuring debate questioning the official rosy picture. On the strength of these alternative reports, the official delegates left with 'further recommendations,' important homework to ensure women's well being in Turkey.

The work of WWHR is at the heart of all these international and national efforts at lobbying for women's rights. WWHR was established in 1993, and has since been working for women's rights on international, national and local levels. First founded as an action-research group, their work soon grew to include advocacy and lobbying to bring about legal and policy changes; human rights training for women; networking, and action-research Et publications.

'The idea of setting up WWHR came up in the early 1990s,' says ilkcaracan when asked how this all started. 'I was working with the United Nations Development Programme New York headquarters at the time; specifically on Women and Development projects in Africa and Asia. I was coordinating a Project on Women and Technology with an international women's NGO named the International Women's Tribune Center also based in NY. Here I met another Turkish woman interested in and doing similar work, her name was Leyla Gulciir. Leyla and I started talking about how there was a need for setting up similar outreach projects for women in Turkey, especially on consciousness raising, violence against Women and economic development. In the meantime my sister Pinar ilkcaracan was living and working in Berlin at a women's shelter. As she came to NY to visit, we found out she was also thinking along the same lines. So initially



Ipek Ilkcaracan RC 85

Pinar and Leyla moved back to Turkey late 1993 to start this Project; and founded Women for Women's Human Rights. I gave them support from abroad with fund-raising and Project development; finally I joined them by moving to Turkey in 1996."

So successful was WWHR, by its fifth year the group received the prestigious "Leading Solutions" award from the Association of Women in Development in Washington DC. Once a year, the award is given to an extraordinary organization whose collective and innovative efforts have had significant impact in advancing gender equality and social justice.

'WWHR uses an integrated multi-level approach to the issues it works on and applies such methods as are appropriate to that level,' says the group's official web site. 'Whether it be the organization of international co-ordination meetings, local field research or national campaigning and lobbying of Parliament, or some other combination, the purpose is to gain a positive result on the issue at hand and thereby work towards the elimination of all discrimination against women and to support women's participation in the establishment of a just, democratic and peaceful social system.'

Advocacy and lobbying for women's rights is only one area of struggle for ipek ilkcaracan and WWHR. The organization, under ilkcaracan's leadership, has ensured the connection between governmental levels and community work. For example, the Human Rights Education Program for Women, started in 1994, enables women to gain critical awareness of their legal and human rights, supports women in acquiring the necessary skills towards implementation of their rights in everyday life, and in developing collective grassroots organizational skills to assist them in mobilizing around self-identified needs. In collaboration with government agencies, the program now reaches 60 community centers spread throughout the seven geographic regions of Turkey.

Upon graduation from RC, ilkcaracan moved to Philadelphia to study political science at Swarthmore, where, she says, she had a potent introduction to new perspectives on feminism. She then moved onto finish her PhD. in Economics. Between 1992-96, she worked as a program coordinator at the United Nations Development Program, while also working as a teaching assistant at New School. Since she came back to Turkey, apart from her work at the WWHR, she's taught at Bogaziçi University and Yeditepe University. Currently, she is an assistant professor at the Istanbul Technical University, where she teaches Development Economics.

RC AROUND THE WORLD

MOSCOW FORTY YEARS AGO, MOSCOW TODAY 1966-2005

By Gündüz Vassaf RA 64
(Translated from original article first printed in *Radikal* newspaper,
March 2005)

When you visit a place forty years on, the first thing that strikes you is how it has changed. It's like catching up with schoolmates you haven't seen in years. At first you have a hard time recognizing them; there's the 'Is that really you?' moment. But after you get over the first shock of transformation, everything is more or less as it was. Salih is still the Salih you knew, and Serai is Serai.

Exactly forty years have gone by since I last visited Moscow. As I look around to see what has changed, my Russian friends Igor and Olga look at me, waiting for me to tell them what has changed. I think it was my third day there. I am in an apartment building on the banks of the Moscow river where only Soviet generals used to be able to live. It was built by German prisoners of war after World War II. Stalin was obsessed with beating the US and by his standards it is something of a skyscraper. The new owners of the apartment I'm in are the director of one of Moscow's leading contemporary art gallery and her architect husband.

So, what has changed? In the 1960s, young artists held an exhibition in the street because there were no galleries to show their work in. I heard that when the state came down on these artists, Nazim Hikmet invited them to use his dacha (country house). Now the same city is flooded with galleries. And my hosts want to know; 'What has changed?'

As we entered the building, an elderly lady got up from the large bureaucrat's table by the door to cut us off. 'Who have you come to?' she asked. I remember these officials, called *dezhurnaya*. They used to be positioned on every hotel floor and at the entrance to every building, standing guard day and night. Without their go-ahead you couldn't even get to your hotel room. They would record your comings and goings and hold your key. Of course they worked for state intelligence. Now, forty years later, a *dezhurnaya* has cut us off and is demanding to know where we're going. Igor's answer, 'Flat 51', was enough to send her back to her table. When I told my hosts that it was much easier to get in than in the old days, they replied not always. It seems a male artist who visited the gallery owner recently was turned away by the *dezhurnaya* on the grounds that her husband was not at home.

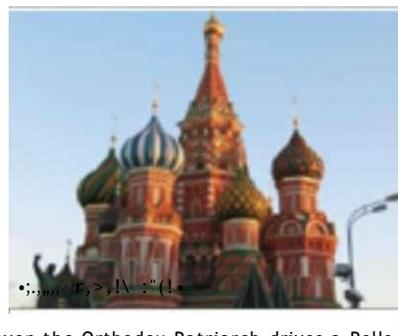
So what has changed?

For years we have been reading about, watching and hearing accounts from visitors of the changes in the former Soviet Union. So I am not that surprised to see that Moscow which used to be pitch black at night is now lit up by a thousand and one neon signs advertising myr-

riad Western products. Nor am I surprised to see in place of the Zil limos used by the "Ved bourgeoisie" not just the brand new Land Rovers but that even the Orthodox Patriarch drives a Rolls Royce. In place of the old restaurants where you used to have to wait an hour to be served, regardless of whether or not there were customers, and there was never fresh food, there are now hundreds of different types of restaurants to suit every budget.

