

Spa loses \$1600 in JanPlan theft

BY BROOKE FITZIMMONS
Staff Writer

The Joseph Family Spa became a crime scene on Jan. 5, when \$1623.18 was stolen from a sheet metal safe kept in the back office of the building. While no arrests have been made, the Waterville Police Department is still investigating the incident.

Director of Security Pete Chenevert reported locking and safely securing the Spa and the Cotter Union with a student worker at 12:35 a.m. But by 5:45 a.m., when officer Tim Lynch was dispatched to the scene, he immediately noticed "a pane of glass had been kicked in and there was what appeared to be a footprint on the door."

Further investigation revealed that "the door to the office had been pried open and (the) safe inside the office had the door pried open. A blue money bag was on the floor next to the safe and the bottom drawer of a file cabinet behind the safe was

open," said Lynch.

At this time, Security officers contacted the Waterville Police Department and Officer Scott LaLiberty arrived at the Spa. LaLiberty confirmed the point of entry of the break-in, discovering that the screen door facing the Garrison-Foster Health Center had been cut, while a window next to the left of the door had footprints on it. Inside the Spa, the window sill and stairway railing below it also exhibited footprints. Chenevert said that the outside of the door's window, which was made of slants of metal, was broken to cut through the screen.

When Manager Heather Vigue and Joe Klaus from Dining Services were called to the crime scene to determine what had been stolen, Vigue reported that \$1623.18 was missing, along with two money bags. One bag, full of change, was reportedly left in the office.

Chenevert described the safe as being made of "cheap" sheet metal that could easily be pried

open. Since the burglary, the old safe has been replaced by a new hardened steel safe.

"They probably used a crow bar or screwdriver, but it's hard to say," Chenevert said.

The instrument used to break into the building is still unidentified, although Massey was in agreement with Chenevert's assumption.

There is no evidence at this time that someone affiliated with Colby or with the Spa committed the burglary.

"We have not focused on any particular suspect," said Waterville Deputy Chief of Police Joe Massey. "We've exhausted all our leads and we're kind of at a hold. Sometimes we're lucky and down the road we'll get someone for another crime and they will confess to other ones they've committed. This certainly isn't a dead issue."

He admitted, however, that it is unlikely that a resolution to the case will come any time soon.

"There are no strong suspects in the case," he said. "I can't see an arrest in the immediate future."

Massey views the case as an

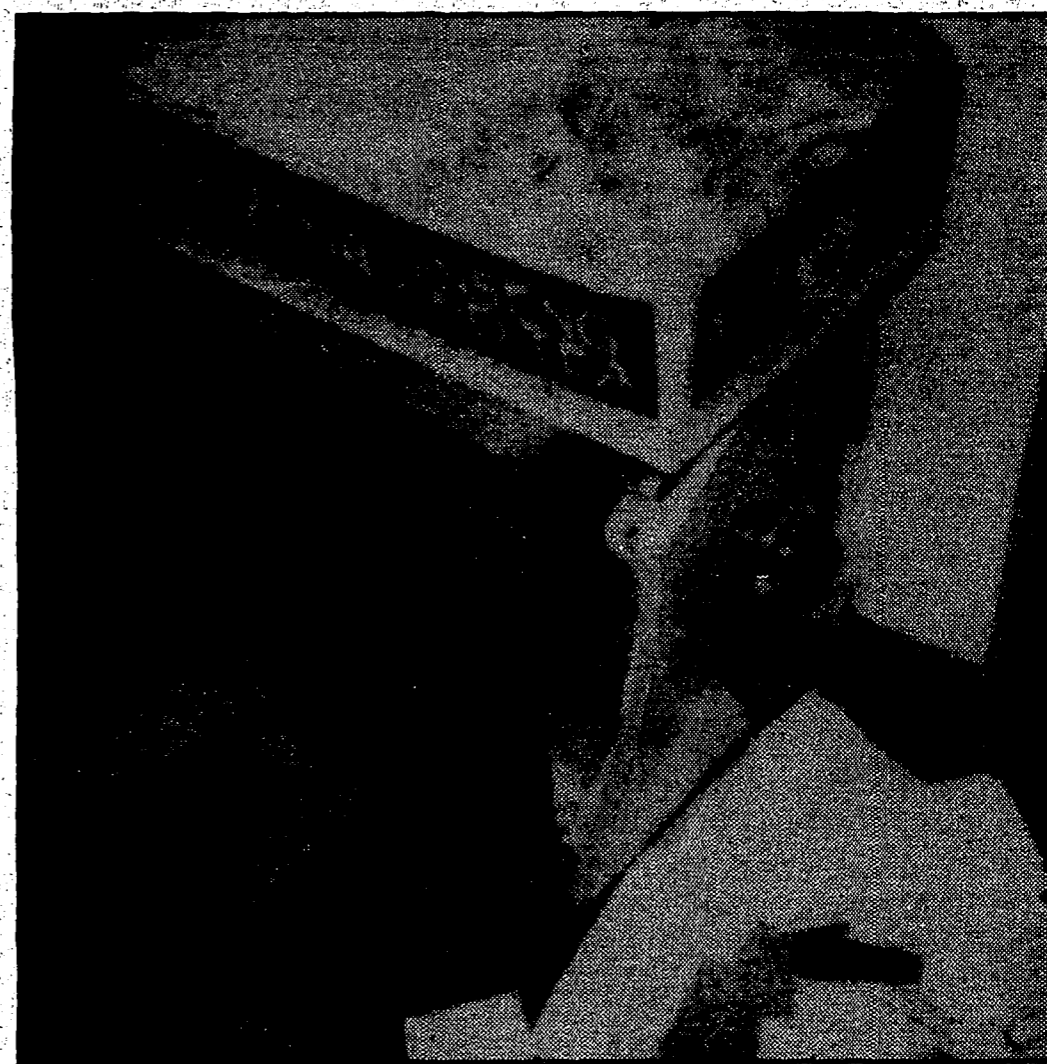


photo courtesy of Colby Security

\$1600 was stolen from this safe in the Spa office.

isolated incident, and that students should not be overly concerned about further burglaries on campus and in the dorms. "I think someone just targeted

out a business. They were comfortable with. I suspect whoever broke in there knew it was a place of exchange and was drawn to that," said Massey. □

Cotter announces retirement plans for 2000

BY KAREN VITALI
Staff Writer

While most college presidents stay at one institution for an average of six years, William R. Cotter has been president of Colby since 1979, the longest presidential term in the College's 186-year history. There was speculation during the end of the fall semester as to when Cotter would end his tenure as president, following a letter released to the campus stating that he would retire in the spring of either 2000 or 2001. Cotter announced in a similar release over Jan Plan, however, that he will retire on June 30, 2000.

"Every institution needs renewal, new ideas, new leadership," said Cotter, who will leave with the last graduating class of the century. "The time to leave an institution is when things are going well," he said.

During his term as president, Cotter has, among other achievements, revised residential life at Colby by implementing the Commons system and eliminating fraternities in the mid-1980s. He has also increased the endowment almost tenfold and helped make Colby's study abroad program one of the best in the nation. On a national level, Cotter served as director and chair of the 840-member National Association

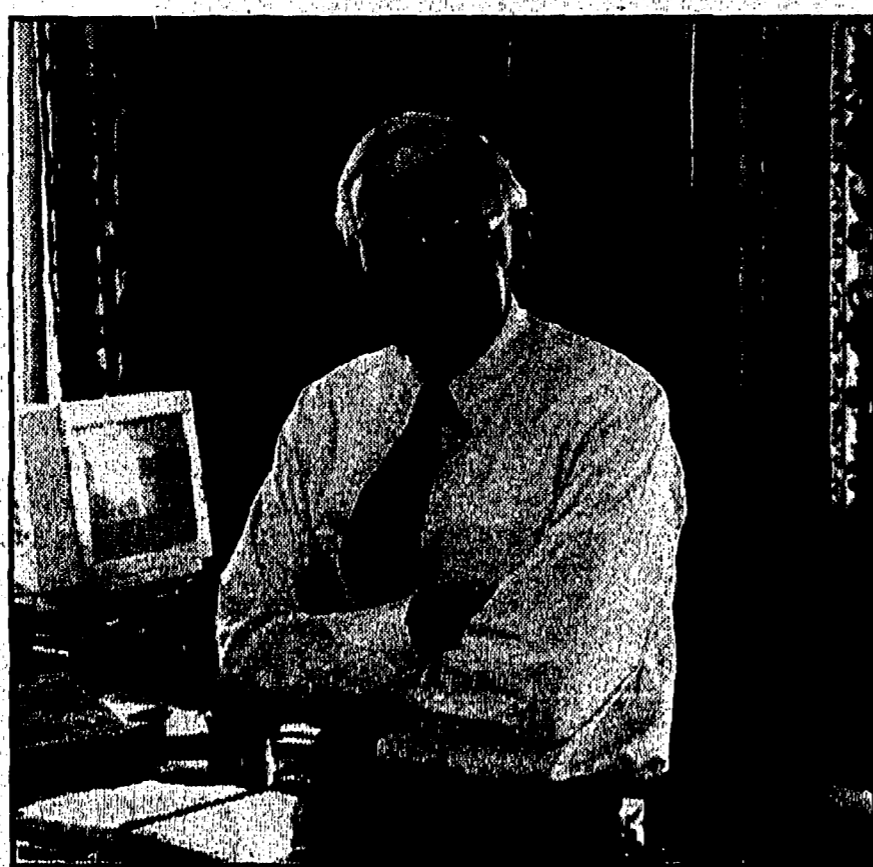
of Independent Colleges and Universities and is one of nine members of the National Commission on Responsibility for Financing Post-secondary Education, established by the United States Congress. He was named Educator of the Year in 1993 by The Washington Center.

A graduate of Harvard University and Harvard Law School, Cotter was involved in a variety of careers prior to arriving on Mayflower Hill. He was a law clerk to a federal judge, an associate in a New York City law firm, a White House fellow and the assistant attorney general in Northern Nigeria. He has also served as the resident director of Ford Foundation programs in Colombia and Venezuela, and was the president of the African-American Institute in New York.

A committee composed of both students and faculty members is currently being formed to help select Cotter's successor. Their first meeting will be at the end of February, and the selection process will begin shortly thereafter. The College expects the next Colby president to be named in January of 2000.

"We have a lot to do getting ready for that transition," said Cotter. During the next year-and-a-half, Cotter will help gather option papers, statements concerning Colby's

COTTER, continued to page 3



William R. Cotter

Echo photo by Jennie Record

Security shuts down AMS party

BY MATT APUZZO
News Editor

Security officers shut down a party in the Anthony-Mitchell-Schupt party lounge Saturday night, charging party hosts with selling alcohol to guests. Approximately 60 students were forced to leave the party and \$106 was confiscated, along with a keg of beer and two taps.

The birthday party, which was hosted by Brad Sicchitano '99, independent of his position as SGA Vice President, was registered with the College. He and his roommates tried to ensure that no alcoholic beverages were brought into or out of the party area. Signs were posted on the doorways and windows in an attempt to forbid students from exiting the party area with alcohol. Students checked Colby Cards and age identifications at the door and only those students over 21 were allowed to drink.

However, age-identifying bracelets were sold for \$3, a practice that is forbidden in the Student Handbook and the packet "How to Minimize Liability and Maximize Responsibility When Serving Alcohol." This packet, which is available at the Security Office, was also distributed in students' mailboxes earlier this winter.

When Security officer Heather Bumps arrived at the party to check the second keg, she observed Sicchitano take a "handful of money" from one of his roommates. She then informed Sicchitano that charging money at the door was against the law, confiscated the money, and warned him that she had observed students drinking outside of AMS, who poured out their beers when she AMS, continued on page 2

News Briefs

Black History Month kicks off with Carby lecture

Hazel Carby, professor and chair of Yale University's African American Studies Program, will speak about "What Is This 'Black' in Irish Popular Culture" at 4:30 p.m. Thursday in Lovejoy 100. Carby is the author of "Reconstructing Womanhood: The Emergence of the Afro-American Woman Novelist" (1987) and "Racemen: The Body and Soul of Race, Nation, and Manhood" (1998). Several lectures and films are being brought to Colby for Black History Month, focusing on the theme, "Issues and Images of Memory: Biographies, Communities, and Histories." The lecture is also part of the Women's Studies Colloquium.

Colby Partnership trains local teachers

Approximately 30 local school teachers were trained in Internet technology in Olin Science Center and the Albert S. Hall School in Waterville last weekend, put on by the Colby Partnership For Science Foundation, with a \$20,000 grant from the Bell Atlantic Foundation. It is the second of three programs planned to train teachers from Waterville, Oakland, Winslow, and Fairfield on how to use the Internet and to provide them with Internet accounts.

Doel to discuss Maine migrant workers

Priscilla Doel, professor of Spanish and Portuguese, will lecture about her work with Maine migrant workers and the foundation she helped create, Maine Service Advocates in Foreign Languages and English, on Feb. 19, from 12 to 1 p.m. in the Smith Room of Roberts Union.

Trees removed from Academic Quad

BY BETSY LOYD
Asst. News Editor

Six sugar maples planted when Colby's Mayflower Hill campus was first constructed were removed from the center of campus over the JanPlan Break. During the digging process, phone lines to Roberts Row were damaged.

