I had never thought of Wesleyan as the sort of place where marriages were made, so I was surprised to learn that 1,292 alums have wedded other Wesleyan alums since the first class of women enrolled in 1970. Roughly 9 percent.

I knew colleges like Middlebury and Bowdoin had reputations for matchmaking, so I called a few to find out where we stood. Middlebury, it turns out, ranks highest, with a 17 percent alumni marriage rate (not the mythical 60 percent), and Bowdoin ranks lowest with a 4.75 percent rating. Bates, also, has a rate of 17 percent, Williams 6.8 percent, and Dartmouth 10.6 percent. So among those schools, Wesleyan ranks about average for long-term romance.
verse and creative than your traditional ceremony. Though it is rare for undergraduates to marry, he adds, Wesleyan couples have to Wesleyan alumni to tie the knot in later years. For anyone who has wondered what it would be to marry outdoors behind Russell House, say We sley an g ave the m the journey’s always worth it.

"The Journey’s Always Worth It"

Jill A. Zilligen ‘90 directs envi- ronmental programs for Patagonia, Inc., an outdoor clothing company. Christo pher L. Schodler ‘90 is fin ishing a Ph.D. in literature at the University of Californ ia, Santa Barbara.

“We were in the same crew during Wesleyan Ori en- tation in the Wilderness in ‘90, so we actually met first,” Jill Zilligen recalls. “I certainly didn’t know at the time that I would marry Chris. I was in a Science in Society major, and he double-ma jored in religion and En- glish. We shared more friends than classes. It was a solid friendship for a few years before it blossomed. “On my birthday in ‘93, I picked a monster hike from straight up Mt. Manuel in Patagonia, Inc., an outdoor clothing company. Christoph er Christo pher was an art history major; he was a director, a charity and a family -service agency for people with developmental disabilities. Evans Evans: When she graduated in August of ‘85 at the Wes- leyan chapel. It wasn’t a big reception. We got remarried in August of ‘95 at the Wes- leyan chapel. It wasn’t a big reception. We got remarried in August of ‘95 at the Wes- leyan chapel. It wasn’t a big reception. We got remarried in August of ‘95 at the Wes- leyan chapel. 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"The Oldest Married Couple"

John Alschuler '70 takes a management consulting company, HLB, in New York City. Diana Diamond '71 is a psychologist and a professor at the City University of New York. Their daughter is eight.

Diana: I was one of the first seventeen transfer women on campus when there were no general facilities—no gyms, no bathrooms, no eating areas for women. We lived in the Spanish House. The guys would show up at any hour looking for women. We were the pioneers. They wanted to get a sense of what it would be like with us on campus.

John: In the spring of 1969, the University announced that it would admit women for the first time in the fall. Diana was already on campus, so she graduated before the rest. I met her at a poli-\(\text{\textit{ The Modernist}}\) science student in 1967. She was already married, but we hit it off. Diana: We were basking on the roof of the Spanish House one day and a guy came up and said, "If you want to know what's going on at Wesleyan you better come over to the president's office now." There was a takeover of the president's office to protest Dow Chemical's recruitment on campus as part of the Vietnam War. That's where I first met John. There was a lot of radical politics then. The whole last semester classes shut down when we invaded Cambodia. There were no grad unions, there were massive teach-ins. It was a very heady time.

John: In the spring of our junior year, we met again at a party that our mutual friend, a classics professor, and his wife Jane had. Diana: I left Yale and came from Connecticut College, so she invited me to present a talk on campus. I left Yale and went to Wesleyan in 1969. I'm still married to her. I'm still living with my senior-year roommate. We must be the oldest married couple. For many people, getting together that young could have been a hindrance; there's no forum here—buy or sell our crafts. John: We've really grown up with each other. It's an impressive thing when you've been married to a person for more than half the time you've been alive, and we're well past that. You have to let each person be who they are and work very hard in keeping that together. The more you have in common as a couple, the more of a bond you have. After thirty years of living together it's hard to figure out which of the things came from where.

Diana: I was there at Wes- leyan when it was still very strange to be a woman on that campus. We would get a huge amount of attention of what we wouldn't particularly want and then be ignored as well. It was often the only woman in a seminar with guys who were very assur- tive, so it was a challenging experience that gave me a sense of confidence.

John: We went back for our 20th and 25th Reunions and the most obvious thing was that women are now an in- tegral part of the campus—no longer the objects floating around.

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