More than what had changed after forty years, I was struck by what hadn't changed.

Forty years ago I came to Moscow on an official visit to attend the International Psychology Congress. Under the influence of Khrushchev's mutual co-existence policy, the Soviet Union had decided to open up to developments it previously rejected as Western, even in science. Psychology - with the exception of Pavlov - was top on the list of what the regime had rejected as bourgeois nonsense. As proof of how much they had changed, the regime decided in classic top-down totalitarian fashion that Moscow should host the International Psychology Congress. This time, my visit coincided with the First Moscow Biennial. Considering that as recently as four years ago, even police in London stormed an exhibition at the Saatchi and Saatchi Gallery and seized several works on grounds of lewdness, I can safely say that Moscow's Biennial was daring and certainly not behind what is going on in the West in terms of artistic license. For instance, one of the installations on display showed Putin and Bush hand in hand extending Bin Laden a pair of crutches. In another work on Putin and the opposition, every opposition figure was depicted as Putin's identical twin.

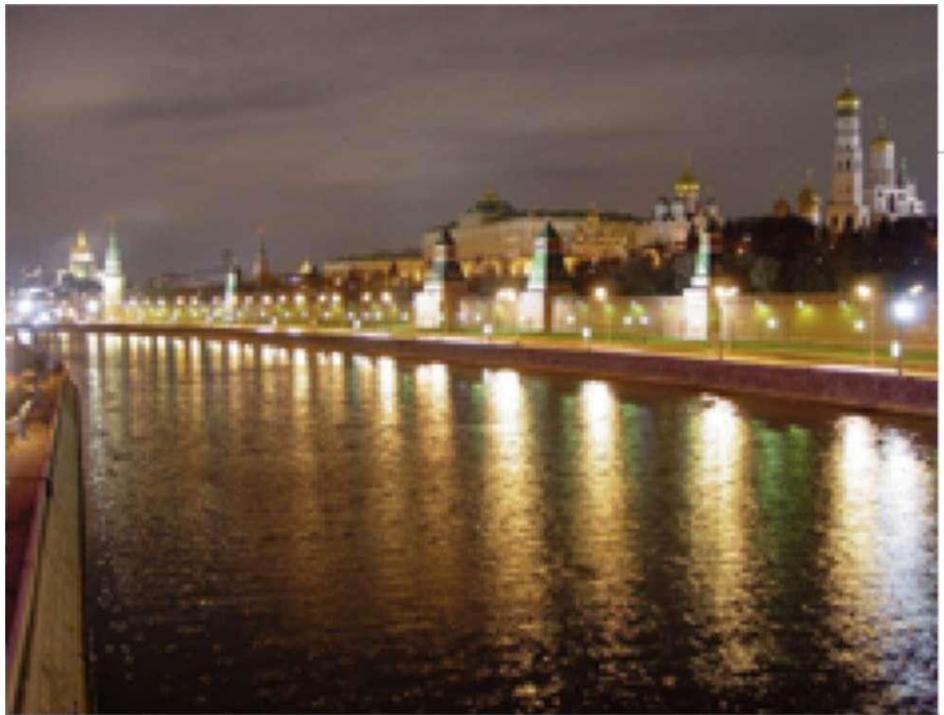


Gündüz Vassaf outside Nazim Hikmet's house on the outskirts of Moscow

Yet just recently a leading Moscow television journalist was sacked for showing all the deputies in the Duma wearing Putin masks. The general feeling among people I talked to at the Biennial was that much like the decision years ago to host the International Psychology Congress, Putin - who is building his own dictatorial regime- had decided to host the Moscow Biennial to give the West the message that he was a democrat.

In 1965 when I visited Moscow, fear reigned. It was a tangible feeling, much like the weight of a humid day or atmospheric pressure. Like a deer in perpetual fear of being hunted. Your fear could become real at any moment. One day I forgot my pass to the Congress, which was being held at the Kremlin, and pushed my way in. For the next two weeks a policeman tailed me, even sleeping on a chair outside my room at Moscow University.

Putin lives in a dacha outside Moscow near Nikolina Gara. It takes him about an hour in a high speed convoy to get to work. One day I witnessed his return home from Moscow. The lane leaving the city was teeming with police. They were stopping all the cars, emptying the highway and moving all cars to side roads. Apparently they do this every day and evening when Putin is going to and from work. A friend of mine who uses this road frequently told me that apart from the occasional horn, most people were too scared to protest. Apparently the same procedure goes on along the Minsk highway, near Nazim Hikmet's dacha in Peredelkino where the Moscow Governor lives. The same fear and silence reign there too.