"It's sad to have to take (the trees) down, but they were becoming dangerous," said Arnold Yasinski, administrative vice president of the College.

While using an electronic detection device, workers failed to notice a working phone line next to the old one. When digging, the current line was damaged. Beginning at 5 a.m. on Saturday, phone lines were shut down to Roberts Union and to all dormitories on Roberts Row, according to a Feb. 3 official notice from the Dean of Students Office, to allow for the "major repair."

According to David Firmage, biology professor and director of environmental studies, the trees were "rapidly dying." He said that the tree varieties the College planted "weren't that good for this area" due to the thin bed of soil covering ledge rock, which stops roots from growing down.

In addition, the trees were damaged from sanding and salting of the walkways in the winters and heat and drought in the summers, according to Yasinski.

"It's a series of environmental pressures and the (January 1998) ice storm created additional problems," he said.

In an e-mail to the Colby community, Yasinski explained that the trees were removed in the winter, as

less damage is done to the soil when it is frozen. Four of the large healthier trees were not removed.

"We hope they'll last a few more years," said Yasinski.

New trees will be planted during or soon after spring break to replace the six trees and all of the smaller trees on the quad. The smaller trees will be relocated to other parts of the campus.

Yasinski said that they have chosen to plant three kinds of trees, red maples, sugar maples of a stronger variety and red oaks, so that if a disease attacks the trees, they will not become sick at once. The

trees will be approximately 25 feet tall and should grow to roughly 45 feet.

"They'll be as big as we can reasonably plant," said Yasinski. "By the time people come back for their 10th reunion, we'll have big trees again." □



Echo photo by Jennie Record

The sight of the uprooting

PARTY, continued from page 1

arrived.

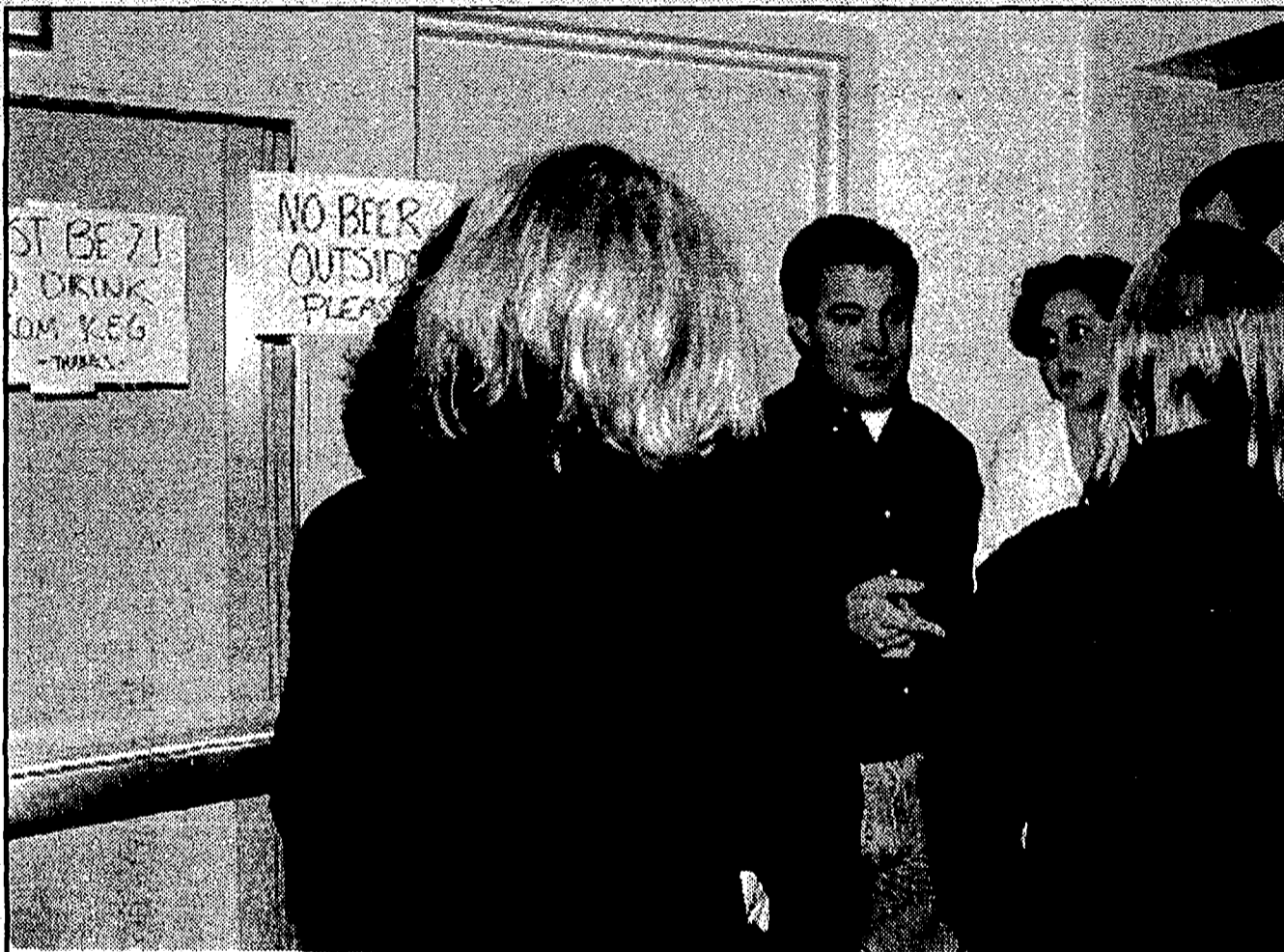
According to Sicchitano, though, the students who had stepped outside to smoke did not have any alcoholic beverages, nor did he see any evidence of alcohol on the new snow.

After contacting Lead Officer Jimmy Dickinson, who advised her that the infraction was grounds for breaking up the party, Bumps returned to the dormitory and informed Sicchitano that the party would have to end.

At that time, she witnessed a male student, who had confiscated a beer can from a student who had brought it into the party, pour the beer into his own cup. This infraction violates the new policy approved by Presidents' Council this fall, which allows for a \$250 fine for entering or leaving a designated party space with an alcoholic beverage. While a fine was issued outside of Pierce that night to a student in possession of an open container, no fine was given to the student in AMS or the students who Bumps allegedly saw drinking outside.

Under Maine Law Title 28-A, section 2078, illegally selling liquor without a license "including charging for bracelets enabling people to acquire alcohol" calls for a \$300 fine, plus court costs, and up to 30 days in jail.

According to Officer Jim Lyman of the Maine Bu-



Echo photo by Jennie Record

Disgruntled students congregate outside the AMS party room.

reau of Liquor Enforcement, the party host, anyone taking money at the door and the person pouring from the keg could all be held liable under this law, had an MBLE or police official witnessed the act.

Asking for donations prior to the party, Lyman said, is an acceptable way to raise money for beer at a party. He also

added that if several people chip in money to buy a keg beforehand and one person buys it, then that is acceptable as well. Colby, however, is exempt from this because it holds a seller's license, allowing it to sell tickets, bracelets, or individual beverages at events.

While the party was broken up, many people, including Director of Security Pete Chenevert felt the party hosts did a good job of organizing and maintaining a responsible environment.

"It seemed to be a fairly well-run party if it wasn't for the violation," said Chenevert.

Sunil Thakor '99 attended the party and was dismayed at the turn of events.

"This was, without a doubt, the most responsibly hosted party I have ever attended in my four years here. The invitations sent out clearly stated that one must be 21 in order to consume alcohol at the party," he said.

Responsibility and safety were the goals from the start, according to Sicchitano.

"We thought about having a party in our quad, but we wanted to do it the more responsible way," said Sicchitano.

The incident report was filed in the Dean of Students Office, along with the confiscated money and items, which will be returned after the Office has made a decision. No one has been able to give a reliable account of how long it has been since the last incident of selling alcohol was reported by Security. □

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Presidents' Council revisits dorm access issue

BY PATICK J. BERNAL
Staff Writer

Presidents' Council looked again at recommending 24-hour dorm access with the ColbyCard at their Feb. 4 meeting.

The issue of dorm accessibility had been greatly discussed during the fall semester before the presidents voted nearly unanimously to approve 24-hour dorm access for all students.

After the motion was passed, the College deans and senior staff voiced opposition to the change, citing security reasons.

Thus, the issue was revisited by Presidents' Council for more in-depth discussion.

Student Government Association Vice President Brad Sicchitano '99 felt that the presidents' support of 24-hour access came out of "laziness" and said that he "would rather take the few extra minutes it takes to open the dorm door than know that some members of the dorm feel unsafe."

Other presidents suggested that the ColbyCard system provided

enough security to students by keeping out would-be off-campus intruders.

"Colby students are responsible enough to not abuse this privilege" and "the benefits (of 24-hour dorm access) far outweigh the disadvantages," said Dana Hall President Kelli Hall '01.

Bethany Knorr '01 supported the proposal, asking "why should I be able to enter my neighbors' rooms but not those of my friends across campus?" Knorr also said that "this is a trusting community and I think that our dormitory policy should reflect these values."

Assistant Dean of Students Ben Jorgensen noted that dorm damage has recently been on the decrease, but that only partial credit could be given to the advent of the ColbyCard. The other reasoning for the decreased dorm damage, he said, is due to dorm renovations, which he felt promoted respect for dorms and therefore reduced dorm damage.

Presidents' Council decided to get input from their dorms and discuss the issue further at their next meeting on Feb. 18. □

“Colby students are responsible enough to not abuse this privilege.”
-Keri Hall '01-

COTTER, continued from page 1

future and options, from both faculty and students. The goal is to form a plan for life at Colby in the coming decade and beyond, and to leave the new president with a focus from which to begin his or her term in office. The transition is expected to proceed smoothly, said Cotter, but like all changes, will require time and effort to be successful.

According to Cotter, he and his wife Linda, who is the associate director of the off-campus studies office, will probably relocate to the Boston area.

Cotter plans to continue his work with non-profit organizations, notably the Oak Foundation, which helps the world's most disadvantaged people, petitions for international human rights and helps to protect the environment.

Although equipped with future plans, departing from Mayflower Hill will not be easy for the Cotters.

"We have lived here longer than any other place, and have lots of friends here. It is hard to leave," said Cotter. □

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(Jesus Christ, The Message)**

**COLBY
STUDENT MINISTRY**

Colby OneCards updated to include new meal program, laundry

BY PATRICK J. BERNAL & BETSY LOYD
Staff Writer & Asst. News Editor

Upon returning from JanPlan break, Colby students had to visit the Security Office to activate a new strip and computer chip on their Colby OneCards. This activation makes the cards compatible with a new computer program in dining halls and allows money values to be held on the card that can now be used in place of quarters to pay for laundry.

Over JanPlan break, new laundry machines were installed in AMS, Dana, East Quad, West Quad, Coburn, Mary Low, Averill, Johnson, Leonard, Marriner and Sturtevant. The remaining dorms will have the new machines installed over spring break.

During the installation of the new machines, students living in several dorms including East and West Quad enjoyed two days of free laundry, which Associate Dean of Students for Housing Paul Johnston called "compensation for dealing with the transition." Johnston had hoped

that during the break there would be little need for laundry machines, but according to Johnston, "people still had a need to use them."

The new laundry machines were installed by MAC-GRAY, a company based in Cam-

tem that Dining Services had been using was put into place in 1985 and, according to Head of Dining Services Lloyd Comeau, "was not capable of meeting future Colby dining needs for a number of reasons."

Comeau said that the new cards "will provide us with a certain amount of flexibility in terms of handling the College's plan to provide a 200 meal plan credit for students living in the Senior Apartments and for those participating in the Mary Low Co-Op, and for off-campus students... the old plan was not capable of providing this service, and the new one is."

The old system was not equipped to handle the Y2K glitch that is predicted to disable many computer systems internationally. The new Colby OneCard-based system is designed to overcome this problem.

