FEATURES

A Question of Balance
By Constance E. Putnam 34
“What ifs” are always perilous. But sometimes powerful lessons can be learned from the past. A close examination of perhaps the most cataclysmic period in Dartmouth Medical School’s history suggests that sometimes upheaval will temper rather than topple an institution.

Primary Resource
By Laura Stephenson Carter and Fitzhugh Mullan, M.D. 44
Primary care has often been overshadowed by the glamour of specialty care, especially at academic medical centers. Here are some waypoints in the history of primary-care medicine—both nationally and at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center—plus profiles of two primary-care physicians with Dartmouth ties, excerpted from a recent book on primary care’s role in American medicine.

Telling Johnny’s Story
By Deborah Schiff, M.D. 50
A graduate of Dartmouth Medical School writes about a particularly memorable patient. And in the process, she proves yet again the truth of Dr. Francis Weld Peabody’s oft-quoted observation—that “the secret of the care of the patient is in caring for the patient.”