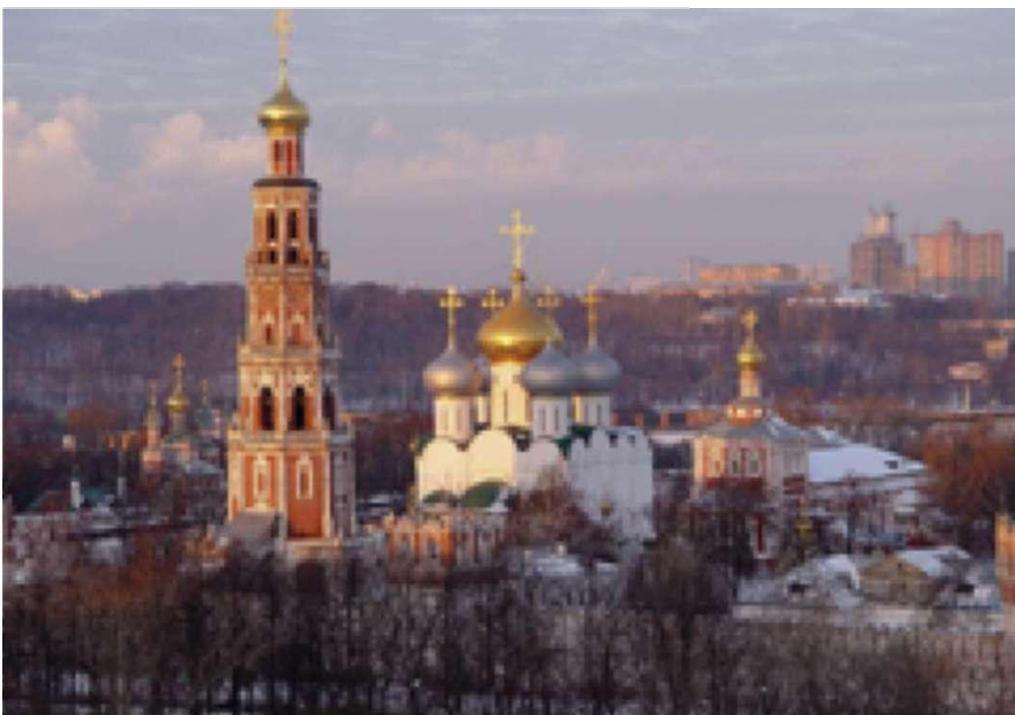
The Moscow River

Having witnessed all this, the respect Putin commands in Turkey seemed like a bad joke. When I told the Russians about the time last year when Putin apologized for having disrupted Ankara's traffic on a visit to the capital, they were even more spooked by their President. The way we Turks have embraced Putin out of hatred for Bush is tragicomic.

China, India, Islamic terrorism...the US is frightened of the wrong places. The image of Russia as a lost, meek former superpower only serves Putin's cause. If one thing has changed, it is that there is a much stronger president and new type of totalitarian system in power. I don't imagine that the intelligence service has ever come to

power in any other country at any moment in history. In general, intelligence services serve a state. Here it is the opposite. Putin is on his way to becoming a dictator.

One evening, we heard of plans to hold the biggest protest in Moscow since the end of the Soviet regime. Old age pensioners from across Russia were due to come to the capital to protest a planned law which would erode their pension rights. The next evening, we scanned the television to find out what was happening. The only news item was of a patently fake demonstration of mostly young people in support of the new pension law and Putin. Apparently the government gives out free phone cards to get youths to show up at these things. In the former Soviet Union, you couldn't hold a demonstration whether you were for or against. But just as



Moscow at sunset

RCAROUND THE WORL D

in those days news of an airplane crash or even an earthquake was censored because it might be seen as a failure of socialism, the pensioners' rally had also been censored. Even worse, I found out later that for days prior, weather forecasts had reported a harsh snowstorm coming to Moscow to scare off the elderly protestors from traveling to the capital. The day in question was of course bright and sunny.

It is good to see that some things in Moscow haven't changed. There is a natural mingling of people among both old and young that is a leftover from the ideal of an equal and classless society. In place of the stratified social scenes of Istanbul, Paris or London, where people from different classes and cultures go to different places, people here are much more likely to frequent the same place. You are much more likely to see the nouveau riche, blue collar employees, university students, lawyers, sales clerks, foreigners and workers rub shoulders here than anywhere else. In terms of design, a sense of Russian creativity and flair makes every place you go to special, and pleasant.

In the Soviet Union when things went wrong, American imperialism and locals working for the CIA were always to blame. When the ruling ideology is not Marxism-Leninism but nationalism, it makes finding an enemy even easier. If things don't go well in today's Russia, the fault is always with other countries, religions and Putin's opponents, the Americans -whose consumerism they



copy-, Caucasians, Jews, George Soros and the Yeltsin oligarchs. In the Soviet days, there was a joke told in Moscow that ran like this: It is evening. The bus is packed. A passenger climbing on calls out to one in front 'Tovarich (comrade), move forward'. The man turns around to the newcomer and says, 'Gospodin (citizen), when was the last time you saw a tovarich ride a bus?'. In Moscow, nightlife is never over. There are bars and restaurants which never close, and which are always busy. We were on our way back from a place frequented by the new mafia and best described as Moscow's Las Vegas outside the city one evening, when the police stopped us to check our IDs and passports. Out of habit, he called out 'tovarich'....

MEMORIES

ANDREW VORKINK RA 65 LOOKS BACK

Director of the World Bank's Turkey desk in Ankara, Andrew Vorkink first came to Turkey with his parents in 1961, when he enrolled as an Orta student at the Robert Academy. He returned to Turkey several times after that. Below he recounts his experiences as a student at Robert Academy and later, the Yüksek Okul.

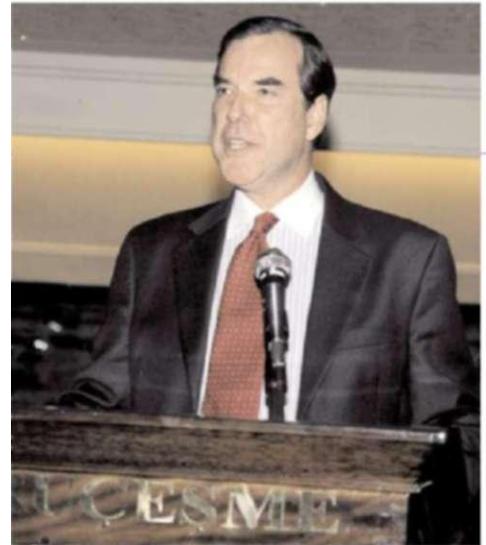
'My parents were posted to Turkey for USAID in 1961 to work on a ports reform project. When I first arrived in Istanbul, Prime Minister Menderes had just been hanged and it was a dark beginning for a move to Turkey. People were worried and there was a lot of uncertainty about how things would develop and what the military's intentions were. I started out at RA in Orta 3 in the class of 1962, which was the last Orta class before the Orta was abolished. We lived in Emirgan so I was a day student. I would take the number 30 or 22 bus to the Kolej gate and walk up the hill every morning, if it was raining we would try to get a group together at the bottom of the hill to get a taxi - usually a 1952 black Chevy, to take us up to the campus - if we had enough money. The next year I entered Lise 1 in the class of 1965. These were the Neil Bull years at RA - to me the golden days of high school.