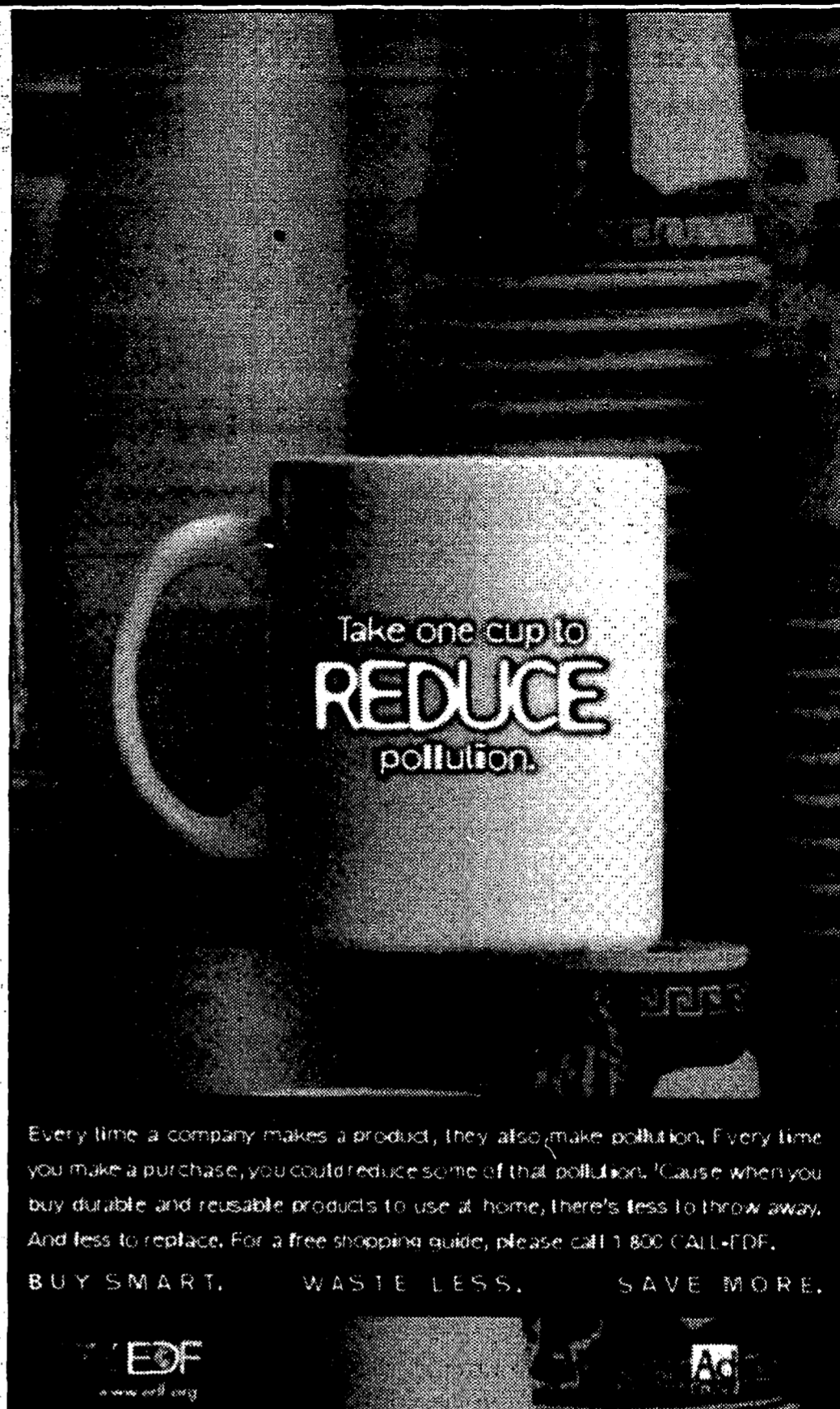
Colby students can put money onto their Colby OneCards at one of three Cash-to-Card machines located in the Security Office hallway in Roberts Union, in the basement of Eustis near the mailroom and in the Cotter Union. □

During the installation of the new machines, students living in several dorms including East and West Quad enjoyed two days of free laundry

bridge, Mass., that manages laundry equipment for colleges, retirement homes and other institutions.

Johnston estimated the total cost of the project at over half a million dollars. Colby supplied the labor for getting the power to the laundry rooms; MAC-GRAY just had to do the final hook-ups.

The cards were also updated to help Dining Services keep better records of students' meal plans. The old sys-



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FEATURES

Far, far away: JanPlan 1999

Part one of a
three part
series...Mangos and politics in
Uganda: A senior's
January experienceBY FLANNERY HIGGINS
Contributing Writer

This week, many people have asked me what I did during January and if I had fun. Fun no; fascinating and life-changing yes. I left the comfort of Mayflower Hill and traveled to Kampala, Uganda, to do political science research with financial support from Colby and the Ford Foundation, and academic guidance from Government Professor Guilan Denoeux.

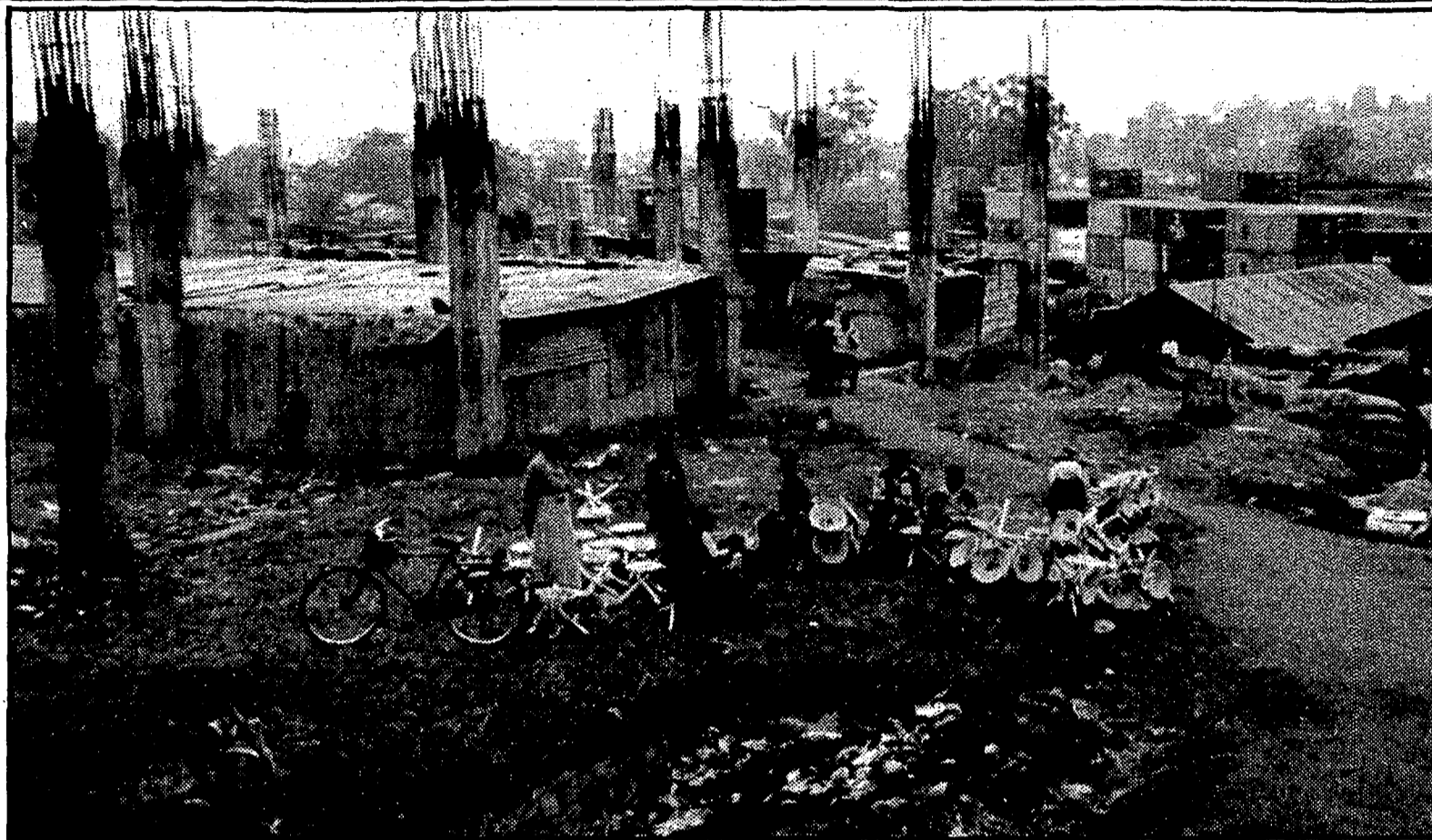
Kampala is a hot, dusty city; it is not beautiful. It is best described as backwards and there were many things about my trip that made living in the city difficult. Men with large guns guard almost every store front. I was not ready to confront the amount of physical deformity that I saw. Cholera, leprosy, tuberculosis, malaria and AIDS are scary realities in Uganda's capital. The gap between the rich and poor is drastic. Every other night the power went out. We had to boil water before drinking it. The phone system is terrible. Many roads are not paved. Newspaper headlines are almost always filled with corruption and scandal.

When I first arrived in Kampala,

the American embassy and all American organizations were closed because of renewed threats of terrorism from the same groups that attacked the embassies in Kenya and Tanzania last year. In fact, it was almost two weeks into my stay before I met another American. In my journal I wrote that my first feelings were of being "lost and lonely in a totally foreign place."

There were also wonderful moments. The shores of Lake Victoria are amazing. I will miss the mangos and bananas. I spent many hours wandering through Kampala's bustling markets. As I look back at the photos I took, I am reminded of the kindness that Ugandans showed me. The people are known as the friendliest in East Africa. I felt like a minor celebrity while I was there. Everyone wants to talk to the *mzungu* - the generic term for people with white skin. Children followed me down the street wanting to be my friend and to hear stories about life in America. Adult men followed me down the street asking to marry me and saying they loved me. One man offered 200 cows for my hand in marriage.

The best way to get around in Uganda is to take a "matatu" or group taxi and some of my most



A typical village scene in Kampala, the capital of Uganda.

Photo courtesy Flannery Higgins

interesting interviews took place while crammed into a fourteen seat mini-bus. Ugandans love to talk about politics. Almost everyone told me that the current government and president are an improvement over previous leaders like Idi Amin. President Museveni has not killed half a million of his own people and the economy is improving; therefore he is viewed as a good leader. Museveni, while not exactly a dictator, has created a system of "party-free" democracy. Every Ugandan is supposed to be a member of the National Resistance Movement (NRM), and organized opposition to the government is likely to get one arrested or harassed. The stu-

dents I spoke with at Makerere University told me they thought having a more open system of government would be an improvement, but at the same time none of them wanted to be involved in rocking the boat.

President Clinton visited Uganda last year. He praised Uganda's economic progress and encouraged other African nations to follow the Ugandan example. What Clinton failed to comment on was the need for more improvement of the Ugandan democracy.

The average Ugandan on the street was willing to talk with me, but I had difficulty trying to arrange interviews with members of the Ugandan government. I would ar-

rive for an appointment and discover that the Minister I was scheduled to meet had stepped out of the office for the day. I was asked to leave the Ministry of Justice because I did not have the proper research permit. When I tried to apply for the permit I was told that my stay in Uganda was too short and that there was not enough time to issue me the necessary papers.

During my stay, I gained an understanding of the obstacles facing a developing country like Uganda. I learned how to maneuver a culture different from my own. I also have greater appreciation for American democracy and other things we generally take for granted. □

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Rude, CREWD, and socially unacceptable

BY MELISSA GERBI
Features Editor

Some people take off after college and tackle the financial world. Others may head to a remote part of the African coast. Still there are those who make their way back home and move back in with the family. Justin Racz is one of the latter. A 1997 Middlebury graduate, Racz was not sure where he wanted to head after graduation.

"Nothing really grabbed me," he said.

On the other hand, "it's a time where if you have a great idea people will go for it," Racz said. His great idea was to do a parody on the collegiate clothing company of choice, J. Crew.

Why attempt to bring down such a titan?

According to Racz, "It was ripe for parody. Everyone owns J. Crew clothing. When reading the catalog you wonder, why is everybody smiling?"

Out of these questions emerged J. Crewd, a catalog with, although a similar sounding name, a very different take on life.

"I started dragging some of my roommates outside. That was the most fun part, then it was work... I woke up the better looking of my roommates, told him to put on white boxers and snow shoes, and meet me outside in the snow drift," said Racz.

The project, which began during Racz's senior year, has consumed the last eighteen months of his life. The

catalog, published by DoubleDay, hit the shelves in October.

According to Racz, the sales have been good. "I've gotten a lot of great responses," he said.

To accompany the magazine, Racz put together a web sight (www.jcrew.com) from which he can track responses.

"The response has been positive. We have people from all over" visiting the sight, he said.

The project, however, has not exactly been lucrative. Racz joked that "between (John) Grisham and I, we combine for five million a year. And I had nothing to do with it."

What can one expect to find in the take-off of what Racz calls the "first catalog to sell a 20-something lifestyle that seems to say 'we're rich but don't have jobs and can spend unlimited hours in polo shirts on yachts and walking on beaches'?"

Shuffle through the pages to find crazy items such as the "Roll-head" sweater and bizarre ideas such as "J-Cloring."

Creative color names and not-politically correct schematic devises invade each page of J. Crewd. Anyone who has noticed the hold that J. Crew has on American college students is sure to appreciate that others have noticed the mania as well. □



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Off the Hill

Illinois student found dead in dormitory

A Southern Illinois University student was found dead in his room last Friday night, according to *The Daily Egyptian*. Reportedly, the student died of natural causes stemming from cardiac arrest. The victim had received a heart transplant about ten years ago and was confined to a wheelchair because of his condition. The victim's father had knocked on his door and when he received no answer he did not receive any response, he called the police.

Fraternity student dies of head trauma

In a bizarre turn of events, a student was attacked and killed while sleeping on a couch at a fraternity party at Southwest Texas State University, according to *The Daily Texan*. The student who died "suffered a massive head trauma... while sleeping on a couch in the basement" of a fraternity after a party the night before. There was an alleged altercation between the victim and the four students earlier in the night. Twelve fraternities were indefinitely suspended because of their was found to be an excessive use of alcohol.