The majority of our classes were in English. As foreigners we were exempt from Turkish courses required for Turkish students but took Turkish language classes instead. I had a French professor who was Polish from Polonezköy. When I went to France thereafter people often commented on my "unusual accent", thinking I was from Eastern Europe - it was Polish-French!

The school curriculum at RA was so advanced that after two years at Robert when I returned to the US in 1963 I skipped a grade from 11th to 12th. I graduated when I was 16, applied to Yale and was put on their waitlist. They suggested that I take a year off.

So I returned to the Yüksek Okul and enrolled in the class of 1968, which put me one year ahead of my RA classmates. I lived in Hamlin Hall, which was great because I no longer had to walk up the hill every day! I lived with two Turkish students in the dorm. We had a wonderful view of the Bosphorus but no hot water in the building except in the basement for showers. This meant we spent the whole winter washing and shaving in cold water with the lavatory window open. It was considered character building in those days.

At that time there was a very bohemian crowd of teachers at the school both at RA and RC, real adventure types willing to come out to a non-conventional location. There was a group of professors from Princeton and England. There was some truly legendary teachers including Robert Hardy, John Freely, Hilary Sumner-Boyd and Geoffrey Godwin. Godwin used to run tours of Istanbul on Saturdays.



Vorkink was the guest speaker of the 2004-2005 Annual Giving Campaign Kick-off dinner.

He had a knack for always managing to get us into closed historic sites. He was also a great doodler. In fact, I still have his framed drawing of us in a boat in the Yerebatan with two slugs on the ceiling saying

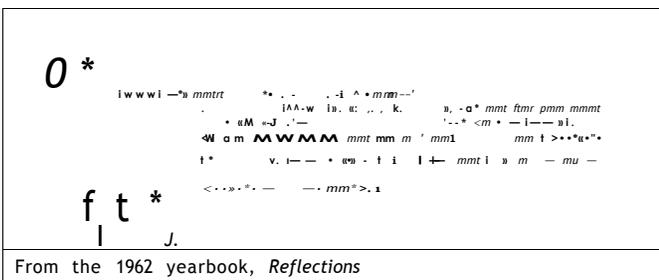
'You drop on the fat one and Ill take the skinny one'.

Recently I found a telegram written to my parents in the US by the president of the college for when I was operated on for acute appendicitis ("Andrew operated on for appendicitis. Doing fine"). I was then staying in the RC dormitory and was rushed to the American Hospital (in a taxi!). After the operation I was sent back to the school infirmary, but unfortunately it coincided with spring break which was class trips time. So I was put in the front of the bus to avoid bumps which might open the incision and off we went to Bodrum and Marmaris. None of the roads were paved in those days, but miraculously the stitches didn't burst! That was the same week acceptances from US universities were coming in. I had arranged a day student friend to check my mailbox on campus. I would call from a pay phone every day somewhere along the trip. He would tell me what the thickness of the envelope was - generally speaking acceptance packets are thick while rejection letters come in a slim envelope. For the first three days I had slim 'We regret to inform you' letters from all the colleges, even from Penn, which was my fallback school, so between the stitches and college letters I didn't get much sleep on the trip. Fortunately the last letter was from Yale and it was thick!

I attended Yale and majored in Turkish History, writing my thesis on Atatürk's reforms. I won a fellowship to come back to the Yüksek for a summer to do research. I actually had an interview with İsmet İnönü arranged by Bülent Ecevit through contacts at RC! İnönü was living in a house on the Sea of Marmara at the time. I got an interview with Celal Bayar as well, which was also an important contribution to my research, also arranged through RC.

In 1970, I got married and this time honeymooned at Robert College. At the time Prof. Robert Hardy at the Yüksek, who lived in the Pasha's library near the north Rumelihisar tower, was away. He was travelling across Turkey collecting kilims so we stayed there for two weeks, then we went to Şile where there was just one pansiyon, the Kumbaba, run by an Austrian couple with 6 rooms. We saw camels every morning carrying crates of Coca Cola across the sand to the hotel in the sand dunes. Between the time at the edge of the campus and in Şile, it was the most romantic honeymoon imaginable.

My years at RC represent a period of great memories, as well as events which have affected my choices in life and career. It might seem hard to believe but despite a long history of association with Robert College, I only have one degree - from Orta 3!"



From the 1962 yearbook, *Reflections*

ROBERT ACADEMY 1969 REUNIONS GRADUATES CONVENE FOR THE 2005 REUNION

Robert Academy 1969 graduates met for their 2005 reunion on the afternoon of April 3, in Anderson Study Hall which is now the Temel Bilimler Fakültesi of the Boğaziçi University. After a minute of silence in remembrance of the classmates and faculty who had passed away, the group was addressed by Mr. Abbas Sakarya who shared his school memories as a physical education teacher and said he had reached a healthy 92 years of age thanks to his lifestyle with regular exercising and a balanced diet. He recommended continuous attention to regular physical activity to the graduates who are all in their mid 50s. Kubilay Dorter (RA 69) shared his memories with the class about the elephant skull entrusted to him by Mr. Gardner (Biology) for safekeeping and scientific observations. The school visit continued with a tour of Albert Long Hall and a walk through the BU Museum. The museum curator gave information about the milestone events on the campus, fast approaching its 150th anniversary.

The group then left the Bebek campus which had housed their classes and dormitories until graduation and moved on to the Bizimtepe facilities for 'Happy Hour'. Each participant received a T-shirt with the names of the class members on its back and a CD copy of the 1969 yearbook, Reflections. A jeweler was also present for those who wanted to reorder their class rings. Leyla Aktay RC 72, Director of the Alumni & Development Office, escorted a group who wished to visit the present Robert College campus.