Meningitis scare an isolated incident

There was an isolated case of meningitis at the University of Missouri last week. The bacterial infection is an inflammation of the lining surrounding the brain and spinal cord. Initial symptoms mirror those of a cold or the flu. According to the *Maneater*, while there has been an increase in the number of visits to the Health Center, the director of the Health Center said that "we determined there weren't any students who were at risk of having the infection."

Professor exchanges grades for video games

A former North Carolina Central University zoology instructor was convicted of exchanging grades for a television set and a video game system from a student. According to the *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, the instructor told the student to use a stolen credit card to buy the merchandise at the store where the student worked. The student "had failing test grades before the theft and perfect scores after it," according to the *Chronicle*. □

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Making a point through pictures

BY MELISSA GERBI
Features Editor

Coming up with creative ways to tell people facts is always a challenge. Krista Brown '99 and the AIDS Task Force came up with the idea of creating a calendar to present information on everything from sex and drugs to sleep and caffeine. All students received the calendar in their mailboxes and Brown said the purpose was to create a calendar with "pictures that were aesthetic or cool enough that we could bombard them with sex."

A member of the AIDS task force, Brown brainstormed for ideas for a fundraiser. She had returned from France last year with a calendar of French scenes she had painted and the idea for a calendar promoting health awareness grew from there. According to Brown, Bates developed a similar idea but only used two colors and it probably "got thrown in the trash," Brown said.

The project ran into some

trouble when Brown discovered how expensive the project was and "it didn't look like it was going anywhere," she said. It was then that Brown made a final effort and went to see President William R. Cotter. Cotter showed it to Dean Earl Smith and both

cided that the calendar had to encompass more issues than simply AIDS. Brown started painting in June and worked on the twelve paintings until October. Spending the summer in San Francisco, she traveled to a store called Condomania to get some ideas. I swore to the guys I wasn't a nymphomaniac and they gave me a student discount," Brown said.

The reactions have been mostly positive and she said "it is interesting overhearing people's comments. My relatives who are fundamentalist Christians said they liked it and actually learned something."

Helping on the project were Eliza Hoover '99 in the production and Dave Dalesandro '99 with photography.

Brown "hopes the facts students see in brochures finally reach them" through a more interesting format. Also Brown said "we all get tired of authorities telling us what to do and we all know someone with these problems. What better way to be reminded on a daily basis than on a calendar?" □



agreed that the calendar was worth funding. Cotter decided to pay out of his discretionary fund. The total cost was roughly \$7000 and an additional \$550 for framing the original paintings.

Since SHOC also contributed funding to the project, Brown de-

In Echo History

Ten years ago...

On the Last Day of Loudness 1988, Colby students enjoyed a performance by Bim Scala Bim. The group's "Caribbean rock" style music and unique sound helped take students' minds off finals and the winter cold.

Twenty years ago...

In February of 1979, Colby students rallied for the creation of a Women's Studies program. At the time, only three courses concerning women's issues were offered at Colby.

Thirty years ago...

In November of 1968, a twenty-five dollar fine for eating dinner on days prior to breaks was abolished. Reason cited for the change included transportation needs of students, the need for money to begin conducting research, and the fact that the fine was too high for affluent students.



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EDITORIALS

Security mishandled party infraction

Last Saturday night, Safety and Security entered the AMS party lounge and broke up a party. Approximately sixty 21-year old seniors were in attendance, dancing and hanging out with their classmates. This party was, in short, a model Colby party. The hosts followed nearly every rule associated with party-hosting at Colby, a confusing task. I.D.'s were checked at the door by a party host. Under 21-year olds were not served alcohol. Signs were posted in the room warning people not to leave the room with alcohol. The party hosts made every effort to enforce these rules.

Granted, the hosts were in violation of one rule, collecting money at the door to cover the costs associated with throwing a party. This was wrong. The means in which Safety and Security chose to handle this particular violation, however, was shortsighted and unnecessary.

The security officers informed the party host that the party would be shut down because they were collecting money at the door, and that students were outside with open containers. None of the students attending the party that night, however, were cited for having open containers outdoors.

By deciding to shut down the party, Security missed a great opportunity to teach students and party hosts a valuable lesson. When officers discovered money was being collected at the door — an offense, but one often overlooked by officers nonetheless — they could have filed an incident report, cited the party hosts for violating procedure, and moved on.

By shutting down the party, which was meticulously well run, the Security department said, in effect, that anything straying from a textbook party will be shut down.

Instead of encouraging parties such as the one in AMS, Security is doing more to discourage students from hosting parties. This was a well-run, organized gathering of responsible 21-year olds. No one was out of control, dangerously intoxicated, or damaging property. Nobody will charge at the door for beer anymore, that much is for certain, but the incident could have been handled in a much better fashion. □

Practice safe sex on Valentine's Day

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, love is in the air. . . so love carefully. In honor of National Condom Week, which runs between February 15-21, please protect yourself and the ones you love by practicing safe sex.

For people who are sexually active, correct and consistent condom use is the only means of protection against both unwanted pregnancy and the spread of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV.

With the latest 1999 estimates by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicating that 15 million Americans become newly infected with an STD each year, and about 2,8000 teens become pregnant every day, it is obvious that using a condom is worth the five seconds it takes. Five seconds versus a lifetime, you decide.

So instead of buying your special partner flowers on February 14, why not buy him or her a box of condoms. There's so much variety - you can choose from rainbow colors, ribbed, extra large, scented, you name it. If you're too embarrassed to buy them, stop by the Post Office and pay Alan a visit. Too shy to bring up the subject with your special someone? Then send them a condom-gram, sponsored by Student Health On Campus. Valentine's Day is a day of love and it should remain that way. So if you're going to make love this V-Day, do it with love in your hearts and a condom on his penis. Hey, it's National Condom Week, so let's celebrate! □

THE COLBY ECHO

founded in 1877

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THE COLBY ECHO is a weekly newspaper published by the students of Colby College on Thursday of each week the College is in session.

THE ECHO encourages letters from its readers, especially those within the immediate community. Letters should not exceed 400 words and must pertain to a current issue or topic at Colby. Letters are due by Sunday at midnight for publication the same week. Letters should be typed and must be signed and include an address or phone number. If possible, please also submit letters on a 3.5 inch Macintosh disk in Microsoft Word format. You may also submit letters via e-mail to "echo@colby.edu".

THE ECHO reserves the right to edit all submissions.

The Editorials, above, are the official opinion of the paper. Opinions expressed in individual columns, advertising and features are those of the author, not the ECHO.

THE ECHO will make every effort possible to prevent inaccuracy, but will not be held responsible for errors in advertisements or articles.

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LETTERS

Trees: A Eulogy

I mourn the loss of six mature sugar maples that graced our central mall. I'm too well practiced at this ritual of eulogy. I'm sad that my voice can only commemorate trees, but can't save them, though they have saved me. I've loved trees at Colby, and counted on their presence to guide me. In recent years, I've lost many of these friends.

Two old elms I looked up to, cut down and replaced by lamp posts. A sprightly maple, the first to flower with sour-green blossoms in spring, uprooted by a steam tunnel. A whole row of mature locusts, to make way for the Science Center (where trees, no doubt, are studied). A matching row across the way, cut down because they no longer matched. An entire hill of tangled forest cut down for apartments. Yes, I know, this is progress, development, growth. This is aesthetics, planning, beautification. Yet none of this puts trees first. It misunderstands trees as landscape merely.

I send my students out to find a tree the first week of their freshman year. I assign them to sit and listen

to its whispered wisdom, to write what they hear. I want to instill in them a conscious dependence on trees. What do I do with that teaching now? Shall I warn them of gone trunks, disappeared crowns, of silenced birdsong and absent leaves?

I've loved trees at Colby... In recent years I've lost many of these friends.

I mourn the six old maples we sat under, walked under, talked under, studied under - don't give me the reasons, I know the reasons - dying, they said - but who isn't?

Imperfect, imbalanced, marked by accident and stress, these trees were like the rest of us, kin to the wild. Not one of us can compare with the tall white pillars of our library, the level granite steps, the

clock-tower and rows of windows all lined up. Architects of old found inspiration in wild landscapes. Gothic cathedrals mimic regal old forests, Greek columns stand like cedars, New England shingles shed water like the bark of trees. Now we prune landscapes to match our carefully laid-out buildings. Shall we model our learning, too, on these principles?

I mourn the imperfect, lost trees, the mature reminders of the wild. They grow in the shape of their seasons. They age, die, and rot. Trees nourish intelligence, as much as books do. As Thoreau puts it, "The civilized nations-Greece, Rome, England-have been sustained by the primitive forests which anciently rotted where they stand. They survive as long as the soil is not exhausted. Alas for human culture! little is to be expected of a nation, when the vegetable mould is exhausted, and it is compelled to make manure of the bones of its fathers."

Linda Tatelbaum
Associate Professor of English

Bookstore vs. Amazon.com

Chances are most of you are all-too familiar with the mad rush of Colby students in the bookstore on registration day. In fact, the only thing worse than the long lines and the permanent crick in your arms you get from carrying 50 lbs of books across campus is the amount of drool that hits your shoes when the cashier announces cheerfully,

"That'll be \$3000 plus your first-born child, please."

"My first-born child?" you ask, "Are you sure that's really necessary?"

"Yes," she replies, "Books are getting mighty expensive these days."

Of course, there is an alternative to the bookstore. Amazon.com and BarnesandNoble.com are a great way to avoid the lines but tend to get a bit more pricey, considering that the amount of shipping you pay is directly proportional to the number of books you buy and inversely proportional to the amount of money you have. Which means that by the time you've added everything to your shopping cart you're hawking your stereo at the nearest pawn shop to pay for it.

But in December 1997, a couple of George Washington University grads founded an online bookstore called VarsityBooks.com, which discounts textbooks up to 40%. For example:

"Artificial Intelligence, A New Synthesis" (hardcover), costs \$59.95 at the Colby Bookstore (used, \$44.96), and \$59.95 + s&h at Amazon.com. At VarsityBooks.com, it was \$50.96.

Granted, buying it used at the bookstore would have been the least expensive, except that they didn't sell used copies of that particular book. Plus, VarsityBooks.com has the same book in paperback for \$38.25. Shipping charges? A \$5 flat rate no matter how much you order. And unless you plan on having the books sent to either Illinois or Washington D.C., there's no sales tax. Not bad, huh?

Oh and by the way, you have until February 13 to return all those books you bought at the bookstore.

Erin McConaughy '99
Mimi Sammarco '99

Operation Santa Claus a success — thanks Colby

It is with great pleasure and thanks that I want to acknowledge the work of the Colby College community in making it possible to deliver over 550 toys to Franklin County's Operation Santa Claus this past Christmas. Franklin County was especially hard hit this past year due to the closing of the GH Bass, the shoe manufacturer.

Our church, Northern Lights MCC, in Vassalboro, began collecting "Disney" toys for a second year in 1998 to help out needy children. We have chosen Disney toys to send a message to the corporate world that there are some of us who appreciate the all-family policies that include

insurance and retirement benefits in a traditional families. Fortunately for us and for the children that received these toys, it was Colby College youth who inspired us to set our vision for toy collections significantly higher in 1998. Through your vision, we were able to collect over 550 toys through donations from the Colby College Volunteer Office, SOBHU, our church, and the people of Frontier Vision.

What makes this equally significant for me and for the folks in our church is that many of our member who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, or questioning, often find ourselves being "boxed in" by people's per-

ceptions of us as anti-family and a burden on society in general. We live outside of those boxes as much as we are able. Similarly, students attending college are often seen as being "out of touch" with reality and self-centered. Thankfully, you have demonstrated once again that such categories and stereotypes are not valid and not useful.

Thank you once again for working in partnership with us to reach out to those in need. Your generosity of time and spirit has bettered the world for some deserving kids!

Bill Gordon
Northern Lights MCC

Kudos from Cuba

I will introduce myself: my name is Judith Arvesu and I am 27 years old. I am a young poet, who is calling for your kind of attention.

Only a few days ago I had the chance to read, a number of your newspapers and I was very impressed by the excellent design, and interesting photographs. But above all, be-

cause it is an example of free press. Personally I think that it is a marvelous work. Congratulations.

Please consider me your friend, God bless you,

Judith Arvesu
Havana, Cuba

OPINIONS

What's the legal Colby drinking age?

BY EZRA DYER
Opinions Editor

Someday, I'll be old and cranky. I'll sit around complaining about how good things used to be while my pastel green pants creep up toward my chins. So right now, just for practice, let me put on my pastels and tell you about how there used to be parties at Colby.

Back in the day (say, two or three years ago), the folks down at Security seemed to have a pretty liberal policy as far as parties were concerned. Basically, as long as everyone had their underpants on and nothing was on fire, a party would be allowed to run its course.

This year, since the introduction of a certain LaGuardia to the campus, the organized social scene has been dramatically scaled back. Which is understandable. Who wants to host a party when you can potentially end up with a summons? I'm specifying the organized parties because back in their rooms people have compensated for the lack of public events. So I'm not making any claims that everyone hasn't kept on doing what they were doing before, it's just no longer a public thing.