The evening continued with an open buffet dinner and dancing to the tunes played by Beş Yıl Once, On Yıl Sonra'. Osman Dinç Kermen (RA 69) sang 'My Way' with the band and showed that he had not lost any of his talent since his lead vocalist days with 'Renkler', the class band who competed in the Milliyet High School Band contest in 1969. At high point, the gathering reached 55 graduates out of a possible of 112 living ones and 30 partners with some arriving from Mexico, Canada, U.S.A., Germany, Switzerland and Israel. Before presenting Mr. Abbas Sakarya a framed picture of the attending class members, the floor was open to anyone who wanted to voice his memoirs from the school days. The class was informed that Mr. Münir Aysu (Turkish), Mr. Şefik Yalçın (Turkish), Mr. Tahsin Pamir (Chemistry), Mr. John Chalfant (English) had been contacted for the event but could not attend for various reasons.

Ali Yalçın (19.4.2005)



RA 69 convene in Bizim Tepe



Osman Dinç Kermen sings 'My Way'



Mr. Abbas Sakarya receives gift from Mehmet Kahya

ALUMNI NEWS

USAMAH L. FARAH RC ENG 63



From R to L : Feride Alp RC 71, Usamah L. Farah RC Eng 63 , Prof. Geoffrey Lewis, Turkish ambassador Akin Alptuna and Mrs. Esin Alptuna.

Mr. Farah wrote to give RCQ readers news from London. He is pictured here during a visit to Prof. Geoffrey Lewis at Oxford University. Prof. Lewis was a visiting professor at Robert College in 1963 -1964 when the humanities courses were established. He invited members of the Anglo-Turkish Association in London to Oxford. Mr. Farah says that many members of this association are also RC alumni and there are small functions held throughout the year for RC alumni, mainly organized by Feride Alp, RC 71.

SÜLÜN (BİLGİN) TURGAY RC 76

Sülün went to the University of California Santa Barbara after receiving her BSEE from Boğaziçi University. She earned a Masters degree in electronic engineering and worked in Silicon Valley for a while. Currently she is teaching in the Boğaziçi University Physics Department. Since 1994, she has been coaching friends' children preparing for university entrance exams and is pleased that they end up in top universities. She also helps them with math and physics courses during their Use education.

Her only son Kerem, also an RC graduate (2001), graduates from the Electrical Engineering department of BU in June 2005 and will go to the USA to pursue a PhD
E-mail: turgays@boun.edu.tr

ZEYNEP EKŞİOĞLU AND SERRA BERKOL RC 90

These two have teamed up to launch trendy new womenswear store Posh, stocking designer brands like Red Valentino, Marc by Marc Jacobs, See by Chloe, Notify Jeans, Victor Victoria and Piazza Sempione. The store also sells local label Misu. In addition to clothing,

Posh also offer Marc Jacobs shoes and bags and Tarina Tarantino accessories. The store consolidates Zeynep's long-standing involvement in the fashion retail industry; she and her mother Melek have been running DKNY's succesful Turkey operations for more than a decade.

Posh
Mim Kemal Öke Cad.
No 7/1 34367 Nişantaşı
Tel: 0212.225 1973



Zeynep and Serra at the Posh store opening.

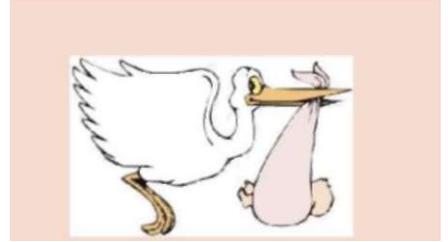
CEYDA ONER RC 95

After completing her economics degree in Boğaziçi University she is about to complete her doctorate degree in the same field at the University of Washington. At present, she is busy teaching Economics at Wellesley College.

Ceyda was offered a position at the International Monetary Fund in Washington D.C. She has accepted and will move to Washington D.C. in September 2005 to start her new career.

BERAY SELEN RC 95

Musician Beray continues to study towards her doctorate degree in piano at Istanbul Technical University, under the direction of well known concert pianist Ayşegül Sanca. Her academic background includes a BA in Economics from Boğaziçi University, a BA in piano from Istanbul University, an M.M in piano at Istanbul Technical University's Dr. Erol Üçer Müzik Araştırmalar Merkezi and an MA in Music Theory from the Eastman School of Music-University of Rochester.



BABY NEWS



• ipek and Serkan Savaşoğlu RC 92 are the happy parents of Kaan Eren Savasoglu, born on May 12, 2005.



• Hülya Adak RC 89, Hülya and Mutlu Cihangiroğlu are the proud parents of baby Mehmet Aral Cihangiroğlu, born on April 4, 2005

RC 85 REUNION

Please reserve these dates for your 20th reunion:

Saturday July 2 and Sunday July 3, 2005

For further information please visit www.rc85.com or call Ali Lèvent Orhun 0532 322 5578 to update your contact information.

FRIFNPS

RC TRUSTEE OYA ECZACIBAŞI LAUNCHES İSTANBUL MODERN

It was well worth the wait. İstanbul finally has its own Modern, a museum of contemporary art housed in a 8,000 square-meter converted former warehouse in the city's port district of Karaköy. Stylish and sparkling, the museum has been an instant success with İstanbulites who pack the building at weekends. Since it opened in December, more than 150,000 visitors have toured the exhibits.

Although İstanbul has been host to a vibrant international arts biennial since 1987, the absence of a modern art museum was long bemoaned by art lovers. It took the unflagging efforts of RC Trustee Oya Eczacıbaşı to make that dream a reality. "Among all the peoples of this region, we've had the strongest cultural exposure to the West over the centuries," said Eczacıbaşı, the museum's director, at the opening in December. "That's why we have a much stronger tradition of modern art."

Painting in the Western sense didn't start among Ottoman Turks until the mid-19th century, and it only flourished after the Turkish republic was founded on the empire's ashes in 1923. "This museum will show how much we belong in the West in a way the world doesn't realize," Eczacıbaşı said in an interview.