But this being Colby, every so often some courageous fool has an idea: "Hey, I could host a party. Gee, that would be swell, more than ten people together at the same time! If I

followed all the rules, then technically it is possible to have a party, right?" Well, sort of.

The problem is, parties these days have to be run tighter than ESPN 2 Miss Fitness America's butt. Take, for example, last Saturday night. I began my evening with a Grapegarita at Margarita's, and let me tell you, nothing can make a person yearn for a cup of nice, watery keg beer like a big glass of grape tequila. So I was looking forward to returning to AMS for the party in the basement, just

pay for the DJ, right?" And the hosts would have done things differently. As they're liable for what happens at a party, the hosts obviously want to try to adhere to the rules. The problem is, when Security finds the smallest flaw in an otherwise responsible, well-run event, they no longer give warning. They move straight to breaking things up. What ever happened to discretion?

Just for the record, this does not apply to all of the security officers. But there are some that need to reevaluate their role as campus cops. I personally wish they hadn't fired the drug dealer. At least he would have had some per-

spective on the relative seriousness of collecting money for a party. Busting up parties because of easily remedied violations is what the police are for. Given fair warning, it is in the interests of the hosts not to be told twice. If there is grievous rule-breaking going on, then shut it down. But in cases like last Saturday, give things a chance. It is incredibly discouraging to find that whenever someone tries to revive the stifled Colby social life they meet with such resistance. So, Security, try to remember that people throwing parties are assuming a lot of responsibility, and are doing their best to cooperate. The social scene at Colby is ailing. Try not to kill it completely. □

Parties these days have to be run tighter than ESPN 2 Miss Fitness America's butt.

as soon as I slept off my lethargy-inducing Grapegarita/Chimichanga dinner combo. But unfortunately, I made it over to AMS at just about the same time as Security, who opened up a big can of Party-B-Gon immediately upon their arrival.

This event was a bona fide attempt to try not to break any rules. For crying out loud, everyone there was actually 21. There were signs everywhere warning all of the 21-year-olds not to take beer outside. The central problem lay in the fact that the hosts of the party were collecting money. This is illegal. Or legal. It depends on how it's done. But you're not supposed to collect money without a liquor license. Fine. In the past, Security might have said, "Ok, you're not supposed to do that. So that money's to

Advice from Colby's own love doctor

BY ROSECRANS BALDWIN
Staff Writer

Last month, I received an unsolicited letter, via e-mail, in response to my senior libido article last semester. I have decided to print the letter, and my response (with the names changed, of course, to protect the innocent, or, the very, very dirty) as the first installment in my new column: Dear Doctor Rosencrantz. I will, from this Thursday until the Echo fires me, respond to your e-mails, in order to benefit both the individual and collective sexual concerns. You can send your letters to rbbaldwi@colby.edu. I did not, nor will ever, write these letters; when the mail stops, I will return to my typical diatribes. Until then...

Dear Doctor Rosencrantz,

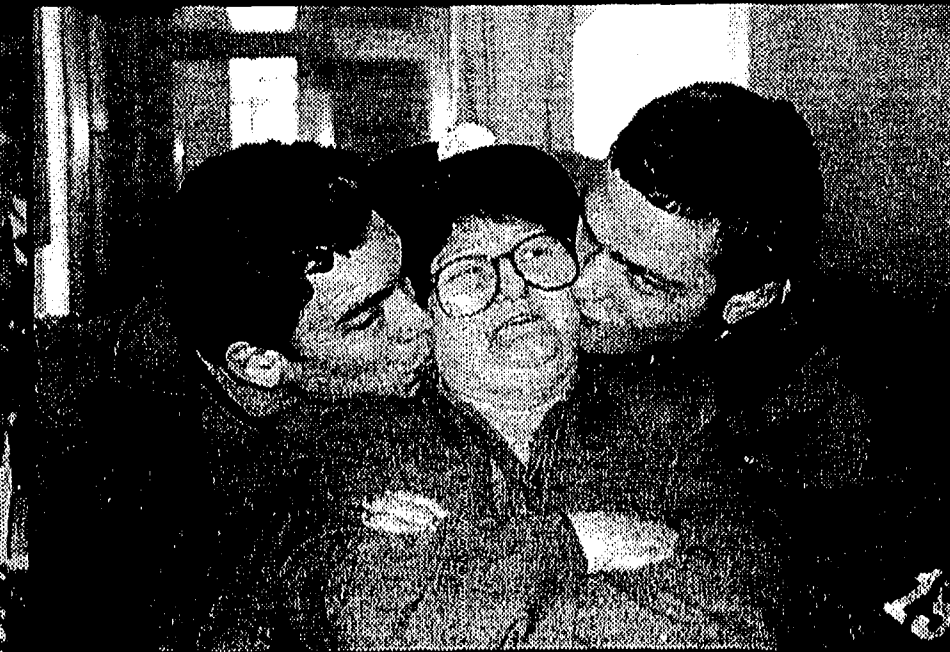
You seem to know a lot about sex, about sexual problems. I would not describe myself as a sexual deviant, but that's why I'm writing, to get an objective opinion. I am a senior at Colby College, just like you, but I won't tell you whether or not we're acquaintances in order to guard my anonymity. Here's my sexual problem: my sister also goes to Colby, she's a freshman. She lives in a triple, and one of her roommates sometimes says she looks up to me as an older brother, but other times she smiles and rubs up against me, seemingly by accident. Somehow last night we wound up talking alone in her room when the phone rang. It was my mother calling to speak to my sister. My sister's roommate answered the phone, and without thinking, I signaled to her to pretend as if I weren't there, so I wouldn't have to speak to my mother. This is my sister's best friend; am I on the verge of committing virtual incest?

Sincerely,
Bob #1

Dear Bob,

A very interesting scenario: virtual incest, eh? Incest has a rich history in our country, and one cannot expect the Colby boundaries to keep back the Hank Jr.'s roaming hands. But we are not concerned for any interest you might have in your sister. On the contrary, you seem to have only the most non-sexual, puritan, well-intentioned motives in mind for her well being. What you will violate, however, is her trust, and quite likely her respect should you attempt to diddle one-third of her triple. Your inclusion of incest, though, leads me to other areas of concern: is this an indirection of passion, a bypass of brace-clad Betty in favor of her roommate, though the fire of your loins burns for the sibling? If so, you need to consult a therapist, as I condemn all forms of incest, though they make for cool movie plots. If you do find yourself truly interested in dating the roommate, then you are a poor victim of circumstance, and you must find in yourself the strength to follow your love, despite societal hesitations. Invite her to a dance! Buy her a Subaru! But tread lightly, especially if you don't want a sisterly kick in the groin. □

Students on the Street: Who do you want to be your Valentine?



"Shirley."

—Tucker Jones '99 and
Ian Musselman '99

"Jessica Rabbit."

—Ben Grasso '99

"TV's Scott Foley."

—Sharon Capobianchi '99

"A sculpted body,
doesn't matter who."

—Sarah Belanger '01



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Machalani steers successful "Maiden" voyage at Strider

BY ROSECRANS BALDWIN

Ariel Dorfman's play "Death and the Maiden" takes place in an undisclosed location in South or Central America during the aftermath of a fascist regime. Like Lawrence Thornton's "Imagining Argentina," Dorfman imagines a drama that could have been an actual series of events. The history of the play, however, is as forceful as Dorfman's writing in which terse, eloquent dialogue slices into the psyches and relationships of three characters. The fact that Colby senior Michele Machalani chose to direct such a difficult piece is a bold testament to her capabilities. This was powerfully evident to those who were able to secure a seat at one of the four shows this past weekend.

Theater productions at Colby rarely challenge themselves to an artistic degree where absolute failure is possible; that is, Machalani and crew put extreme effort and care into a show that might have fallen flat had they not been intelligent enough to tie their various themes together. The imaginative strength of the piece was branded upon all aspects of the production: acting, scenic design, lights and sound. The set of "Death and the Maiden" was constructed on the stage of Strider Theater so that the audience was actually located where plays usually take place. This re-loc-

ation immediately turned heads. Were we, the audience, expected to perform, to observe from inside the drama? Reid Farrington's '99 risky scenic design gave the audience a massive, curved slice of a living room, with real-time video feeds projected onto the back wall, so that the audience felt included in a fish-eye view of the play (recalling Farrington's earlier and less subtle design for the 1997 production of "Mud"). Machalani desired an intimate relationship between the play and the audience, and the actors certainly played upon that proximity.

Gerardo Escobar, played by Ben Grasso '99, is a lawyer who has been named to a commission that will investigate human rights cases against the former dictatorship. His wife, Paulina, played by Melissa Trachtenberg '99, was kidnapped, raped and tortured fifteen years earlier and has not yet recovered from the trauma. Paulina believes that Dr. Roberto Miranda, played by Ben Liston '00, who has driven Gerardo home after a flat tire, is the same doctor who oversaw her torture years ago. Since she feels the courts are ineffectual, she decides to put the doctor "on trial" herself.

The actors were all strong, though slightly uncomfortable in their roles. It was clear they were each confidently pushing their characters to their respective limits, and in such attempts it appeared difficult to maintain a



Photo courtesy of Powder & Wig

Ben Liston '99 gets all tied up in "Death and the Maiden."

consistent dramatic aesthetic. The actors, like the show itself, were not afraid to disrupt traditional conventions. In fact, the only weaknesses existed in a few lagging scene changes and occasional disruptions of sound levels. The effects of the show, however, remained forceful and the audience left with the pleasant realization of what can be achieved with dedicated, passionate (naked, in Liston's case)

exploration into the most gruesome of circumstances.

"Death and the Maiden" also featured Assistant Director Jamie Yourdon, Lighting Designer Christopher Anderson, Costume Designer Nikki Grasso, Sound Designer Jill Huntsberger and Stage Manager Kea Watson. □

Rosecrans Baldwin is the Echo's drama critic.

The Reel Deal

BY BRAXTON WILLIAMS & OLIVER GRISWOLD

"She's All That"

★★ out of 5

Freddie Prinze Jr., Rachael Leigh Cook, Jodi Lyn O'Keefe
Directed by Robert Iscove

I had a great time watching "She's All That" until I realized that the only original thing about it was that Kevin Williamson didn't write it. The movie redefines the word "cliché," only it does so without the self-referential kitsch of "Scream" and "The Faculty." Sure, "She's All That" is an entirely different genre, but the humor of the movie bombed so hard that I found myself making up little jokes in my head to stay amused.

The movie is about a stereotypical young soccer buck named Zack (Freddie Prinze, Jr.) who dons a letter jacket and winks at fawning honeys. When his girlfriend dumps him for a Real World character, he makes a bet to transform Laney, a reclusive loser (cause-oriented artist) played by anti-heroine crusader Rachael Leigh Cook, into the prom queen. (Remember the commercial where she wrecks a kitchen and yells about "your job" and "your friends?" Very hip. Any questions?) After seeing Laney in a bathing suit, Zack decides he likes her, and this of course leads to barrier-breaking social upheaval and a conflict. But I forgot what that was.

I guess there were some aspects of "She's All That" that were, indeed, all that. Freddie Prinze, Jr. plays a charming leading man, and Cook is excellent as the latter-day Cinderella. Jodi Lyn O'Keefe plays a chillingly evil prom queen. The dance scene at the end is cool until it starts to resemble an expressionist play. And there's a satisfying cafeteria scene in which Zack throws down on some punks messing with Laney's vulnerable little brother. Note: this is the funniest scene of the movie. It involves pizza and pubic hairs.

But remember "Pretty in Pink?" Remember the cool soundtrack? And remember when Andrew McCarthy kisses Molly Ringwald in the

parking lot at the end? Now, another question: Will I remember "She's All That" in ten years? I don't think so. Pretty in Pink did it first. "She's All That" is a fun movie, but Cook's anti-heroine commercial is more memorable.

Tonight is the last night to catch "She's All That" at Hoyt's Waterville 6.

Braxton Williams is the Echo's film critic.

"Gods and Monsters"

★★★★★ out of five

Ian McKellen, Brendan Fraser, Lynn Redgrave
Directed by Bill Condon

"Gods and Monsters" is the story about the last days of James Whale, the acclaimed director of the Frankenstein movies who was ostracized from the Hollywood establishment for being openly gay. After suffering a stroke, the aristocratic Whale (Ian McKellen) meets his muscled gardener Clayton Boone (Brendan Fraser), and invites him to sit as a model for his paintings. Boone is wary of Whale at first, but soon realizes that the man is more intriguing than frightening. As the relationship grows increasingly complex (though never sexual), their actions in the present begin to revive the ghosts (or monsters) of the past. Whale comes to terms with his memories of a lost love, while Boone learns the lasting value of companionship.

McKellen is phenomenal as Whale, managing to balance whimsy and pain in the same moment. Fraser transcends his acclaimed "George of the Jungle" role by leaps and bounds, unfolding his character from hunk to human with pathos. Lynn Redgrave is also excellent in her Golden Globe-winning role as Whale's puritanical but kindly housekeeper. But a special award should go to director Bill Condon, whose delicate character portraits punctuated by harrowing flashbacks give the film a schizoid ambience.

"Gods and Monsters" will be shown at Railroad Square Cinema Feb. 12-18. □

Oliver Griswold is the Echo's A & E Editor.

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DISCUSSIONS

BY OLIVER GRISWOLD

Bad Side of Otis Ave.

★★★★★

Ware River Club
Natural Disaster Records

Try to picture Son Volt playing in the snow, surrounded by the smoke-stained, crumbling mills of western Massachusetts. Close your eyes. Are you there? Well, you can open them, because even if you can't call up a melancholy industrial image, fear not, for this album will put you there.

This striking debut could be New England's answer to the alternative-country sound that has raged through the Carolinas in recent years like Sherman through Atlanta.

It's the rough edges that make this effort by five Northampton, Mass., rock veterans so wicked decent to listen to. There is more meat in the chorus of the first track, "4000 Pound Dog," than in everything 92Moose has ever played put together.

The vocals of songwriter/guitarist Matt Hebert dig deep into mournful much of the time, and even when they don't, his worn voice always supports the album's sense of irony.

More than a few hints of humor, however, indicate that the band probably doesn't practice what they preach. It gives the songs a self-effacing amusement, as if sometimes it can be fun just to stew in the mire a bit.

The most obvious example of this is "50 Years of Smoking," which begins "My dad can't talk after 50 years of smoking, and my mom's been working as long as she's been walking/ Somebody shoot me if it looks like I'm heading down that road."

Lead guitarist Matt Cullen's hooks and solos add the melodic crunch to complement Hebert's tortured stylings, and he lends his songwriting capabilities to three tracks, including the Tom Petty/Freedy Johnston-esque "Rumblings."

The best tracks are the straight rocker "Brambles" and the last song "Budge," which bursts, in a whisper of wah-wah, from spare and personal

to rich and expansive like an epiphany. It also includes the line, "Nobody's living up to my standards/ So I'm taking it out on one lucky girl." On "The Bad Side of Otis Ave.," what else are neighbors for?

Translucent Soul

★★★★★

Ellis Paul
Rounder Records

How on earth does Ellis Paul do it? Once again, he has raised the bar on previous, superb efforts with an album that reaffirms his position as our most melodic, poetic and insightful singer-songwriter, weaving broad philosophy, personal experience and zoom-lens character sketches - all this while logging 200 days a year on the road.

Perhaps the time on the road is a catalyst. Paul has described "Translucent Soul" as a diary of the attempt to return to innocence after long hardship, a subject with which he is intimately familiar (he and his wife recently divorced). But most of the album sounds like a man still deciding whether or not to pull the sharp blade of heartbreak out from between his ribs.

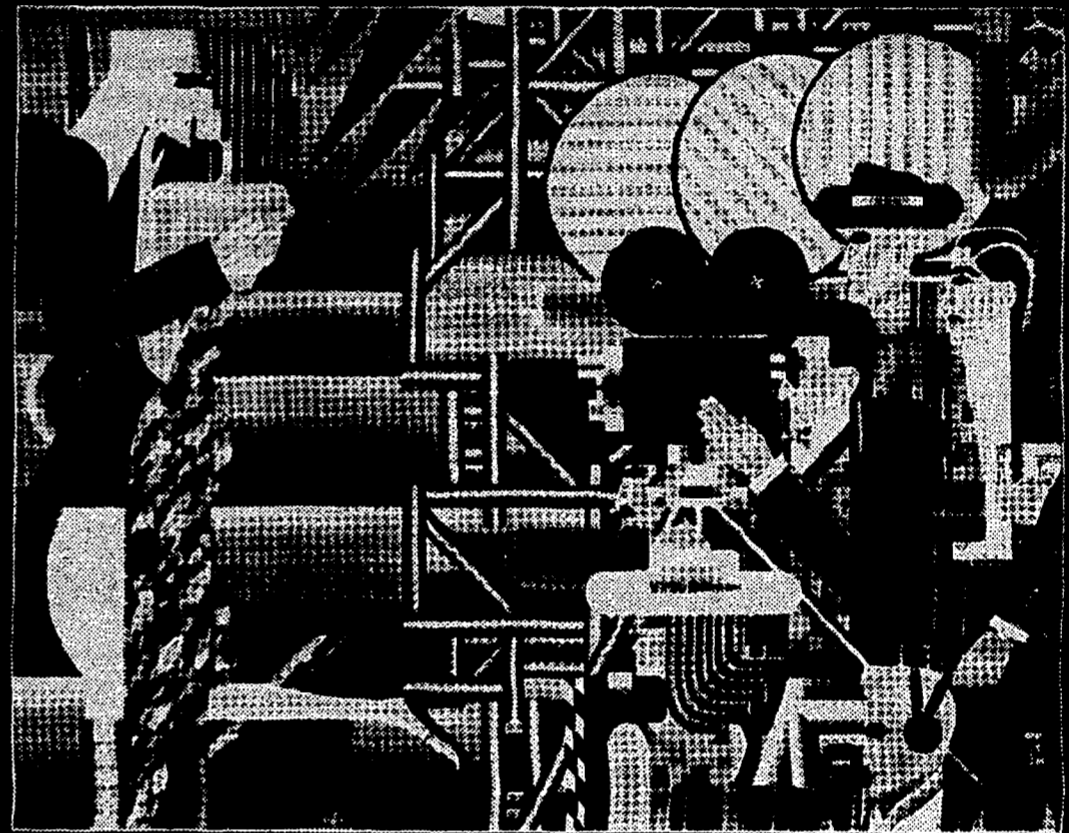
The first three songs are reflections on the breakdown of intimate relationships, and the theme recurs elsewhere on the album in the form of familial upheaval ("She Loves A Girl") and a disconnected friendship ("Did I Ever Know You?"). One wonders if life on the road has had anything to do with the "poetry of loss" that he unravels in "Seven."

Paul has never let his voice fly this high before, and his trademark whisper even launches into melodramatic falsetto a few times. Songs typically open with dreamy, expressive guitar chords that often belie the subject matter. Producer Jerry Marotta shows off his drumming skills on "Take Me Down," and Dar Williams, Paul's female counterpart, adds harmony on "Angel in Manhattan." This song and the title song end the album on a note of social optimism, tackling cynicism and racism respectively.

But Paul's fans might have to wait another 200,000 miles before their ramblin' man climbs out of his funk. On the other hand, maybe they'd rather hear him wallow just a little longer. □

Oliver Griswold is the Echo's Arts and Entertainment Editor and music critic.

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Starving Artists return to Colby

RENEE LAJEUNESSE
Editor-in-Chief

Beginning this evening, the Starving Artists Theatre Company will be at Colby for four shows throughout the weekend, three of their critically acclaimed play "Viper's Opium," and one of "Road Movie," an award-winning play performed at Colby last winter.

The Starving Artists company was invited back to Colby by popular demand after last year's performances.

According to Julia McDonald '99, "The response from the Colby community was so overwhelmingly positive we wanted more people to see them," said McDonald.

In "Viper's Opium," a play by Godfrey Hamilton, Mark Pinkosh plays Curtis, a discombobulated homosexual man, and Kathryn Howden plays Cricket, an extroverted Good Samaritan.

According to the Irish Times, "Viper's Opium" is a "presentation of lonesome Americans searching for their place in life."

The play won a Fringe First Award at the 1996 Edinburgh Fringe Festival and was selected for the Dublin International Festival in 1997.

"Road Movie," a one man show written by Hamilton and performed by Pinkosh, was met with much enthusiasm from it's Colby audience last year. It unfolds the story of Joel as he travels across the landscape of gay America in search of love, where he makes discoveries about both himself and other people, which weave perspectives on HIV, AIDS, sexuality, friendship, love and death.

In an Echo interview following last year's performance, Pinkosh talked about the importance of a play in making people "have to think."

"It's really important to hold



Photo courtesy of Communications

The Starving Artists return to Colby to present "Viper's Opium."

a mirror up to yourself and giggle at it. We do that with gay men in 'Road Movie.' We talk about the types of gay men that cruise and we laugh at them and I make fun of gay men, but I also always own to the fact that I am one and honor the good stuff of

being one," said Pinkosh.

"Viper's Opium" will be performed this evening through Saturday at 8 p.m., and the one reprise performance of "Road Movie" will be on Saturday at 11 p.m. in Strider Theater, and is being sponsored by the Performing Arts Department. □

Museum exhibit coming soon

On Feb. 14, The Colby College Museum of Art will open an exhibition of "The Japanese Prints of Charles Hovey Pepper." The opening will be held at the museum from 2:30-4:30 p.m. There will also be a Japanese Dance performance and lecture by Professor of Music Steven Nuss on Feb. 24 at 4 p.m. in the Davis Gallery of the museum. □

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9pm - Bonfire/BBQ, Bob's Parking Lot

10-2pm - Champions Night (\$2 w/ ID)

Friday - 5pm - Scavenger Hunt Deadline

10p.m.-2am - Mayflower Match-Up Semiformal (\$2, or free w/ Mayflower Match)

Saturday - Noon - Ice Sculpture Judging

9 pm - Pat McGee Band, Page Commons Room. (\$5 and cash bar)

4pm - Winners announced for Scavenger Hunt/ Sculptures @ Men's Hockey v. Amherst

Sunday - 8am - Free Buses to Sugarloaf (\$25 Lift Tix w/ Colby ID)

7-9pm - Sweetheart Skate, Johnson Pond w/ DJ, Hot Chocolate, etc.

Strider Theater

Performing Arts at Colby presents The Starving Artists Theater Co.

"Viper's Opium" - Thursday-Saturday 8 pm

"Road Movie" - Saturday 11pm

Black History Month Film Series

Feb. 22 - Do The Right Thing....Lovejoy 100....7:30 p.m.

March 1 - Beloved....Olin 1....4:30 and 7:30 p.m.

March 29 - Daughters of the Dust....Lovejoy 215....7:30 p.m.

Colby College Museum of Art

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Waterville Opera House

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Railroad Square Cinema

Friday, Feb. 12 - Thursday, Feb. 18

Gods and Monsters - 3:15 (except Fridays), 7:15, 9:20

Shakespeare In Love - 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20 and 9:40 (except no 12:20 and 2:40 shows Feb. 12)

The Wizard of Oz (newly restored) - Daily at 1:00 and 5:00 (EXCEPT no 1:00 show Feb. 12!)

Hoyts Waterville 6

"Payback" 1:35, 4:15, 7, 9:35

"She's All That" 1:20, 3:50, 7:10, 9:40

"Varsity Blues" 1:10, 3:40, 7:30, 9:50

"Patch Adams" 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30

"At First Sight" 1, 4, 6:40, 9:20

"A Civil Action" 1:40, 4:20, 7:20, 9:45

NOTE: No 9 o'clock shows Monday-Thursday.

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Talented teams swim to success

BY BECKY SCHECHTER
Asst. Sports Editor

Several strong individual performances translated into a solid January for the men's and women's swimming and diving teams. Colby's success in their dual meets resulted in 25 White Mules qualifying for the upcoming New England Championships.

The women's team especially benefited from contributions by its first-year athletes.

"The freshmen women gave us a big boost bringing talent and depth," said fifth-year head coach Sura DuBow.

As in most seasons, many pool records were broken. But this winter brought an exceptional number of record times produced by Mule swimmers. Most notably, Alyssa Severn '02 broke the record for the 50M backstroke.

The women divers also played a key role in ensuring the Mules a successful season, providing consistently strong performances and high scores in their events.

The women's team is sending 15 representatives to New England.

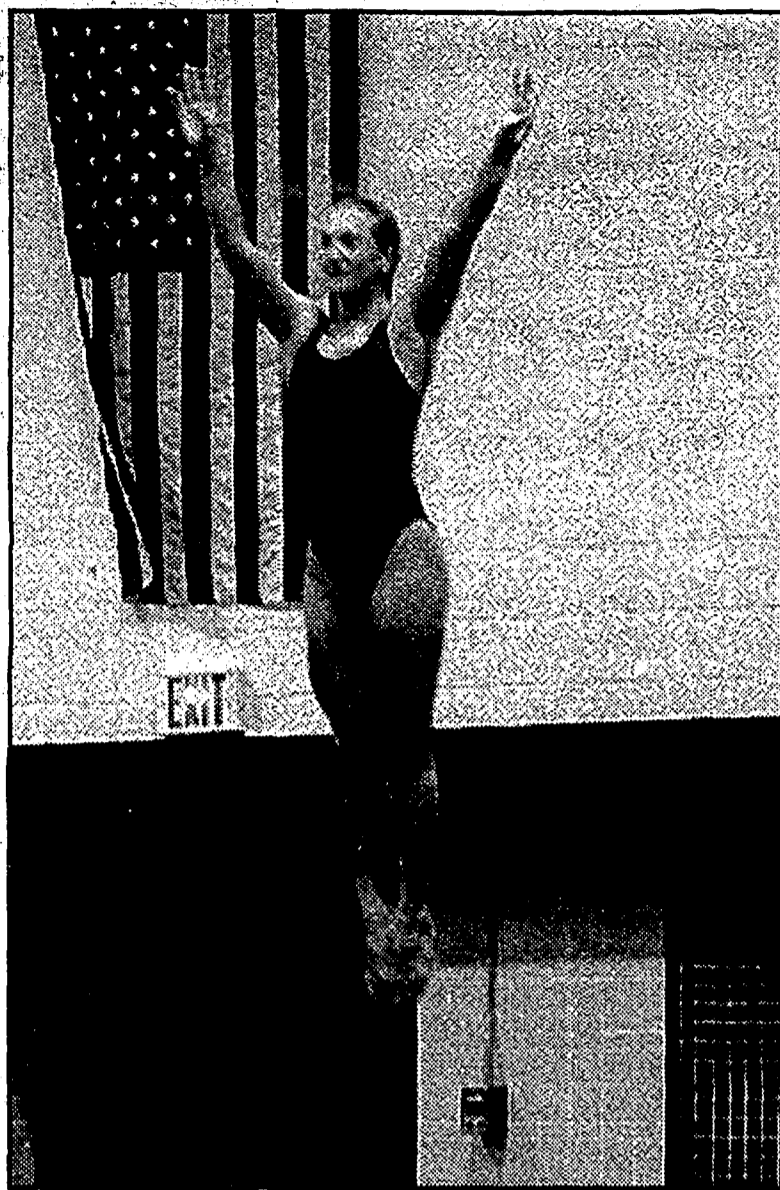
"For the women, this is the strongest team I've taken to the New England," said DuBow.