A former warehouse built at the end of 19th century and used by the İstanbul Port Authority, the building was first used as an art space during the İstanbul Biennial, an international festival bringing contemporary art from around the world and exhibiting it in historic sites. It was turned into a museum by Tabanlıoğlu, a local architecture firm, at a cost of about \$5 million. The building features two stories of 4,000 square meters each.

The museum's permanent collection consisting of about 4,000 works will be exhibited on a rotational basis on the top floor. It includes paintings and sculptures by Abidin Dino and Fikret Mualla, considered to be the fathers of modern Turkish art, as well as works by contemporary Turkish artists such as Özdemir Altan and Omer Ulug. Most of the collection was donated by Türkiye is Bankası AS, Turkey's largest non-government-owned bank. The Eczacıbaşı family, which funded the museum project, is the second-largest donor.

The ground floor of the İstanbul Modern has a library, an educational center, a 100-person auditorium and a museum store, and will host temporary exhibits. Rosa Martinez, who regularly curates the Venice and Moscow biennials, is the chief curator of



Oya Eczacıbaşı

the museum, with special emphasis on the international exhibitions that will be shown on this floor.

Last, but by no means least, the museum houses a popular bistro style cafe run by the proprietors of the top quality eatery Loft. Where better to enjoy summer days, gazing out over the Bosphorus towards Topkapı Palace, surrounded by the sublime?

NEW RC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD ELECTED:

The RC Alumni Association held its general board elections on March 12, 2005. The results of the elections were as follows:

Selim Ersin RC 77
Nedim Ölçer RC 76
Hakan Önen RC 78
Tunç Yıldırım RC 88
Deniz İlhan RC 04
Emine Erkin RC 77
Ferdin Hoyi RC 58
Mehmet Altun RC 77
Melih Üstün RC 73
Mert Tarlan RC 89
Ozan Emre Sönmez RC 04
Teoman Cem Kadioğlu RC 79

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer



FROM OUR MAIL BAG

GIZEM GURSON RC 05

Writes with news from Hiroshima, Japan. "After graduating from Robert College, I enrolled at the International University, Bremen. After studying there for a year and a half, I decided to attend the Up with People WorldSmart Leadership Program. (See www.worldsmart.org.)

It is a one semester program that takes a group of around 60 international students to 16 different cities in three different continents. Every week, we change cities and stay with host families to get to know the culture better, and learn about the history, conflict resolution and leadership skills. During the week we are also involved in community service, volunteer work and regional learning.

Right now I am in Hiroshima, Japan. This is our eighth week in the tour and I have been learning a lot and having fun at the same time. For the first six weeks we were in different cities in the USA, and then we came to Japan. The USA and Japan have very different cultures, values and beliefs. It is very interesting to see the different ways of doing the same thing. For example, the concept of family and the responsibility of the family members are very different. In USA, both parents have the responsibility of the kids and also making money. Since they both work, they usually



We made 2 500 paper cranes for Sadako's memorial



My host family and I in Hiroshima

do not have time to cook, so the kids end up eating fast or junk food but the parents have more time together. On the other hand, in Japan, most of the women are housewives and the husband works long hours. The wife usually cooks at home for the husband who comes home late and the kids do not have that much time together with their father.

The food is also very different. I am not a very difficult person about food but my 'don't eat' list has been getting longer during my stay in Japan. For example I do not like eating rough fish, rough egg, sushi, horse meat etc. We eat rice almost in every meal including breakfast, and they do not have a concept of 'salty yogurt'. The host families were impressed to see me eating salty yogurt, but when they tried, they did not like it.

During our stay in Hiroshima, one of the most impressive moments was when we visited the peace park. The Japanese have com-

pletely transformed the city where the atomic bomb was dropped sixty years ago, and rebuilt everything. A 74-year-old woman, a survivor of the atomic bomb, gave a speech about her experiences on that day and her subsequent struggles. Survivors of the bombing were not allowed to get married and have children, because of the unknown effects of the atomic bomb.

After that we visited a statue for a Japanese girl Sadako in the peace park. Sadako was an atomic bomb victim who had leukemia and died at 11. During her stay in the hospital she made paper cranes out of origami paper believing that if she made enough cranes, she would get better. In her memory, we made 2,500 paper cranes as a group and put them near her statue.

In 4 weeks, we will be traveling to Europe, finishing the tour in Rome, Italy. I am sure it will be a great experience and I would recommend anyone who has the opportunity and courage to do the same thing I am doing."

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OBITUARIES

SALIHA CEVAT DEVRES ACG 33
Passed away in April 2005.

ARMAĞAN ANAR ACG 43



Passed away in March 2005. Born in 1923 in izmir; she always used to say "I was born in 1923, I am a child of the Republic." When Atatürk came to Izmir, she went to greet him, together with her older brother (she was about 5-6 years old). Atatürk patted her head, and said "what a beautiful child you are". If Armağan had recovered and left her hospital bed, she would have written about this story that she valued so much.

After ACG she studied English Philology at the Istanbul University, Faculty of Arts. Her thesis was on "The", and she could only come up with eight pages! At the exam, one of the professors showed her a text written in the 15th century and asked "Why is it written here he', can you explain that?" She pondered for a moment then replied: "This is not a question of grammar, it may be a simple typographical error", upon which the Professor exclaimed: "Thank God, here is the first person who gives the right answer!"

Her rebellious character prevented her from accepting the post of assistant offered to her by Halide Edip Adivar. After graduating from the university, she chose to teach English to hoodlums in Kumkapi, who were at least four or five years older than her, and she did so with success.

She fell in love with Cemal, who was studying in the US; when she didn't receive any letters from him for a long time during the Second World War, she felt hurt and, without further questioning the reasons of his silence, she married Hüsameddin Güz who proposed to her. Their daughter Leyla was born in 1948. Later she told her daughter that Cemal never returned to Turkey.