Although the men's team is not as large as the women's, and therefore did not fare as well in the dual meets, DuBow is confident that they will do very well at the Championships.

"The men's team is much smaller but very talented," she said. "The smaller meet will be better. The top men should all place."

DuBow also feels that both the men and women have good chances of making Nationals. Two members of the men's team made it to Nationals in 1998.

The women's team qualifiers include Michelle Cook '01, Blake Crowley '02, Emily Dowd '99, co-captain Laura Feraco '99, Blake Hamill '02, Jessica Knight '02, co-captain Katherine Lowe '99, Amy Millett '01, co-captain Kristen North '99, Jessica Povtak '02, Severn, Mary Snyder '00, and divers Jessica Alex '01, Kristy



Echo photo by Jenny O'Donnell
A Colby diver warms up for a weekend meet.

Jacobi '99 and Kathryn Johnson '00.

The men's team qualifiers are co-captain Andrew Brown '99, Stephen Feldman '01, Jeremy Greenfield '00, Zecharia Kahn '01, Quinn Keating '01, co-captain John Kuruć '99, Jeffrey McCloskey '00, Benjamin Schreiner '01, Laurence Spollen '99 and Brian White '00.

The New England Women's Championships take place at Bowdoin on Feb. 19-21 and the New England Men's Championships are at Williams on Feb. 26-28. □

Individual performances pace track and field

BY BROOKE FRAPPIER
Staff Writer

The Colby men's indoor track team had a bittersweet month of January. Although unable to emerge victorious as a team in any of the meets, there have been several individuals who turned in outstanding performances over the month.

In the first meet of the season at Bates College on Jan. 16, Colby put in its best performance thus far in the season, coming in second out of five teams. Scoring 149 team points, the Mules were edged only by the home team Bobcats, who tallied 189 points to win the first leg of the Quad Cup.

Five first place finishes of the day boosted the team's score significantly, including an 11-second victory over Bates in the 4x400 relay. Tyrone Boucaud '00 earned 13 total points for Colby,

at the Quad Cup held at Bowdoin. The Mules managed a fourth place finish against tough rivals Bates and Bowdoin, along with MIT and Tufts.

Coming off a strong showing at the Bates meet, Thomann handed in the best Mule performance of the afternoon, taking first in the 400-meter race with a time of 51.38 seconds. He also ran a leg on the second place 4x400 relay team.

In addition, Colby garnered second place finishes from Brewster, who threw the weight 53'4", Boucaud and Jared Beers '01. Boucaud missed the top finish in the 55-meter hurdles by a mere four hundredths of a second and Beers finished second to Thomann in the 400-meter race with a time of 51.85 seconds.

In their final meet of January, the Mules traveled to the University of Southern Maine to compete on the school's newly laid indoor track. Colby had a

"The throwers have really been improving consistently throughout the season- they have been working well, and we are very happy with their performance."

—Captain Wilson Everhart '99.

nine of which came from his first place finish of 8.06 seconds in the 55-meter hurdles.

Other firsts for the White Mules came from Kohjiro Watanabe '01, who ran the 600 meters in 1:28.67, Emil Thomann '00, who won the 55-meter sprint with a time of 6.64 seconds, and Tom Levings '01, who took the 1000-meter race in 2:46.90.

The most consistent scoring opportunities so far this season have come in the throwing events. At the Bates meet, Jamie Brewster '00 captured second place with a throw of 53' 1.5", while co-captain Jon Zarecki '99, Craig Jude '99 and Nicholas Bizier '01 came in fourth, seventh and eighth respectively.

The shot put also produced multiple Colby scorers. Zarecki claimed third place with a throw of 40' 5.5", and Bizier and Bret Skoropowski '02 placed fourth and sixth.

"The throwers have really been improving consistently throughout the season- they have been working well, and we are very happy with their performance," said captain Wilson Everhart '99.

On Jan. 23, Colby competed

tough time keeping up with the teams from Springfield College, Westfield State, USM and Tufts, who won the meet with 230 points. But the Mules were missing three of their strongest athletes. Boucaud, Thomann and Beers chose to compete at the Terrier Classic meet in Boston for which they had qualified.

Nearly one third of Colby's 68 points came in the weight throw, as Brewster and Nathan Laing '00 combined with Zarecki to earn 20 of the event's 37 possible points. Brewster took first place with a throw of 52' 10", while Laing and Zarecki took third and fourth places. Unfortunately for the Mules, they would manage to place multiple scorers in only one other event, as Laing, Zarecki and Skoropowski combined for six points in the shot put.

Colby's best finish in a non-throwing event came from junior Scott Bridges '00, who earned seven points with a second-place finish in the pole vault.

The Mules will take on Maine rivals this Saturday when they attend the Annual Maine State Meet held this year at Bowdoin. □



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Sports Shorts

Women's basketball player Mandy Cochrane '01 was named Player of the Week during January by the Maine Women's Basketball Coaches Association, the New England Women's Basketball Association and the Eastern College Athletic Conference. Cochrane averaged 24 points and 9.5 rebounds in games against Husson and Bowdoin. She scored a career-high 29 points in the Husson contest,

pulled down 12 rebounds and recorded five steals.

For the first time in the history of Colby football, players have been selected by the NCAA to play in the national Division III All-Star game in Louisiana. Tri-captain James Scribner '99 and Ryan Aldrich '99 received invitations to play in the game this weekend to be held during Mardi Gras after being named

to the All-NESCAC team.

Several of Colby's women athletes donated their time on Saturday to assist with Colby's second women's sports clinic for local fourth, fifth and sixth-grade girls. Approximately 90 young athletes "worked out" with the Lady Mules, practicing their basketball, softball, soccer, field hockey and lacrosse skills. □

HOCKEY, from page 16

impetus for the meeting, for a large population of alumni from each school resides in Boston and attended the contest. Tortorella does not foresee next year's schedule allowing for a repeat of the Beantown Colby-Bowdoin game, but hopes it will resume the following year.

"It was great for the alums," said Tortorella. "We gave ourselves the opportunity to win and it just didn't work out."

The Mules sought revenge yesterday, when the Polar Bears traveled to Waterville for the third and final meeting of the year. The game had major playoff implications, as

Tortorella said that end of the season games are taken into account by the playoff selection committees for the first time this year.

The offense is sure to be led by Fred Perowne '01, the team's leading scorer with 15 goals and 13 assists. Scott Richardson '00 has also been a force, tallying 11 goals and 15 assists. The Mules have also been helped by the addition of transfer student James LaLiberty '02.

"James is very strong physically," said Tortorella. "He's got a good shot and he knows the game very well."

LaLiberty, a Waterville native who practiced with the Division I University of Maine Black Bears, played competitively for the USA National Under 18 Team.

Koh said the team will take each game as it comes.

"Our team prides itself on taking one game at a time," said Koh.

Following yesterday's matchup, the Mules have only four games remaining on their schedule. This weekend Colby will take on Trinity and Amherst at home before finishing up at Babson and at the University of Massachusetts-Boston. □

Upcoming Events

Men's Basketball

Feb. 12 Amherst

Feb. 13 Trinity

Women's Basketball

Feb. 12 @ Amherst 7:30

Feb. 13 @ Trinity 3:00

Men's Hockey

Feb. 12 Trinity 7:00

Feb. 13 Amherst

Women's Hockey

Feb. 12 Niagara University 1:00

Feb. 13 Niagara University 1:00

Feb. 17 @ U. New Hampshire 7:00

Men's Indoor Track and Field

Feb. 13 @ Bowdoin, State Meet 1:00

Women's Indoor Track and Field

Feb. 12-13 @ U. Rhode Island

Open N.E. Championships 10:00

Men's and Women's Skiing

Feb. 12-13 @ Dartmouth

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Claremont
GRADUATE UNIVERSITY

Men's hoops hope to retain momentum

BY HEATHER DAUR
Staff Writer

The Colby men's basketball team heated up the court this January as they extended their record to a successful 11-7.

The Mules began the month with an impressive showing at the Colby Invitational Tournament as they defeated Nyack College 78-67. They then went on to capture the title with a win over Husson College 73-60. Senior co-captain James Spidle was named Most Valuable Player of the tournament for his notable play, which continued throughout the month.

Colby suffered a minor setback when they were defeated by the Clark University Cougars 80-73. The Mules rebounded to improve their record to 8-5 with dominating victories over Thomas College, 109-57, and Bowdoin College 78-53.

Both Spidle and Ken Allen '00 exhibited stellar play in Colby's narrow 69-65 victory over the Bates Bobcats. Colby went on to better their season record to 10-5 with a victory over Wesleyan before falling

to the Camels of Connecticut College by a score of 63-56.

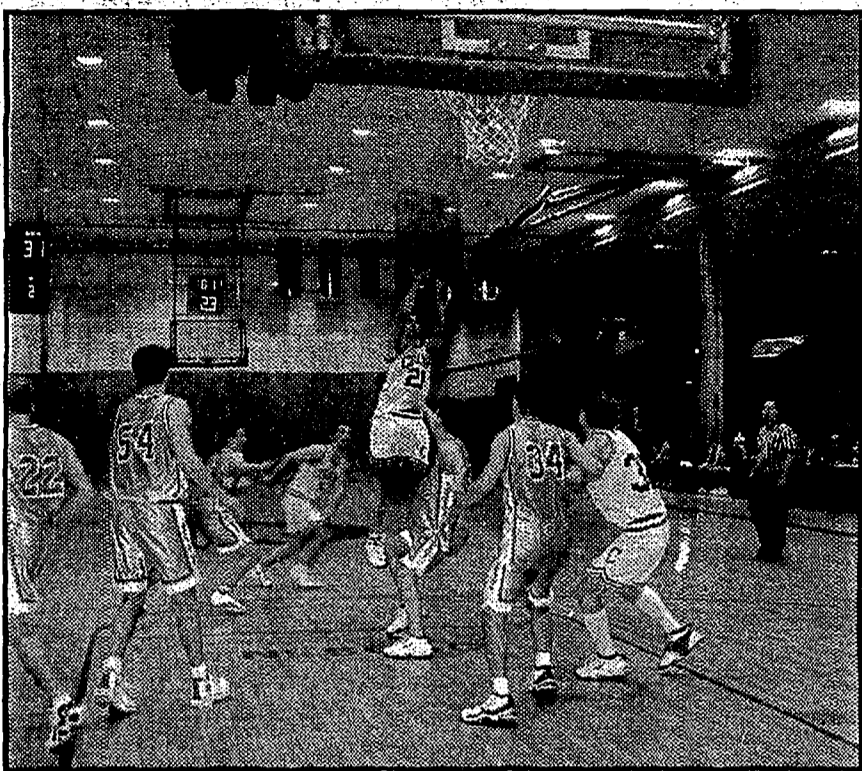
This past weekend brought about mixed results for the Mules, with a 81-68 victory over Middlebury and a disappointing 72-59 loss to Williams.

Still, head coach Dick Whitmore was positive about the team's performance last weekend.

"With the exception of the first half at Williams, the team played quite well, and we are in a position where, if we continue our progress over the next three weeks, we will get a chance to play in the post-season," he said.

Consistent play was exhibited all month by Spidle, Allen, Brian Hansen '00 and Sam Clark '01.

Spidle echoed Coach Whitmore in his



Echo file photo

The Mules get two points on a long jump shot.

assessment of the team's performance over January.

"The team was able to come together as a cohesive unit, enabling us to bring about a successful season so far," he said.

The Mules battled against Bowdoin again on Tuesday night in Brunswick. They hope to improve on their 11-7 record and make a run for the playoffs when they return home to Wadsworth Gymnasium to face Amherst on Friday and Trinity on Saturday. □

WOMEN'S TRACK, from page 16

Meg McCusker '02 took the 600M with a time of 1:48.57. Kate Magnuson '02 won the weight throw with a toss of 41'0.00". Bergquist claimed the 1000 with a time of 3:16.89. Tiffany Frazar '01 won the 5000 with a time of 19:17.71, and Hoch took first in the shot put with a throw of 36'1". The Mules also swept the relays with firsts in the 4x200, 4x400 and the 4x800 relays.