She moved to Adana, together with her husband who was a civil engineer. Armağan tells how her social conscience was first

formed over there "...It is time to harvest the cotton, the peasants pull together their mattresses and, with their families, line up in groups on both sides off the road to wait for a job opportunity; with time, the beds get dirty, the faces become sullen, the prices drop, the children cry, and the hopes disappear..." Armağan always felt deep in her heart the grief of these people, and fought injustice throughout her whole life.

From Adana they moved to Ankara. Armağan worked as translator first at the NATO, then at Christian & Nielsen. Later she worked as supervisor at IGEME (Study Center for Development of Exportation), and her writings were published monthly in TSEs (Turkish Standards Institute) periodical.

During the March 12 political upheaval she was taken to court in relation to the Madanoğlu and TİİKP cases. She was sentenced to eight years of imprisonment at the TİİKP trial. After she was released in 1974, she founded the Association for Solidarity with Convicts (TÜMADDER), and became its president. The articles 141 and 142 of the Turkish Criminal Law, which were the basis of her imprisonment, were annulled in later years.

She also worked for many years for AFP (Agence France Presse) and AA (Anadolu Ajansı).

Her love of the English language and literature also led her to translate several works. Some of them are: *Kitabın Aynasındaki Adam Borçes: Bir Hayat* by James Woodall (İletişim Yayınları), *10 1/2 Bölümde Dünya Tarihi* by Julian Barnes (İstanbul Alfa, 1994), *Ufukların Efendisi Osmanlılar* by Jason Goodwin, *Çin, Hong Kong, Tayvan A.Ş. Yeni bir İmparatorluk* by Willem van Kemenade (Sabah Yayınları, 1999)

MUTAHHARA TÜRE BAYKARA ACG 43



Passed away on February 25, 2005. She always charmed those around her with her goodwill and warm feelings and her friends will always remember her with affection. She is survived by her son Prof. Dr. Baki Baykara RA 68, RC Yük 72 and her daughter in law, Prof. Dr. Sema Baykara.

MEHMET KENAN SÜER RC ENG 43

Passed away on February 8, 2005. He is survived by his wife Bilge Kutay Süer and his daughters Dr. Füsün Özdemir and Figen Berk.

CENAN PAMIR TARDU ACG 43

Passed away in May 2004. She had been living in the southern French city of Pau to be near her daughter Cecile and her family. As her health deteriorated in the beginning of 2004, she moved to a retirement home. Her friend Nilüfer Mizanoğlu Reddy paid homage with a memoriam, excerpts of which follow:

"My friendship with Cenani goes back to 1947 when we were both graduate students in New York. In those days we had a lot of studying to do but we also tried to absorb as much culture as possible, going to museums, concerts, plays and lectures. The friendships we had formed in those days lasted for many decades. There were times I did not see Cenani for a long time, but when we met again we would start from the same place where we had left and have a good laugh. Cenani worked for the UN for a few years and married a Frenchman, also a UN employee, Maxime Tardu, and had a daughter Cecile. After their divorce she worked as a social worker for the City of New York until her retirement. She loved fun and parties and meeting bohemian people but she was truly an independent soul and always earned her living. Her great passion was the theater. She adored George Bernard Shaw and his witticisms. She had settled in Greenwich Village and was writing plays all the time. Several of her plays were performed in off-Broadway theaters, one performed in 1989, was Three Faces of Love.

... After she went back to Pau we started a correspondence...Cenani was still writing plays, this time in French....

...After moving to the retirement home she went through all the treatments necessary for her illness. Years of smoking had damaged her lungs. However, in her letters she didn't sound depressed.... Unfortunately, after answering her last letter of May 9, 2004 I also got sick and it took me months to get back to normal. There was no news from Cenani, I was worried. I finally called the retirement home and heard the sad news.

OBİTİJARİFS

Cenan was a true original. She grew up in the best houses of Istanbul with a governess, went to the best private schools, she had an air that showed some of it but she also had a certain awkwardness as if she wanted to get rid of all that baggage. She had an insatiable curiosity for unconventional people and places.

I write these lines to pay homage to Cenana's memory hoping that a few of her friends who are still around may want to share my thoughts."

CAVİT ARMAĞAN RC 44

Passed away in February 2005.

RÜŞTÜ ARDA RC ENG 47

Passed away in Istanbul in January 2004.

Rüştü will be remembered as an intelligent, distinguished gentleman who enriched many lives with his wisdom, humor and joy of life.

He loved English / American poetry and literature and could quote long passages with skill and understanding. His fascination with literature was only superceded by that of his stamp collection and clothes which in turn took second place to his love of smoking pipes which he did relentlessly.

During his working life, Rüştü Arda used his civil engineering skills throughout Anatolia, aiding the construction of hydro-electric dams, highways, oil refineries and pipelines, finally working for B.P.

He will be deeply missed by all those who knew him. He leaves behind Yıldız (Platin) ACG 51 his wife of 50 years, his children Ahmet and Zeynep and four beloved grandchildren.

YALÇIN İLTER RC ENG 57

Died in November 2004.

He is survived by his wife Ayfer İter, his son Güven İter RC 82, daughter Lerzan Erkman and three grand-children.

FERRUH ÇELİK RC ENG 58

Passed away on February 6, 2005.

ALTAN ÜNVER RC ENG 61

Passed away on April 14, 2005. Altan Ünver, chemical engineer and economist was an advocate of rural development, a pioneer of family planning education, integrated poultry industry involving small-scale breeders, modern beekeeping methods and small venture funds in rural areas. He founded the Turkish Development Foundation and the Koytur Group of Companies.

A graduate of Tarsus Amerikan Lisesi 57, RC Eng 61 and University of Texas 61-65, Ünver is survived by his wife Tijen Ünver, his children Zeki Ünver, Lena Ünver, Evren Ünver and Rukiye Ünver as well as five grandchildren.