At their second meet of the season, the New England Challenge Cup at MIT on Jan. 23, Colby came up with a fourth place finish out of seven schools.

Hoch paced the Mules, taking first place in both the shot put and the weight throw, and tallying 18 of the team's 89 points on the afternoon. The team also received help from Bergquist, who placed second in the 600M with a personal best of 1:41.95, and Anderson, who cleared 4' 11.25" for a second place in the high jump. In addition to the individual performances, the team also placed well in the relays.

In their final meet of January at USM, the Mules took third place out of six teams.

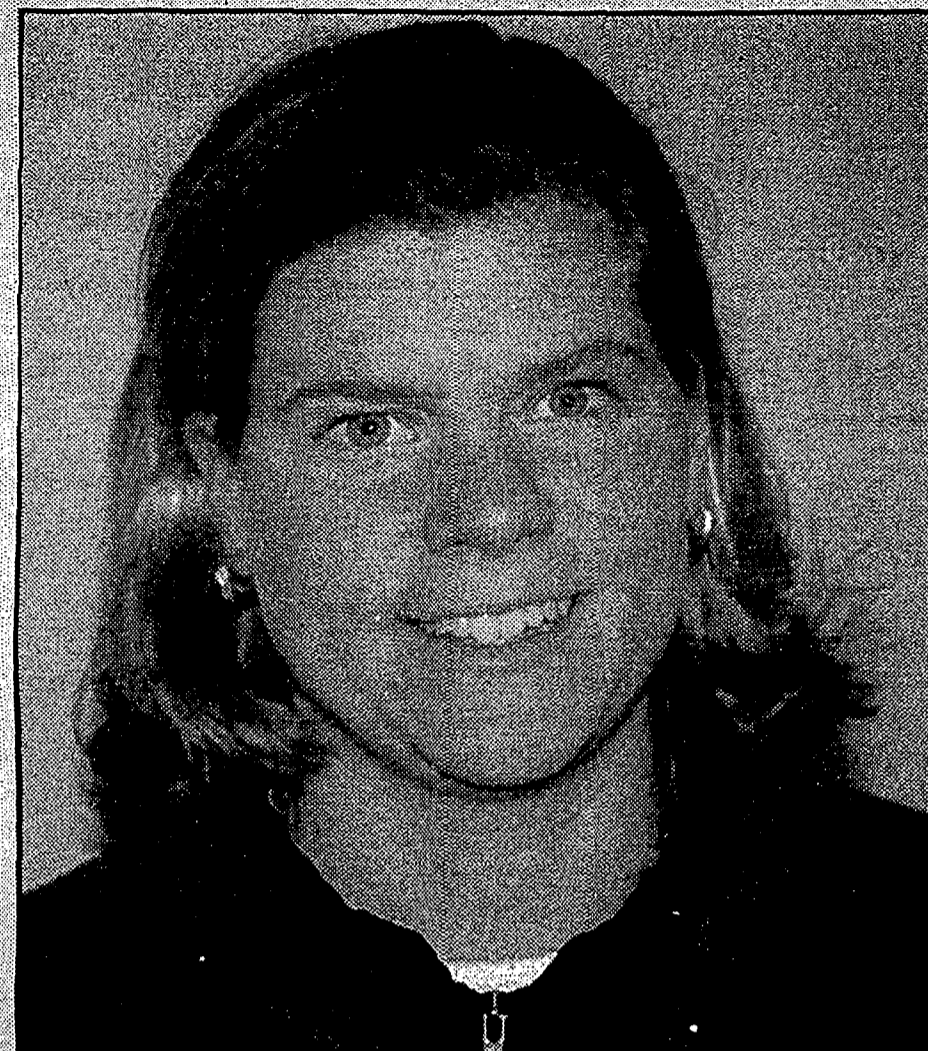
The White Mules were led by sprinter Jackie Johnson '01, who won the 55-meter dash and took third in the 200-meter dash to score a team-high 15 points. Fellow sophomore Kate Isley '01 was close behind, accumulating 14 individual points with a victory in the high jump and a fourth place finish in the 600-meter run. Anderson showed her versatility for Colby, gaining points with a third place finish in the high jump, a fourth place finish in the long jump and a seventh place finish in the shot put.

Rounding out the Mules in double digits were Hoch, who tallied 10 points by taking fourth in both the shot put and the weight throw, and Wilcox, who also scored 10 points by finishing sixth in the 1500 and second in the pole vault. Colby also managed to keep up in the relays, gathering second place finishes in all three races.

The Mules will travel to the University of Rhode Island on Saturday for the Open New England Championships before the Feb. 19 State Meet at USM. □

DEVASTATOR

of the week



Echo photo by Jen Record

Josephine Chapman '01

The women's ice hockey goaltender set and broke the Eastern College Athletic Conference record for saves in a game this season. Chapman made 83 saves in net against Cornell on January 10, breaking the ECAC all-time record of 78 saves in a game. The sophomore then stopped 95 shots against Brown on January 22, making 39 saves in the opening period, 27 in the second, and 29 in the third.

Mule Pack

Faith Anderson '00

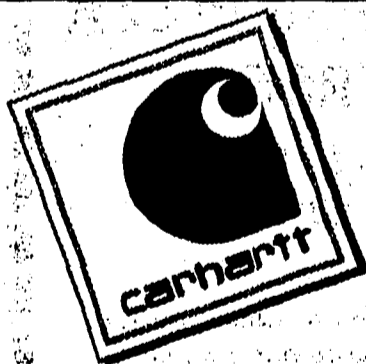
Anderson led the women's indoor track team to victory in the fourth leg of the Challenge Cup at Bates on February 6. The versatile junior tallied a team-high 24 points, taking second-place in the high jump, third in the 55M hurdles and the shot put, and fourth in the long jump.

Amanda Cochrane '01

Cochrane was named the Player of the Week by the Maine Women's Basketball Coaches Association, the New England Women's Basketball Association, and the Eastern College Athletic Conference for her outstanding play in the final week of January. The sophomore averaged 24.0 points and 9.5 rebounds per contest in two games for the White Mules, while shooting 52.8 percent from the floor.

Steve Cunningham '01

With a little over six minutes left in regulation, the sophomore hockey player scored the tying goal in Colby's game against top-ranked Norwich University on February 5. Cunningham was the first player to score against the undefeated Norwich squad this season.



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Colby ties nation's top-ranked team

BY BECKY POLLARD
Sports Editor

As the men's hockey head coach Jim Tortorella pauses during his hectic afternoon, the day before his players skate their biggest game of the year, he reminds himself how much he loves the sport.

Tortorella must find a way to teach his squad to be consistent, prepare for a weekend against Norwich and Middlebury, the number one and three teams in the latest national polls, manage a 76-year-old program, coach the U.S. World Junior National Team, and forecast the team's post-season fate. And he finds a way to do it.

During an up-and-down January, Tortorella watched his team's play border on brilliance and then falter on inconsistency. The Mules, who were 4-1 before January, went 5-5-2 over the busy month to put their record at 9-6-2. Inconsistent play marred the month for the Mules. But that was January.

Colby was very consistent last weekend, tying both Norwich and Middlebury 1-1 in overtime. On Friday, the Alford Arena rocked with Colby students and White Mule alumni when Steve Cunningham '01 took Mike Dalton's '01 pass into the net, tying the score at 1-1 with 6:13 remaining in the game. In over-

time, both goalies sealed the nets shut and the game ended in a tie. Mule goalie Jason Cherella '99 stopped 40 of Norwich's 41 shots.

The crowd was calmer on Saturday's contest against the Middlebury Panthers, but the players were not. Again, the Mules battled to a 1-1 tie, thanks to Ray Lang's '00 unassisted goal halfway through the first period. And again, Cherella was key for Colby's defense, stopping 38 of 39 shots on goal.

All-American defenseman Rob Koh '99 played a critical role in the game as well.

"It was a strange weekend you know. You play hockey to win and that didn't happen," said the captain. "But we're happy for the most part. We were happy we played well, but also thought we could win."

Playing two important games back-to-back forced the tough challenge, both physically and mentally.

Koh said that after the first game "we couldn't dwell on what had happened and couldn't be happy either" due to their face-off the following day.

The Mules hope these ties will give them the momentum they didn't have during January, which began with a 6-1 routing by Rochester Institute of Technology on Jan. 2 at the Plattsburgh Invitational Tour-



Echo photo by Jenny O'Donnell

Colby put Norwich in their place Friday night.

ament. Colby rebounded the next day to dominate the University of Southern Maine and win 10-2.

On Jan. 6, the Mules eked out a 3-2 win over Plattsburgh, but on Jan. 9 found themselves on the losing end of a close game as they fell to Bentley 4-3 in overtime.

Colby had trouble establishing any momentum to propel them through the rest of the month. The

Mules traded wins, losses and ties to compile the 5-5-2 Jan Plan record. Wins over St. Anselm's, the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and USM were countered by two tough losses to Williams, 3-2 and 5-4 in overtime, and a 3-1 lopsided contest against Bowdoin held at Boston University. Colby recorded ties against New England College and Salem State.

The loss to Bowdoin evened this year's rivalry at 1-1. Tortorella hopes it set a new tradition between the schools of playing in Boston in front of an alumni crowd. The game was added to the schedule because both schools had an extra game date available. The location of Division I powerhouse Boston University provided the See **HOCKEY**, page 14

Nordic and alpine skiers take January by storm

BY MATT SMITH
Contributing Writer

The men's and women's nordic and alpine ski teams are almost halfway through their season with the NCAA Division I Ski Championships only four weeks away.

"We're hoping to get someone to qualify in the NCAA championships," said head alpine coach Mark Godomsky.

The Mule skiers opened their season at the Bates Winter Carnival. The alpine women placed seventh of 13 competing teams on both slalom and giant slalom events, while the men had an impressive fifth place team effort in the giant slalom event.

Individually, alpine skiers Beth Festa '01 and Amanda Rutherford '00 finished 20th and 22nd to lead the women in slalom. David Riis '01 and Carl Balit '02 finished 12th and 14th to pace the men's slalom. Riis also finished 18th in the giant slalom. This was the first year in the history of the Bates Carnival that Colby has ever placed better than eighth in total points.

The nordic team also fared well, with the men's team placing seventh in the 20K Classic race and the women placing sixth in the 15K Classic.

The next weekend of action for the Colby skiers brought the alpine team to the University of New Hampshire, while the nordic team hit the slopes at St. Lawrence University.

In the nordic races, the women placed seventh in the

10K Freestyle event and the men took sixth. The men's and women's scores combined for sixth place in the 4X5K Classic mixed relay.

The alpine women garnered a sixth place finish in both the slalom and giant slalom. Rutherford led the way for the Mules finishing 20th. The men placed seventh in both slalom and giant slalom. Top finishers included Balit and captain Craig Bowden '99 at 16th and 25th in slalom and Riis at 11th in the giant slalom. Riis' performance marked the best finish for the men this season. Unfortunately, first-year Balit injured his knee in an accident that abruptly ended his season.

The latest ski action took place in the Green Mountains of Vermont at the University of Vermont Carnival at Stowe. The women's nordic team finished sixth and seventh in the 15K Classic and 5K Freestyle. The men finished eighth in both events. The women's alpine team placed seventh in slalom and sixth in giant slalom, while the men took ninth in slalom and sixth in giant slalom.

Top finishers for the women were captain Emily Etchells '99 and Rutherford at 21st and 22nd in slalom and Etchells and Festa at 16th and 19th in the giant slalom. Riis placed 21st in slalom for the men.

The Colby skiers await their next competition this weekend, when they travel to Hanover, N.H., Saturday for the Dartmouth Carnival.

Etchells is confident that the Colby skiers are ready for the competition.

"Our best skiing is yet to come," she said. □

“Our best skiing is yet to come.”
—Emily Etchells '99

Women's indoor track finds talent in numbers

BY BROOKE FRAPPIER
Staff Writer

Several women's indoor track athletes have turned in multiple top performances so far this season, establishing an extremely talented team. This weekend proved it. The team earned 189 points to win the fourth leg of the Challenge Cup held at Bates.

The Lady Mules victory was led by Faith Anderson '00, who competed in four events and alone gathered 24 points. Jeannine Bergquist '00 provided Colby with 14 points when she won the 400-meter dash and placed fourth in the 200-meter dash. Other first place finishes came from Katie MacDonald '02 in the 600-meter run, Laura Wilcox '01 in the pole vault, Karen Hoch '00 in the shot put and both the 200 and 400-meter relay teams.

The team's win culminates a season that began in January, when the women got off to a running start by winning the first leg of the six-team Challenge Cup Invitational at the University of Southern Maine on Jan. 16. Colby beat teams from USM, Bates, Rhode Island College, the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth and Westfield State.

MacDonald scored 26 of her team's 211 points. The USM Huskies, with 167 points, were the only team close to the White Mules' total of 211, while Bates came in third with 104 points. MacDonald took first place in the 800, second in the high hurdles and the long jump, and fifth in the high jump for her 26 individual points.

Colby had a total of nine first place finishes on the day.

See **WOMEN'S TRACK**, page 15