SALİH KATIPOĞLU RA 64



Died of cancer on April 13, 2005. He is survived by his mother Sadun Katipoglu ACG 34 his father Mehmet and three children. His friend İbrahim Betil wrote the following:

A Half-Century Friendship

*How often a friendship can be sustained for fifty years?
Not too often for many of us!*

*But when at ten-years old
You meet a peer, and the first thing he does
is to offer you a slice of his simit, with a big
smile in his eyes*

*and when at fifteen
There are friends in our lives with whom we
start experiencing a 'first time event' to continue,
in many creative ways, for so many*

*years, full of joy
and when at twenty-five
There are people in our lives, who shall continue
to keep feeding us with good vision and
optimism, even during the times of very difficult
personal experiences,*

*and when at thirty
You have a friend in your life who always likes
to share with you: Share his means, share his
feelings, share his thoughts, share his time
and is ready to share his life. And simultaneously,
with whom you like to and are prepared
to share everything you have,*

*and when at thirty-five
We have people in our lives who dare to challenge:
Challenge prejudices, challenge unfairness,
challenge risks, challenge illogical behaviors,
challenge lifestyles, challenge illness,
challenge even death,*

*and when at forty-five
We have friends in our lives who are transparent
and straightforward in their thoughts, and
who stand fully accountable for every step in
a relationship,*

*and when at fifty-five
You realize that you have developed a friendship
with someone with whom regardless of
time and space, you can share and chat warmly,
even after so many years of absence from
whenever/wherever/however you had left,*

*and when at sixty
You have a friend whom you are prepared to
trust for another fifty years but miss him for
his eternal absence,*

*or, in summary, when
You have been lucky enough to meet Salih
some fifty years ago, and only then you know
you can sustain a meaningful friendship forever.*

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www.robcoll.k12.tr

ÖMER KAVUR RA 64 EX



Turkish filmmaker and screenwriter Ömer Kavur, whose psychological dramas were featured in Cannes and at other prominent international film festivals, passed away on May 12, 2005. He was 61. Kavur, who had been suffering from lymph node cancer, died at his home in Istanbul.

Born in 1944 in Ankara, Ömer Kavur was trained in France. He made his first film in 1974, 'Yatık Emine'. His films include 'Yusuf ile Kenan', 'Ah Güzel İstanbul', 'Kırık Bir Aşk Hikayesi', 'Anayurt Oteli', 'Gece Yolculuğu', 'Gizli Yüz', 'Göl', 'Melekler Evi' and 'Karşılaşma'. His probed the depths of human existence and psychology and helped win international praise for Turkish cinematography.

Speaking at his memorial service, his friend of 30 years Hülya Uçansu ACG Sr. 71, director of the International Istanbul Film Festival, said: "His joy of life, ambition, unwillingness to compromise and intellectual depth made him one of a rare breed of people whom I am privileged to have known. He was a cornerstone of Turkish Cinema."

ALI DORUK RA 68

Passed away on January 16, 2005. He is survived by his wife Lale Çeltikçi Doruk, ACG 69. His friend Agop Maraşlıgiller wrote in his memory:

"It isn't easy doing everything in life really well, to have a cheerful and active social life despite the heavy load one has to carry; it isn't easy to defy death. It isn't easy being someone like Ali Doruk. You left us too soon, Ali. What can I say, death is not the issue, it is the separation that is difficult. All your life you made great jokes, except this one at the very end. I bid you farewell, my longtime friend."

ISMAIL BAL RA 70

His classmate Celal İşsevenler wrote: "Our beloved classmate and friend, dentist. Ismail Dal passed away on February 9, 2005. We'll keep him in our hearts and memories and never forget him. ismail, don't ever forget that we'll always miss "Diş Bar Nights". So long to you and your sincere political and social virtues. You left Başkan and the Class of 70 in deep sorrow and pain. Rest In Peace."

A graduate of Istanbul University, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Ismail Dal was unmarried and ran a dental clinic in Etiler for many years.

HALEH VAHİDİ SAMİEİ RC 82 EX



Haleh, a student at RC during the 1979-80 academic year died of cancer in December 2005. She was a Lise I student at RC and then went on to complete high school at the United World College of Southeast Asia in Singapore. The mother of 7 year old Bahran and 4 year old Laily and wife of Reza Samiei,

Haleh's academic accomplishments and successes in her writing career continued despite battling lymphoma for many years. She had a PhD from Simon Fraser University and did her post doctoral research on identifying the cancer genes that caused her illness. She went on to become a science writer, followed by a Masters degree from Johns Hopkins. She wrote for many publications including the Tehran Post and the Washington Post. Her friends and family all described her as a kind and tender soul, compassionate and gentle with a good heart. She always kept her beautiful smile as well as her strong will to live a full life despite many difficult years battling cancer. Her own poem sums up Haleh's life:

*I am a child of the World;
I don't belong to any land.
I have climbed the Persian mountains,
Swam the Byzantine seas,
Hiked the Singapore forests,
And basked in the Vancouver paradise.
I have survived a revolution,
The uprooting of my home,
Loss of all that mattered,
And Cancer.
But I stride forward every day,
Beholding the love of my family.*

JEAN ULMAN FRIENDLY

A Member of the Corporation of Robert College since 1988, died at her home in Washington DC, on January 21, 2005 at the age of 90.

In 1983, Mr. and Mrs. Friendly established the Jean and Alfred Friendly Scholarship Fund at Robert College, the income of which would be used to provide graduates of Robert College with scholarships enabling them to attend four-year colleges and universities in the USA when they would not otherwise be able to do so. Since that time, this fund has provided aid to many RC alumni.

Mrs. Friendly's husband Alfred served as a Trustee of Robert College from 1977 until shortly before his death in 1983. The Friendlys had a vacation home in Side, Turkey, and Mrs. Friendly, an amateur archaeologist, participated in excavations and helped supervise the restoration of an ancient Greek temple to apollo. She received several honors from the Turkish government for her restoration work and philanthropy.

Mrs. Friendly is survived by five children, 16 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

HELP US UPDATE THE RC DATABASE

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Name:

Last name:

Maiden name:

e-mail address:

Home phone:

Home address:

Company name:

Office phone:

Office address:

Cellular phone:

School attended

(ACG, RA, RC Eng, RC Yök, RC)

Year graduated:

Company name: