

Students evacuated following Grossman fire

Grossman freshman suspended for semester

BY MATT APUZZO
News Editor

The residents of Grossman Residence Hall were evacuated, Feb. 25, after a fire started in a third-floor dorm room, causing minor fire damage and setting off sprinkler systems on the floor. The building was evacuated and students were relocated to friends' rooms or to a local hotel for the night.

One of the three residents of the room, Michael Donohue '02, received burn injuries and was taken by a friend to MaineGeneral's Thayer Unit. He was treated and released that evening.

Wednesday, Donohue said he received a suspension for the remainder of this semester for his part in the fire. He also said he would not receive reimbursement for his tuition.

A Waterville Fire Department investigation into the cause of the fire is underway, but the results have not yet been released. Residents confirmed that there was a candle in the room. They and representatives of the fire department both credited carelessness as the cause of the fire.

Candles have been prohibited from dorm rooms since 1997 when a room in Small Residence Hall caught fire. The listed fine in the Student Handbook for possessing candles is \$150.

When a chair, which was taken from the Grossman lounge, caught fire, Donohue woke up sleeping roommate Andrew Hicks '02. Hicks reported that the two students

attempted to fill a garbage can with water to douse the flames. However, when they returned from the bathroom, the fire was out of control.

"By the time I got back into the room everything was on fire," said Hicks.

Two Waterville fire trucks and a rescue vehicle arrived at the dorm at 3:50 p.m. Shortly thereafter, the charred remains of the lounge chair were removed from the building.

"The fire was out when I got here," said Acting Fire Chief Raymond Poulin. "Thanks to the sprinklers, the damage was minimal."

The two sprinkler heads that were activated by the fire were both located on the third floor of the dorm, but emitted such a large volume of water that the hallways of the first and second floors were also soaked.

Inspection of the fire scene showed a small table in the center of the main room of the two-room triple that was slightly burnt. The futon in the room was also burnt. A small alarm clock on the table had melted.

Associate Dean of Housing Paul E. Johnston and Associate Dean of Residential Life Ron Hammond held a meeting at 5 p.m. that evening for Grossman residents and outlined the College's plans to relocate students and handle any damages to property.

Expanded Jitney service to a local hotel provided transportation and lodging for students affected by the fire. Johnston told residents that any clothes or linens soaked by the sprinklers were being bagged, marked and taken to a laundromat that night. People were



Photo by David Leaming, the Morning Sentinel

Students watch as firefighters prepare to run electrical wires into Grossman.

"on call" and "working through the night," he said, to ensure students' property would be cleaned.

No damage to individual computers or stereo equipment has been reported yet, and most students found their rooms in good shape when they returned Friday morning.

Dean of Students Janice Kassman waited until Tuesday to pass down disciplinary action in order to itemize the damages.

"I'm trying to gather all the bills," said Kassman, Monday. "I'm waiting to see what we've got... There's going to be a lot of bills." See GROSSMAN, continued on page 3

Earthquake shakes campus

BY MATT APUZZO
News Editor

An earthquake registering a 3.8 on the Richter scale shook Colby, Feb. 25, at 10:38 p.m. No damage was reported following the state's largest quake in a decade.

The epicenter of the earthquake was reportedly in Winslow, two miles east of Waterville, according to officials at the Maine Geological Survey offices at the Department of Conservation in Augusta.

Colby's Department of Geology maintains two active seismographs. The pen plotter on the first immediately records a visual image of the quake. The plotter, however, was plugged with ink and did not work.

The second seismograph recorded the data from the quake and sent it via satellite to the Weston Geophysical Laboratory at Boston College. Weston downloaded the data and published the seismic tracing that was printed in the Morning Sentinel.

Professor of Geology Donald B. Allen, who was born and raised in California, was reading at his home in Oakland at the time of the quake. He said he knew "instantly" the source of the shaking.

The last sizable earthquake in the area occurred Dec. 28, 1988. The center of that quake, which registered a 3.9, was in Albion, just a few miles north of Winslow. Allen does not see this coincidence as a cause for alarm or for speculation that there is a giant fault line running through Winslow.

"We're in a polydeformed terrain and all that means is there's been a lot of folding and a lot of molting in the past... The two might be connected and they might not," he said.

Allen also said that residents don't need to worry that the Waterville area will see an increase in sizable earthquakes. At least not any time soon.

"In geological time maybe, but it doesn't seem to be time to pack your bags," he said. □

Israeli Ambassador predicts peace

BY PATRICK J. BERNAL
Staff Writer

"Yes, there will be peace in the Middle East," former Israeli ambassador to the United States, Itamar Rabinovich, told listeners at his Feb. 28 speech to students, faculty, and the Waterville community.

Rabinovich, who served as Israeli ambassador to the U.S. from 1993 until 1996, spoke for over an hour on subjects as wide-ranging as peace in the Middle East, domestic Israeli politics, the Clinton presidency and Hillary Clinton's possible New York Senate bid in the year 2000.

The subject of the lecture was "Israel: The Next 50 Years, Will There be Peace?"

Rabinovich was optimistic, maintaining that while "there are no easy solutions... the peace process that has begun is irreversible, and will push on." Rabinovich also called the current hiatus in the peace process temporary.

"Both sides desire peace and now it is just a matter of time, be it in two or three years, or

even in fifty," he said.

Rabinovich served in the Israeli military before entering academics, first in Israel and later in the United States before becoming ambassador. He is the author of six books including "The Road Not Taken," winner of the Jewish Book Award. Rabinovich currently serves as the Yona and Dina Ettinger Professor of Contemporary Middle Eastern History at Tel Aviv University in Israel.

Rabinovich also spoke of the Israeli general election that will take place on May 17. He was adamant that regardless of the outcome of the election, "the peace process will go ahead."

Rabinovich's lecture came at a crucial moment in world politics, immediately following the death of King Hussein of Jordan.

"Rabinovich's visit to Colby was timely as he did so much for Jordan. We are honored to have a speaker of this stature at Colby," said Eric Lantzman, co-president of Hillel.

See ISRAEL, continued on page 4

In This Issue: • Donohue gives "The Big Picture" of Iraq, page 2

• Faculty members receiving no dental benefits, page 3

THE BIG PICTURE

Professor Guilain Denoeux on the situation in Iraq

BY KAREN VITALI
Staff Writer

Since 1968, the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein and his followers has controlled Iraq. Despite wars, numerous coup attempts and the harshest economic embargo in United Nations history, Hussein remains in power as Iraq's president.

"One of the most surprising things is the resilience of this regime," said Associate Professor and Director of International Studies Guilain Denoeux as he sat down last week with the *Echo* to discuss the situation in Iraq.

"The situation is in many ways more dangerous than it was in 1991," said Denoeux.

From the end of the Persian Gulf War until December's air strikes on Iraq, relations between Iraq and the United Nations have been characterized by a sort of "cat and mouse" game. UNSCOM, the U.N. committee set up to keep track of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, would perform periodic spot checks of Iraqi weapons centers. Hussein refused to allow until these inspections until the last minute.

"What happened last December was that Hussein did not blink," said Denoeux.

The subsequent bombing of Iraqi weapons centers by American and British forces led to Hussein's refusal to allow future UNSCOM inspections. This

but added that even the U.N. Security Council is divided on how to best monitor the country.

"There is no agreement, and meanwhile the clock is ticking," he said.

If the clock is ticking it is because most experts agree that Hussein is within two years of developing nuclear weapons. Hussein has not hesitated to use his biological weapons in the past, and U.S. experts agree that an Iraq with nuclear capabilities poses an immediate threat to global security.

Many often wonder why American forces did not go all the way to Baghdad and overthrow Hussein during the Gulf War. But Denoeux points out that the U.N. did not support an affront on Hussein's power. It merely supported the liberation of Kuwait.

"It is important to remember that (the United States) did not have a mandate to go to Baghdad," said Denoeux.

Americans became involved in the Gulf War following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait not in order to change the Iraqi government, Denoeux said. Doing so could have cost many lives and would not have generated support from the rest of the world.

Yet Hussein's obsession with becoming a world

currently means that until the United Nations establishes another method to keep track of Hussein's activities, the world has no way of knowing what is going on inside Iraqi borders.

Denoeux said adopting a new policy to monitor Iraqi weapons systems is crucial.

power through the production of weapons of mass destruction continues. Iraq has suffered enormous consequences, including an oil embargo that has devastated the economy and destroyed the middle class. A nation that was once one of the most well educated in the Arab world now suffers from widespread famine and malnutrition. The United Nations' "oil for food" program, which allows Iraq to sell a small amount of oil every six months to buy food, medical supplies and other such items has also not been effective, as Hussein uses the proceeds from these limited oil sales for his own benefit.

In January President Clinton signed the Iraq Liberation Act, which allotted \$97 million to Iraqi opposition groups in hopes that they will eventually overthrow the current dictatorship.

Denoeux is critical of this policy, of "containment plus."

"The policy has not been thought out and comes more from frustration," he said.

He also said that even if a coup is successful, be it sponsored by U.S. funds or not, there is a real possibility that Hussein's successor will solve any problems.

"Who tells us the next person is going to be better

"The situation is in many ways more dangerous than it was in 1991."
- Guilain Denoeux

than Saddam," he said.

Also, a new leader might not have control over the many different factions in Iraq and the country could split, disrupting the precarious balance of power in the Middle East. Right now, he said, Iraq and Iran counteract each other's power. A weakened Iraq might not prove to be good for Middle Eastern politics.

Yet Professor Denoeux, like many experts, believes that while containment is not a "quick fix," it is the only way to deal with the situation. He stressed, however, that a new U.N. weapons monitoring system is crucial.

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News Briefs

Feminist Fortnight brings womens' issues to light on campus

As part of the Feminist Fortnight, Innana, an all-women's Maine drumming group will perform on Friday at 8 p.m. in Given Auditorium. A discussion on the intersection of race and gender will take place on Monday at 7 p.m. in the Pugh Center. Midwife Kimberly Kerry will lead a discussion at 4 p.m. Wednesday in the Pugh Center.

Women's Studies Colloquia to focus on 19th Century photography

Andrea Volpe, visiting instructor in history, will be lecturing at 4:30 today in the Whitney Room of Roberts Union as part of the Women's Studies Colloquia. Her subject is "Cartes de Visite Portrait Photographs and the Culture of Exchange in the 19th Century United States."

Music class premieres film

Assistant Professor of Music Stephen Nuss' fall semester class of "Music and the Visual Image" will present their film and rescoring of scenes of classic movies from the past 40 years. The showing will be at 7 p.m. today in Given Auditorium.

Faculty denied dental coverage

BY BECKY MUNSTERER
Contributing Writer

Although many members of the Colby faculty have been requesting it for years, Colby's healthcare program continues to be without a dental plan. The College argues that a dental plan would be too draining on their budget, but faculty members contest that the full cost of dentistry is too expensive for their own personal budgets.

Under Colby's policy, faculty members are provided with health, life and disability insurance. A dental plan has never been included in the package due to strains in the college budget.

According to Director of Personnel Services Doug Terp, the College cannot afford to include a faculty dental plan in its budget because there is no room for this type of spending with the current allotment of funds. He also said that Colby's top priority in the allocation of college funds is salaries.

"The focus of the College has always been to try to make sure that we can continue to afford the benefits that we do have," said Terp.

A faculty dental plan is not a top priority when trying to logically designate funds to various needs of the campus. Terp estimates that a dental plan would cost the College between \$140 and \$150 a year per faculty member. This would be on the low end of the dental plan spectrum, with added coverage raising prices dramatically. With 157 faculty members, this base price translates to approximately \$23,000

annually.

Many other colleges have dental plans for their eligible faculty and staff members, including Bowdoin College in Brunswick.

The determination of whether a college will include a faculty dental plan is usually made when the school's budget is allocated. In the past, the Advisory Committee of Faculty Personnel Policy and the Financial Priorities Committee have looked at compensation packages for dental plans, but have come to the conclusion that there are no funds to allocate the dollars needed for such a cause.

Many professors on campus are asking for a rudimentary dental plan. One of the most vocal advocates for a faculty dental plan is Colby's Lee Family Professor of English and American Studies, Charles Bassett.

**"My checks don't pass go, they go directly to the dentist."
- Charles Bassett**

"My checks don't pass go, they go directly to the dentist," said Bassett.

Bassett has been fighting for 20 years with what he describes as "monotonous regularity" for a College dental plan. This is a consistent struggle for Bassett, as well as many other faculty members who believe that dental coverage from Colby would significantly lift the burden of extensive dentist bills.

"They say 'It's expensive.' I say 'How expensive?' They say 'too expensive.' It's a never ending battle," said Bassett.

The future of a faculty dental plan depends on whether the trustees and the administration believe they can allocate funds without taking away from the other components of health protection. For the time being, however, the faculty will have to keep writing their own checks for getting their teeth fixed.

echo@colby.edu

Local News

McDonald's to move

The Waterville City Planning Board approved plans Monday for a new McDonald's at the current T-N-T Construction site at the corner of Washington Street and Kennedy Memorial Drive.

The restaurant will seat 74 people and will replace the McDonald's at 2 JFK Mall. There are currently two McDonald's restaurants, two Burger King's, one Wendy's, one Kentucky Fried Chicken and a handful of pizza restaurants already in the Waterville area.

GROSSMAN, continued from page 1

"This wasn't a minor event," she said. "It was a careless act that came with some serious consequences."

Donohue agreed, but thought the punishment was harsh considering the situation.

"Overall, this was a mistake and I tried to clear it up and make it easy for everyone... at least suspend me for next semester so I don't get tuition taken away," he said.

"I was completely honest with the police,

the fire department, and I took full responsibility for it," said Donohue. "I'm kind of agitated that I'm kind of being held to the punishment of a liar that tried to get away with something."

Donohue said he will work to reimburse his parents for the lost tuition money and regretted the problems caused by the fire.

"It's a mess right now, it's a terrible situation,"

he said.

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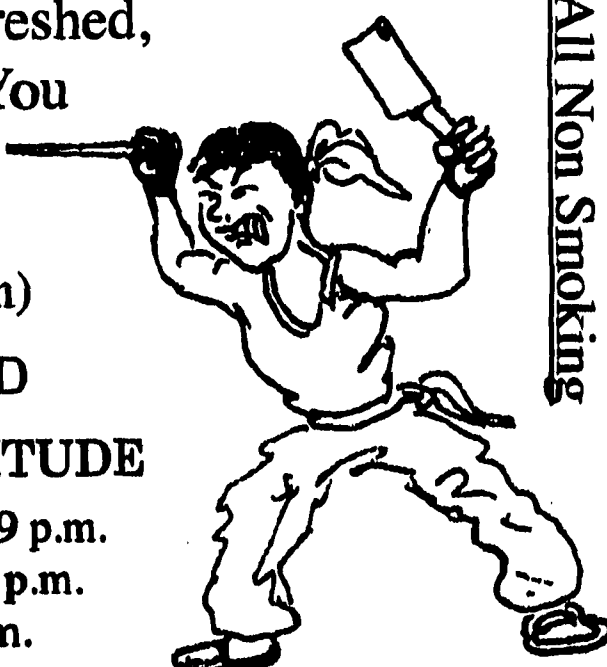
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ISRAEL, continued from page 1

Student Government Association Cultural Chair Walter Wang said, "We are delighted to have him here. Getting Rabinovich, after Lech Walesa's speech earlier this year, shows Colby's commitment to supplementing classroom learning with speeches by major international dignitaries."

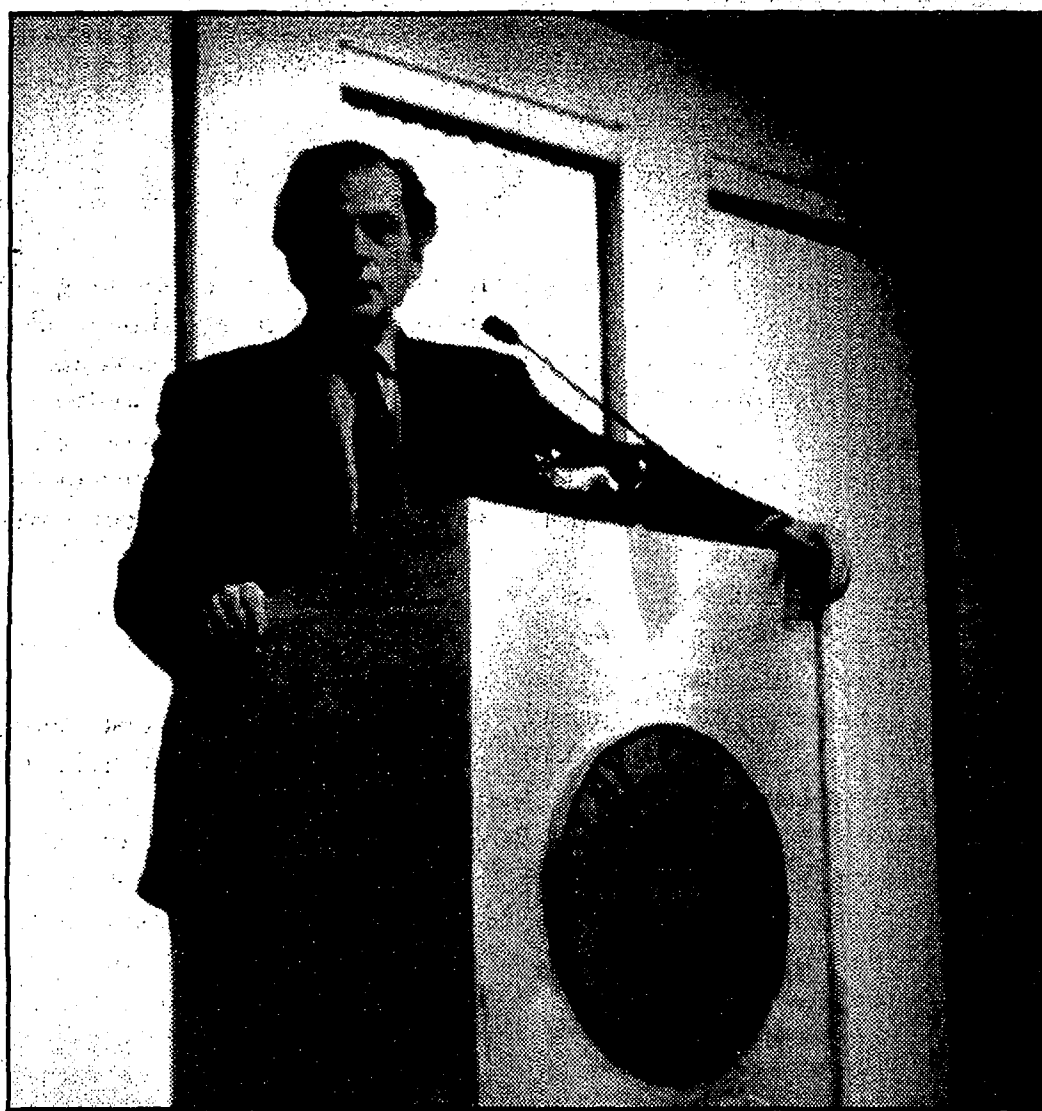
"It was just a matter of fortunate timing; we contacted his agent and our schedules corresponded well," said Wang.

Rabbi Raymond Krinsky, Jewish chaplain, called the speech "well reasoned, very thorough and full of hope."

"Colby was lucky to have a person of experience in Rabinovich, who was able to draw upon his own experiences in speaking to us," he said.

Colby President William R. Cotter also shared his feelings about the speech.

"Not only has he lived through all of this, during a crucial time in the American/Israeli relationship, a time of great solidarity and of great progress," said Cotter. "His historian's ability to speak for over an hour and give you the whole history of the Arab/Israeli conflict from 1948 to today, was very im-



Itamar Rabinovich speaks to Colby students.

Echo photo by Wes Baff

pressive."

But even as Rabinovich offered a positive view of the future in the Middle East, fighting

broke out on the border of Israel and Lebanon, a reminder of the severity of the conflict in the Middle East that is still present. □

Faculty scheduled to further discuss JanPlan

BY BETSY LOYD
Asst. News Editor

Colby's faculty is scheduled to discuss JanPlan in a more in-depth manner at its March 10 meeting. Cheryl Townsend Gilkes, John D. MacArthur associate professor of sociology and African-American Studies, made a motion at the Feb. 10 meeting to "re-evaluate JanPlan with the possibility of abolishing or modifying." All faculty motions must hold over for a month before they can be voted upon.

"I don't know where this discussion is going to go," said Dean of the Faculty Ed Yeterian.

Gilkes agreed, saying, "I know the faculty will talk about it and from there, one can't predict a thing."

Gilkes said that JanPlan is "nearly 40 years old and a lot of things happen during JanPlan that are very different from one another."

Yeterian said the only central theme connecting JanPlan opportunities is "pursuing one activity, in-depth, for four weeks." He said that part of the question that the faculty is currently faced with is whether JanPlan programs should be more interconnected.

JanPlan was founded as the first of its kind in the nation in 1962, to allow students the possibility to "pursue a single activity in-depth without having to do other academic activities at the same time," according to Yeterian.

He said that the two major changes since its inception have been requiring first-year students to take courses, and not have the ability to do independent study projects, and allowing courses to count for academic credit and not just JanPlan credit. JanPlan 1999 offered five-credit courses for the first time, in languages including Japanese and Russian.

Yeterian does not find it problematic that the faculty wants to review the purpose of JanPlan.

"I think that we look at the whole curriculum all the time, including JanPlan. ... This is nothing strange. It's not unusual for faculty to question a part of the curriculum."

Yeterian expects a "detailed, in-depth discussion" from the faculty and "inevitably, it'll go to a committee or a task force, if that happens to be the consensus of the faculty."

Russell Johnson, assistant professor of biology and faculty representative for Presidents' Council, asked hall presidents to question their constituents about the issue at their Feb. 18 meeting.

"I think it's likely that it will go to a campus-wide discussion," said Yeterian. □

“
It's not unusual for
faculty to question a
part of the
curriculum.
- Ed Yeterian, dean of
the faculty”



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FEATURES

ColbyCard wonders explained

BY BETSY LOYD
Asst. News Editor

Did you know that the ColbyCard is actually the only card of its kind to be used in the country? It combines two new technologies, a computer "smart chip" and a proximity coil. Because the card has so much flexibility, future options for use of the ColbyCard seem endless.

The current services of the ColbyCard include library checkout, dining hall access, dormitory access, copy machine use and laundry machine use in 11 laundry rooms. During spring break, the remainder of laundry rooms will be updated, the copy machines will switch from using the vendastripe to the smart chip, and a card reader will be installed in the Spa.

Other planned updates to ColbyCard uses include allowing users to purchase items from the bookstore and from vending machines using the smart chip.

What does everything on the card do?

Looking at the ColbyCard can be quite confusing because it has so many combined technologies.

"It has just about every technology in existence working on it," said Ruben Rivera, Colby's controller, and researcher for the ColbyCard.

On the front right side of the card is an identification photo, the owner's name, identification number and whether or not the owner is a student or staff. On the left side is the oval gold-colored smart chip, the dining hall number, and a dining hall stripe, which is no longer used and isn't being printed on new ColbyCards. Embedded in the card is the proximity coil. On the top of the back of the card are the new dining plan barcode and information about calling card services, "a little advertisement for Adserv," said Joseph Poole, assistant director of Security and Rivera's partner in the installation of the cards on campus. Underneath are the library services barcode and the vendastripe, which is also being phased out.

How did the ColbyCard get to Colby?

The process of bringing the ColbyCards to campus began approximately two years ago. Presidents' Council brought up the issue of security because a flasher had been seen multiple times on campus. Arnold Yasinski, administrative vice-president of the College, then asked Rivera to begin looking at card systems that would be appropriate for Colby. Rivera then wrote an analysis that looked into the pros and cons of different cards, with both technology and cost in mind. He visited other schools to

determine, "what are other people doing... We didn't want to reinvent the wheel," he said.

The College finally decided to be the first in the nation to combine two major new pieces of technology, the proximity coil and the smart chip. Because of its decision, Colby is beginning to get "national light," with magazine articles and advertisements featuring the ColbyCard, said Rivera.

Rather than purchasing a card as a pack-

telephones, buses and airport passes.

"The U.S. is the last part of the world coming into this technology," said Rivera.

Inside the smart chip are different areas for loading information. Four purses are used to store money put on the card. Colby is currently only using the first purse, which allows the user to store money for copying, laundry and purchasing items at the Spa. The first purse can hold up to \$100, but Rivera said, "I would encourage people not to put that much on" and suggested that

to allow secure access. One suggested use of this feature would be to allow students access to their financial accounts. Students could even then pay for library or parking fines using their first purse. Another use of this program would be to allow more security with class registration on-line.

The ColbyCard and Dining Services

Dining Services is also taking advantage of the introduction of technology on the ColbyCard. The dining plan used to run off of a 5-digit number on the front of the card, but began completely running off of the new dining plan stripe on the back of the card three weeks ago.

Director of Dining Services Lloyd Comeau said, "The top stripe is much more secure. I can't use your number to get in."

Comeau characterized the new system as being "much more effective." Colby is one of 10 schools in the country that runs off of the Windows NT system.

"As the program develops over the future, it'll probably be more flexible rather than less," said Comeau. It will allow off-campus students and residents of the MaryLow Co-op and the Senior Apartments the option of purchasing a 200-meal plan for the year.

The updated dining program was "planned and researched separately (from the ColbyCard). The timing with the card just happened to be correct," said Comeau. The dining services team then joined forces with the team already working on the installation of the ColbyCard.

was the previous action, the dispatcher can now immediately notify the fire department, saving five minutes of response time.

Including the updated meal plan, the remaining costs have been just over \$100,000. Colby spent \$30,000 on the cost of the cards for students and faculty. The cards run about \$12 each, plus the costs of printing and overlaying. The printer is a \$10,000 machine, which uses three expensive print ribbons. A replacement card costs \$25 because of the printing and reprogramming costs.

More services for the ColbyCard?

The future of services for the ColbyCard will be a combination of "what do students want and what can we afford," said Rivera.

"We can become a cash-less society," said Associate Dean of Students for Housing Paul Johnston. "It's a flexible enough card that you can use it for so many more uses."

In addition to possibly adding bookstore and vending machine privileges, the College is discussing wiring outside doors to academic and administrative buildings and inner doors to labs.

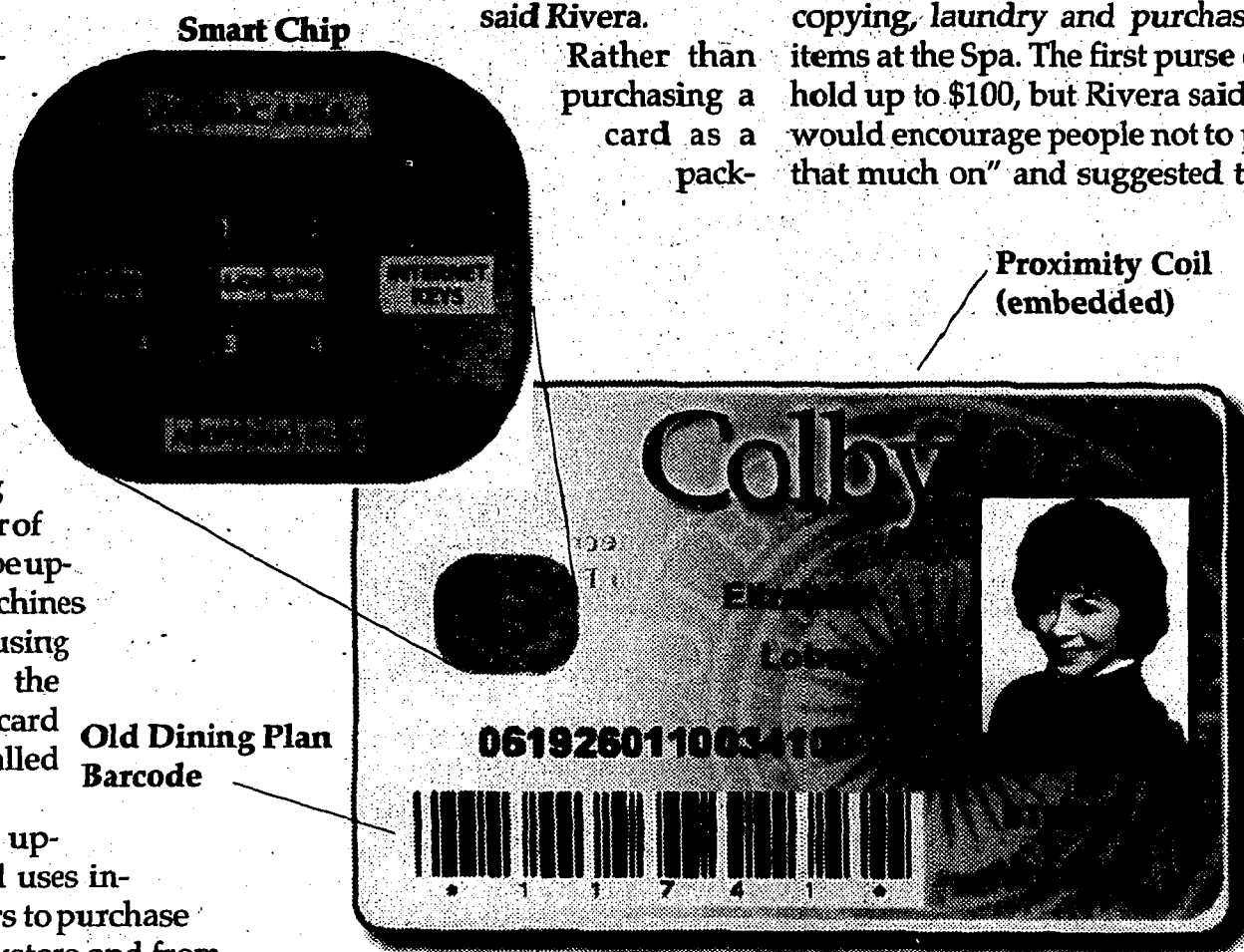
"There isn't a college in the country that ever wired dorm room doors," said Rivera, due to the high cost and maintenance.

There are a multitude of services that Colby is currently not looking at, but are being used at other campuses. One is the GPM phone, which is a cell phone program offered at Florida State University. The phone is "dumb," according to Rivera, until the card is inserted into the phone. Long distance information is programmed into the smart chip, so one user could use AT&T and the next could use Sprint. Also, the cost of the phone call would automatically be taken from the purse.

Florida State also has a service that allows a card to be inserted into a payphone. The user can then access a bank account through the phone lines and electronically add money on to the chip. Rivera assures that "it's not like we'd ever get there," because of the "huge cost" involved.

More likely services could include the ability for money in the chip purses to be spent off-campus, at places such as Big G's or Pizza Hut. A card reader would need to be installed at the stores, but they would have a "captive audience," said Rivera. Another possibility would allow users to pay for concert tickets or other entrance fees at Student Activities with their smart chip purse. Rivera doesn't think that the purse could ever be used to purchase alcohol.

A committee of students and staff are meeting every few weeks to determine what changes need to be made to the ColbyCard system. Poole said that the students will be the "drive" for new services being offered. Rivera agreed, saying, "This is the technology we're offering, but we want (students) to be able to work with it." □



Smart Chip

Proximity Coil (embedded)

Old Dining Plan Barcode

age, Colby decided to use the best companies for their particular applications. At least three different manufacturers have produced the card: the security vendor, HID Incorporated, who produced the proximity coil; the card with the smart chip, a French company called GemPlus; and Debitel, a company that allowed laundry and copy machines to be incorporated. Cybermark's system is the integrator, which puts all of the company's expertise together for Colby.

"It really is fairly high-tech. It is the best solution in terms of what Colby needed," said Rivera.

The proximity coil

The proximity coil is used to gain access into dormitories. Rather than having to swipe a card through a reader, the card just needs to be near the reader. Rivera said that the proximity system is more convenient to use and the readers fail less often because people pour beer or water into the slots, which then freeze.

Cards using proximity coils used to be more than half an inch thick, but about three and a half years ago, companies were able to produce thinner cards.

"We happened to walk into the market at that time when it was switching over," said Rivera.

When the proximity coil is swiped in front of a reader, the reader sends a signal to a database in the Security Office to determine whether or not the individual can gain access to the dormitory.

The smart chip

The smart chip is actually a one-kilobyte computer chip with its own central processing unit. It "can actually do calculations (and) stores and does thinking," according to Rivera. The chips have been available for about 30 years in Europe, used for

most students have "no more than about \$20 on."

"It's kind of like a loose change purse," he said. In that same way, though, any individual who finds a card can use the first purse without a pin. Having to use a pin would be "more of an inconvenience" because

Dining Plan Barcode

Library Services

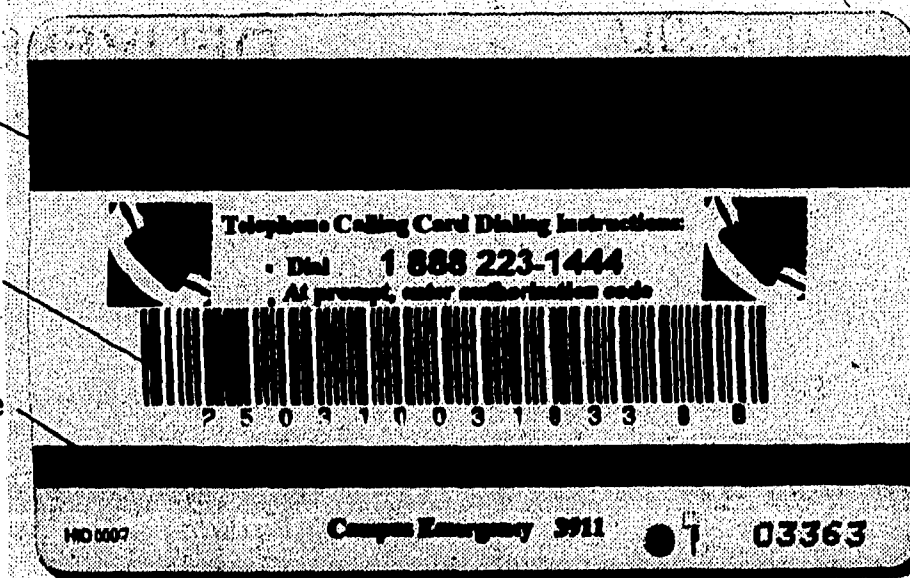
Old Vendastripe

first purse is used so often, according to Rivera. If a card is lost, the money in the first purse cannot be returned to the user.

The three other purses have the ability to be pin-protected. The bookstore may make use of one of these purses in the future, so users can load more money onto their card safely. If a card is lost, money in pin-protected purses can be reinstated.

Other areas that are standard for the card but not currently being used by Colby are the loyalty area and the Internet keys. The loyalty area could be used by businesses such as grocery and drug stores to track what customers purchase and to offer incentive programs.

The Internet keys could be used to allow greater security in a sensitive area. Encryption would be located there to allow for a double level of authentication, so users would need a card and a password, similar to the way an ATM works,



Costs involved in the ColbyCard

Colby has spent almost a million dollars on the ColbyCard system thus far. The security system aspect of the card has been the most expensive "by huge amounts," according to Rivera. Because it's an on-line system, which means that it transmits information to and from a main database, the College needed to wire all main entrances to dormitories. Phase One of the program wired 11 dormitories last spring, costing \$200,000. Bringing the remainder of the dormitories on-line last summer cost an additional \$400,000.

Included in the security aspects is an updated fire alarm and fire sprinkler system, costing \$200,000. This program transmits a signal directly from the alarm to the dispatcher in the Security Office. Rather than sending security officers to verify the problem procedure, which

Far, far away: JanPlan 1999

Part four of a
four part
series...

Experiencing India: camel rides and beautification

BY EZRA DYER
Opinions Editor

We were on our way to India, but it didn't feel like it. Fog in Delhi left us with a 16-hour layover in Frankfurt and John Doyle '99, Wilson Owens '99 and I decided that the perfect way to spend 16 hours would be to rent a car and drive around Germany a bit. Looking back, I realize that maybe it wasn't too smart to be flogging a rented Volkswagen Golf down the Autobahn at 190 km/h after having been awake for 30 hours. Well, it beat sitting in the Leonardo DaVinci lounge at the airport drinking overpriced Henninger Lager.

Everyone I talked to who'd been to India told me that I was going to experience culture shock as soon as I stepped out of the airport. They were right. People not flying anywhere are not allowed into the airport, and this means that immediately upon stepping outside we were confronted with what looked like 1000 people pressed up against a fence. These are the folks waiting to meet the arrivals. Luckily Krishan Jhalani '99, weaseled into the airport and found us, and soon armed soldiers were ushering us through the mob to the parking lot.

On the ride home I got my first exposure to Indian driving, with much more to come over the course of the month. Driv-

ily for us, over the course of the trip we consistently had drivers who were using The Force. This was fortunate, given that on Indian roads there is only one rule to live by (literally): small vehicles yield to big vehicles. So when an enormous overloaded Tata truck would come around the corner in our lane (and yes, this even happened on divided highways) our drivers would always very courteously yield, thus sparing our lives.

We definitely witnessed the entire spectrum of life in India, from poverty to privilege. The first day we arrived we played golf at the Delhi Golf Club, and I found my game to improve tremendously when there was a guy running ahead and strategically "helping" my shot to land just where I wanted it. And when I blasted my ball into the jungle bordering the fairway, that guy would go find it. I've decided that we need some sort of a system like this in the U.S.

Also on that first day I noticed that I was wearing a tee-shirt and everyone else was wearing sweaters and winter jackets and huddling around fires shivering. Apparently this is what happens whenever the temperature drops below 80 degrees.

The next day we rode in bicycle rickshaws through Old Delhi, which is about as far as one can get from the quiet serenity of eating chicken tikkas at the golf club. There were people everywhere. The streets were more crowded than Toys 'R

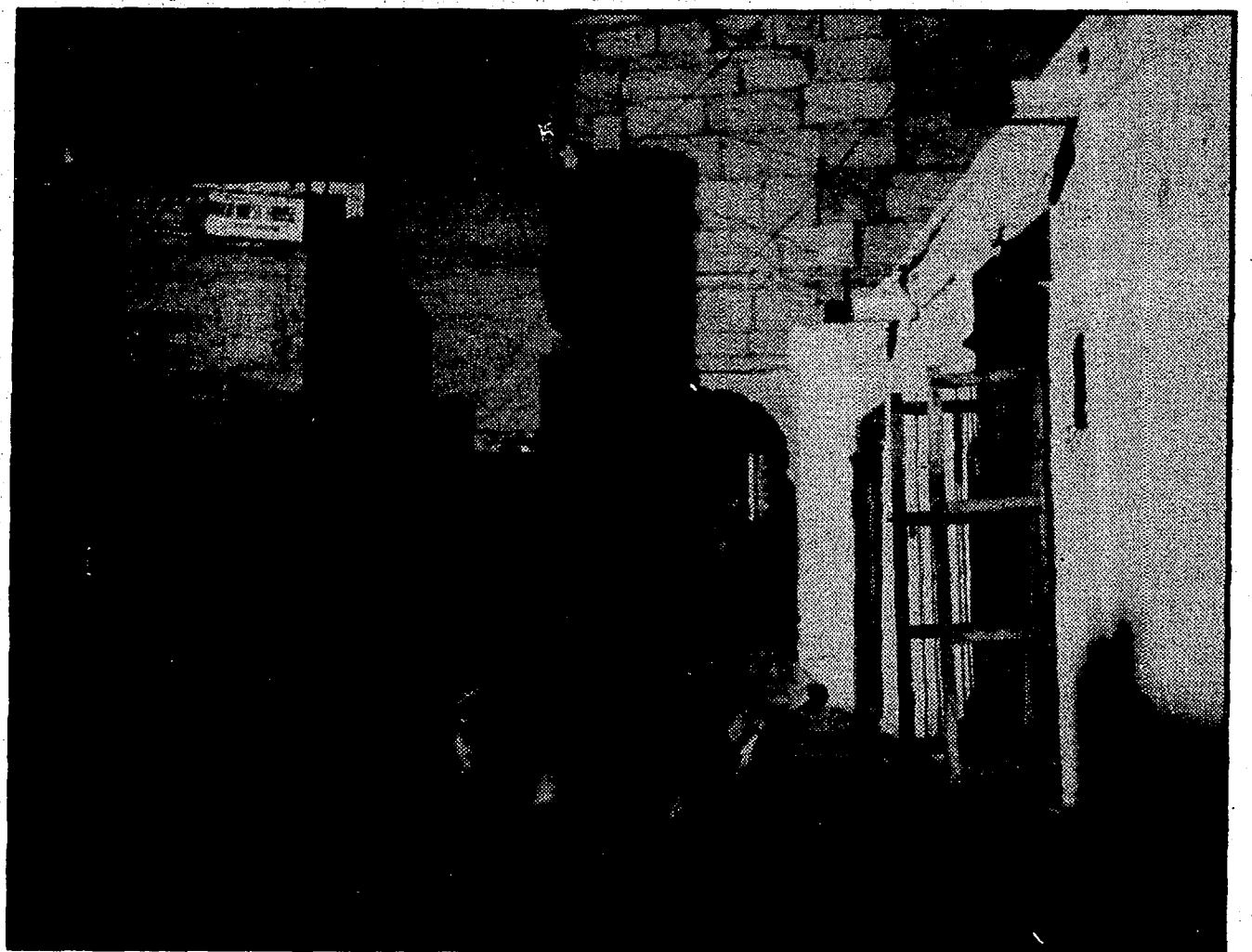


Photo courtesy of Ezra Dyer

A cow stakes out a Jaisalmer Internet provider.

immersed in Old Delhi for one hour, and when we emerged we were seasoned travelers. Nothing else in India could frighten or shock us, so we thought. It was trial by fire for the Colby kids.

I was shocked the very next day, but it was culture shock of a different kind. Krishan took us to get beautified, and I am not used to having a team of people swarm around me plucking, cutting, washing and prodding various parts of my body in an attempt to beautify me. I was particularly wary of the "head massage," which involved a guy alternately smacking and scrubbing my head. I wrote in my journal, "back home this would be called a 'noogie.'" Also, the First Annual Ezra Dyer Worst Job In The World Award goes to the woman assigned to squeeze blackheads out of my nose. Ah, the lengths one has to go to get beautiful.

We also traveled quite extensively within India. In Western Rajasthan (near the Pakistan border, we were told) we went on a camel safari in the desert. Our camels were driven by little kids who delighted in flogging them into a gallop. Whenever they did this I was reminded of an old Loony Tunes episode in which Yosemite Sam rode a camel and bounced up and down on the saddle so violently that little stars emerged around his butt every time he hit. That's what I looked like. And it didn't help matters that my camel was older than the others, which I shrewdly intuited from the fact that she fell down a lot. This I was not psyched about, because whenever it happened I got pitched forward on the saddle in such a way that impalement on the little knob in front of me was a

constant threat. I also didn't improve my comfort any by jumping around in the dunes and getting sand down my pants. Take it from me, sand down the pants and camel rides do not mix.

I liked riding elephants much better. Elephants seat four in comfort, they don't gallop, and they don't smell bad unless you're behind one. We rode elephants in Corbett Park (an enormous game reserve), and were able to get within about 50 yards of a herd of wild elephants grazing in the grass. They trumpeted at us, elephantese for "get the hell out of here and take those people on your back with you." We looked for one of the 94 tigers that live in Corbett, but alas they evaded us. Still, our guides assured us that we were hot on the trail of the elusive tigers. They'd point to a petrified piece of tiger poop and say something like "tiger was here five minutes ago."

I saw my favorite sign in Corbett, warning that "The Ramganga River is inhabited by crocodiles. Swimming is prohibited. Survivors will be prosecuted."

There was much more to India than I can get into here. We went to the Himalayas. We happened in on the Maharaja's birthday party at his palace in Jodhpur. We went to the Taj Mahal. We squeezed a lot of India into a month, for which I thank the Jhalanis, without whom we might have never strayed farther than a day's walk from the Delhi McDonald's (where I recommend you try the McBurder, which includes "no beef products.") My advice: go to India, but avoid travelling long distances via galloping camel if you can help it, and oh yeah, don't drink the water. ☐

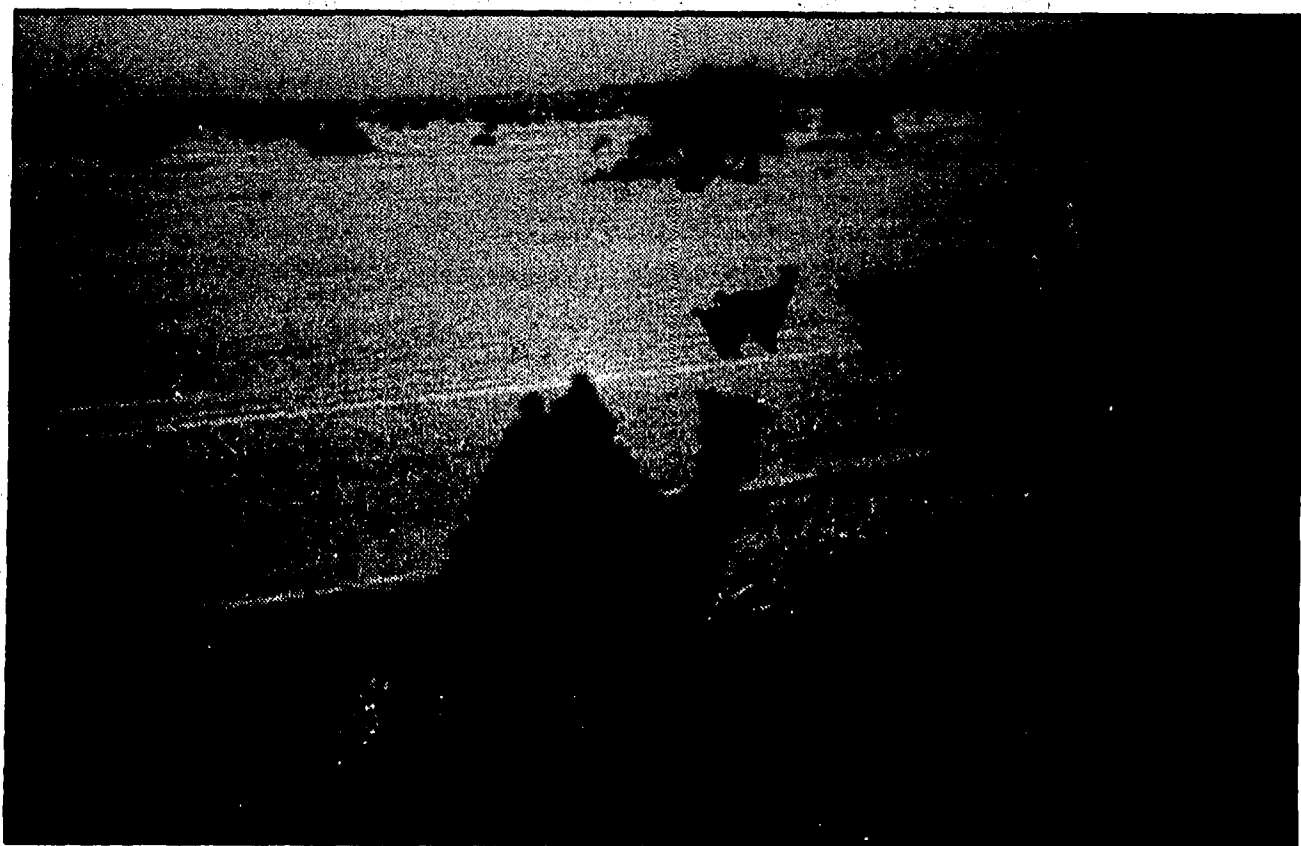


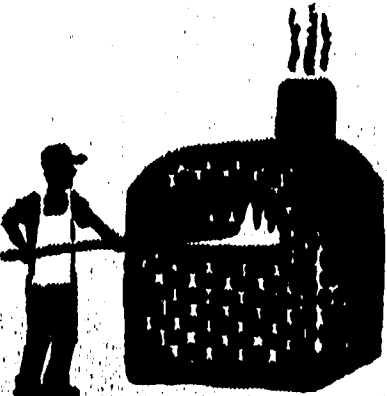
Photo courtesy of Ezra Dyer

In India you don't have to be 18 to get a camel.

ing (or in my case, riding) in India was an exhilarating experience, all the more so because even brand-new cars lack seat belts in the back. Which is probably a moot point, because judging from the accidents we saw, wearing a seatbelt in India would be akin to putting on a dab of Coppertone to protect yourself from a nuclear explosion. Luck-

Us on December 24, and I wonder how we didn't run someone over every five seconds. Maybe we did. I was too busy checking out the signs lining the streets, one of that advertised a doctor who is supposed to make people taller. I saw cows and lepers and dirt and smelled good food cooking. Old Delhi deserves an article in itself, but suffice it to say that we were

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Wellness lecture explains how to eat right on campus

BY CHRISSY BARNETT
Contributing Writer

Dr. Nancy Clark, director of nutrition services at Sports Medicine Clinic in Brookline, Mass., delivered "Beyond Bagels: Basic Nutrition and More" for a Colby audience on Feb. 24.

Dr. Clark, an internationally known sports nutritionist, has toured colleges nationwide speaking about sport nutrition, general body wellness and important issues of college life and health, including the management of eating disorders. An author of several books such as "Sports Nutrition Guidebook" and "New York City Marathon Cookbook," Dr. Clark has hiked across the country, run several marathons and has gained respect in her field as a leading figure in sports nutrition. She has helped dozens of people in the Boston area with her reliable tips on living a healthier life.

Speaking about the general concerns of college life and health, Dr. Clark opened the presentation with her philosophy "food is one of life's pleasures." Dr. Clark posed several questions to the audience to get an idea of the issues in which Colby students were interested. She spoke candidly about the difficulties of living on a college campus and suggested some basic tips to prevent fatigue and remain healthy.

"Living on a college campus, you have limited options, what to eat," she said. "This makes it very hard to eat right."

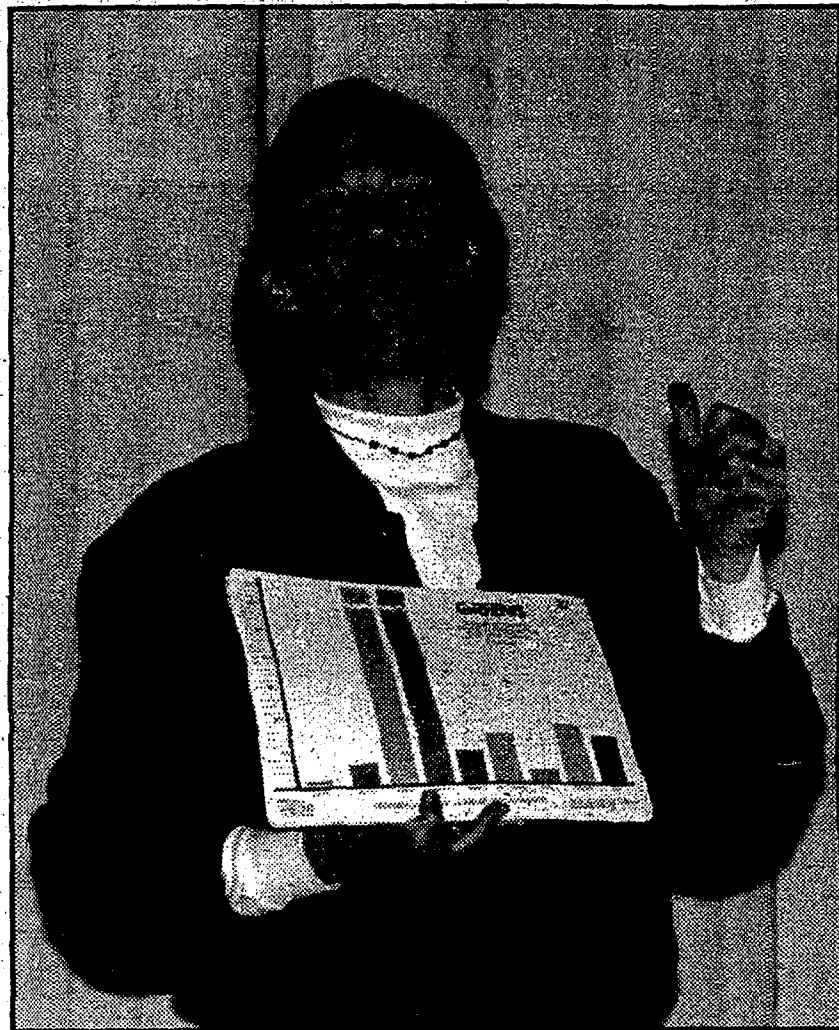
One of the key issues Dr. Clark addressed was how college students can eat a well-balanced diet. She suggested that students educate themselves about

food and think of it as a means of "fueling and refueling." She explained that this is particularly important for college athletes.

She further discussed the problems accompanied with a person not getting enough energy from food. One of the main symptoms of hunger, according to Dr. Clark, is a need for sweets. When a person goes through periods of sweet cravings, this is usually a result of not eating enough.

Dr. Clark also mentioned the symptoms of cutting out essential food in one's diet. She noted her concern that many young students in college were concerned about weight and were cutting out certain kinds of food from their diet.

"Depression is often attributed to a lack of fat in the diet," said Dr. Clark. She suggested meal patterning, a method in which eating three meals a day and counting the proper number of calories



Echo photo by Manuel Kraemer
Dr. Nancy Clark extolls the virtues of greens.

taken in a day, could actually prevent these types of symptoms. It is a misnomer, she said, that cutting fat or fatty foods in one's diet will give a better physique.

"In order to have a healthy physique, it is best for people to have variety in their diet," Dr. Clark said.

Variety can be achieved in several ways. Dr. Clark recommended that all people try to eat every four hours, to ensure that the proper number of calories is distributed throughout the day. One should also try to eat as many rich foods as possible. Eating vegetables, foods rich in essential vitamins and nutrients, such as protein, calcium and vitamins A, B and C, fuel the body.

Dr. Clark ended her lecture by giving advice to student athletes.

"Eat powerhouses of carbohydrates to increase athletic performance," she said. "Foods such as vegetables, fruits, and juices high in carbs do fuel your muscles." □

In Echo History

44 years ago ...

Apparently first-year Colby students had a lot to worry about when they arrived on campus - over 30 years ago. According to an Echo in 1955, freshman are warned that "many may get married ... ROTC gets ahold of the boys ... freshmen girls learn that upperclassmen have cars ... sophomores forget to bring towels." Luckily, Colby has changed a little bit since those days. Only 211 male first-years were accepted that year out of the 780 students who applied and only 156 women were accepted out of the 585 who applied. Enrolled students came from 20 states plus Thailand, Switzerland, Hong Kong, Korea and the Virgin Islands. The first-years were excited to be here, and the Echo reported that "the freshman class showed a great deal of unity in its enthusiastic reaction to hazing."

23 years ago ...

The fate of the Echo was in jeopardy in spring of 1976. According to the paper, "the decision of whether to revitalize the paper by means of salaries for the technical staff will be determined." There was the general feeling that without appropriating money for salaries for the crew the paper would indeed die. Student leaders of WHMB were incensed at the idea that students were being paid and demanded their own salary increases. One Stu-A member called WHMB's tactics "blackmail." Without monetary incentives, however, the Echo's "menial tasks" were not getting done. According to the Echo, the dilemma "has disrupted some of the internal workings of the Echo, WHMB and Stu-A." Luckily, the issue was resolved and Colby's beloved paper was resurrected from near-death.

10 years ago ...

WHMB took a stand in 1989 when the radio station fired their Sports Director. According to the Echo, the student was fired for not maintaining "as professional a level on air as possible," said a station official. The decision to fire the student "came after complaints from the community, students and the WHMB members about his on-air remarks" in the preceding two years. He allegedly had the support of the Director of Student Activities at the time, John Farnham. The issue remained volatile for many months and eventually the Sports Director brought WHMB to a board for a hearing on the right to due process.

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EDITORIALS

The Colby Card

In only a few months, Colby's new one card system has already faced some difficult challenges. Members of the Colby Community have questioned the need for the extra security that the cards provide, the types of services currently offered and those rumored to be on the horizon. Even with the lingering questions and initial growing pains with the new system, it seems like the program is finally getting on the right track.

It is never easy to convert to a new technological standard. The Colby Card conversion is just another example of the inherent problems of changing the way that our 2000+ member community conducts our affairs. The most troublesome complaints about the cards thus far have come from owners of dysfunctional cards who were unable to have their questions answered promptly.

To date, Colby has put one person in charge of overseeing the Colby Card system. Over time, one full time staff person should suffice. In the coming weeks the College will hire student workers to process some of the non-confidential data involved in the new functions of the cards. A new phone number to use for all Colby Card concerns should be coming soon.

Over the past few months, complaints arising from problems in the implementation process have mounted, but are now on the decline. As new services are considered, we need to keep asking students what they want from the new cards. In the short term, we need to designate some space as a Colby Card office. With one distinct spot where cardholders could go to have their problems fixed, the number of misunderstandings that result in students shut out of the dining halls or dormitories should decrease significantly.

The College is promoting the Colby Card as a student service, and not part of security. Colby needs to put the *service* into the Colby Card. As the past few months show, when the card's overseer remains hidden within another department, problems go unresolved and the Colby community suffers. Dining hall checkers have heard enough complaints about problems beyond their, or even dining services', control.

Before throwing more money at the system to add new functions, the College needs to make its commitment to the program known by fitting the Colby Card into a logical place both in the college's organizational structure and on the campus map. □

Thank you PPD, Deans

Colby students tend to be extremely vocal when it comes to something we feel is wrong. However, last week's fire in Grossman provides us with an opportunity to praise people whom we are usually quick to criticize.

The people in the Dean's Office, Physical Plant and Security did a fantastic job following the fire. Within an hour of the time the fire started, two members of the Grossman cleaning staff were on hand with high-powered vacuums to start getting rid of the water.

An hour and a half after the fire, Associate Dean of Students in charge of housing Paul Johnston and Associate Dean of Students in charge of residential life Ronald Hammond had a plan for relocating 38 students and taking care of their possessions.

A drycleaner worked through the night to ensure that students' clothes were not damaged by the water from the sprinklers. Expanded Jitney service got students to a hotel and back.

Less than eighteen hours after the fire, students were back in Grossman and most reported that their rooms were in excellent condition.

Even the third-floor room in which a sprinkler head went off was in good condition Friday morning.

Colby doesn't have to deal with fires too frequently. But it had to last week and the administration didn't blink. It's good to know that there are people ready and willing to work overtime — indeed throughout the night — to make sure that our lives our inconvenienced as little as possible. We should enjoy it, because once we leave Mayflower Hill, we'll never have that luxury again. □

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

Guest meal passes worth SGA dollars

In last week's *Echo*, there was an editorial in protest of the forthcoming "guest meal pass" program at Colby. As the person behind the idea, I felt it necessary to come to its defense, and give a few reasons why it is worth SGA's money.

When the program begins, hopefully in a couple weeks, it will give every Colby student on the meal plan five free meal passes per semester to give to their visiting friends and family. The main argument against this, it seems, is that it will take some funding away from Colby clubs. While this is true, I believe it is a sacrifice worth making. The best part about this meal pass program is that it benefits practically everyone on campus. While student clubs are an important asset to campus life, I doubt the same

thing could be said regarding (nothing personal guys) the Quilting Club.

The editorial stated that clubs might lose their budget increases to pay for a "non-Colby student's meal." That is not entirely true. Students are free to use their guest passes for their friends living off-campus as well (aka-other Colby students). The editorial stated it wasn't fair that Colby professors have to pay for meals, while our visiting friends can now eat for free. One must remember though, we already have the "Take a Prof. to Lunch" program, plus professors aren't paying bucketloads of money to be here. A final strike against the editorial's argument lies in its assumption that all Colby students have "rich uncles," who love to take

us to "The Last Unicorn" on their "VISAs" while visiting. Obviously, that is a gross generalization.

With this guest meal program finally in place, we will no longer have to tell our friends to bring an extra \$40 for food during a weekend visit. Additionally, most every other Colby-type school has a similar meal pass deal (forgive me Prof. Cohen, I know this is a 'tu quoque' fallacy), so why can't we? Knowing we can now reciprocate, Colby students will no longer have to feel guilty taking our friends' meal passes at their respective schools. In response to the passage of this long overdue, practical legislation, I think we all owe a big "thank you" to Presidents' Council.

Devin Beliveau '01

In support of the administration

I would like to take this opportunity to admit that I don't necessarily know what's best for me. There are other people, perhaps even faculty and staff here at Colby, who know more than I do. I accept that.

I also accept the Colby Card as a change for the better. I recognize that there have been some problems with the transition, but I also understand this is completely normal. The benefits of a single card that can be used as a college ID as well as with copy machines, laundry machines, dining services, and getting into dorms tremendously outweighs the childish complaints of a few reluctant students who don't fully understand the concept of "change"

and how change can be a good thing.

Despite some persistent rumors to the contrary, I believe there are some (even if not all) intelligent people in the administration of this school. On a purely academic level, most of the faculty and staff here have a clear advantage over nearly all of the students in that they have college degrees; many even have higher degrees than a mere bachelor's degree, which no student here at Colby has. Why, even the Presidents' Council, which for reasons I don't understand is considered a powerful administrative force, is made up of students with little better than a high school de-

gree and most likely no real world experience.

Why then do so many students feel the need to assume Colby is run by poorly trained chimpanzees and innovations such as the Colby Card are ludicrous, since they caused a few inconveniences in what is otherwise the life of luxury we lead? Did the Colby Card set fire to Grossman? Is it the administration who has been unable to responsibly handle alcohol, thereby necessitating increased restrictions? Or is it the students, who perhaps should take their egos down a notch or two and show a little respect?

Jeff Calareso '01

OPINIONS

Nudity, bestiality, and adolescence

BY PATRICK J. BERNAL
Staff Writer

It is time to address the homoerotic nature of the Abercrombie and Fitch catalogue. Leafing through page after page of highly over-priced, not very attractive merchandise, it is impossible not to notice the scantily clad, beautiful male bodies grabbing at each other, giving each other piggy-back rides and generally frolicking. This should not disturb the open-minded, and so far it hasn't.

But Abercrombie's perversity does not stop at showing male-on-male affection. Is it just me or have dogs played a more prominent role in these catalogues as of late? In the Abercrombie and Fitch Winter Quarterly, a male model is seen mounting a golden retriever. In the same company's Summer Quarterly, another model is seen gazing lovingly into the eyes of his pet dog. While loving one's pets is natural, the degree to which A&F extends this bestial devotion is worrisome.

Yet another example of Abercrombie's strange fascination with bestial love is the fold-out pic-

ture in the back of the Winter Quarterly of a woman riding an elephant, stark naked. This is a strange marketing ploy. The picture contains neither clothes nor any pertinence

Try walking into any food court in America and not seeing the Abercrombie logo plastered on at least one 13-year-old girl wearing a garish sweatshirt

to reality. The sole purpose of this picture seems to be to demonstrate that Abercrombie models are capable of riding wild animals in the buff, a feat that has long been performed by southern frat guys and, by Australasian Aborigines.

Over the last several years the catalogue, which was once a bastion of New England Protestantism, has started to look suspiciously like

a Maplethorpe exhibit. Despite this over-reliance on warped sexual imagery and waifish models, Abercrombie clothes sells like hot cakes. Try walking into any food court in America and not seeing the Abercrombie logo plastered on at least one 13 year-old girl wearing a garish sweatshirt. It just cannot be done.

Abercrombie goods have become as indispensable to the pre-teen set as pagers and Leonardo DiCaprio watches. Abercrombie and Fitch has become the Esprit of a whole new generation.

When asked to comment on the strange sexual nature of his catalogue, an Abercrombie spokesman declined to comment, saying only that there have been just as many favorable reactions to the "racy" elements of the catalogue as there have been negative. Whether or not Abercrombie and Fitch clothes remain popular into the foreseeable future, their day in the sun will remain an anomaly of popular fashion. It is hard to imagine another company that could so successfully combine frontal nudity, bestiality and an uncanny knowledge of the adolescent fashion world. □

The Apocalypse is now

BY EZRA DYER
Opinions Editor

Last Thursday night I was reading in Bixler when I realized that the world is going to end. Of course, I've always realized that it's going to end sometime, but now I think it's going to end soon.

I came to this conclusion right after the earthquake. Well, not right after the earthquake, because right after the earthquake I was wondering how many people were having sex when the earth moved, and how funny that must have been for them. I'd be bragging about that for the rest of my life. But after I got done pondering that profound thought, I began to discern a sinister pattern of events. Gazing out the library window, I could see Grossman, a dorm that earlier had been on fire. Also there was the driving blizzard beating against the window. And then there was the earthquake, which felt and sounded like some huge fiendish piece of machinery coming to life beneath my feet. A fire, a storm and an earthquake, all on one day. Perhaps the crazy guy from Alabama who writes letters to the Echo saying that the world is going to end isn't so crazy after all.

I've always been skeptical of the end-of-the-world theories that people put forth. But now I'm a believer, baby. Nostradamus predicted that the world will end around the year 3900, but I'm going to join the other faction that believes it's going to end on the year 2000, because this is much more convenient from my point of view.

Assuming that the world is going to end next year changes my plans quite a bit. First off, I went to Career Services and told them they had one less student to worry about. They congratulated me and asked where I got hired. I told them I didn't get hired anywhere but the world is going to end so I don't feel like working exactly. They tried to get me to sign up for some sort of counseling program, but I told them that if I don't want to work then I probably don't want to waste time on counseling now, do I?

And I stopped changing my underwear. The world is going to end, so I don't want to waste precious moments doing laundry either. If the world ends because of a nuclear war, I'm certain that by that time my underwear will protect me from the blast.

I also went out and bought a bunch of stuff on credit. Wow, am I going to have a huge bill! I plan to keep paying the minimum balance for awhile and then declare bankruptcy. That's going to screw my credit rating, but what the hell, world's gonna end anyway.

As far as my classes go, I'm just barely sliding by with D minuses.

I've stopped working out and I subsist on Spanky's and Miller Lite. Basically, I've reverted to myself circa freshman year. I've realized the I'm too uptight these days and I need to "loosen up," and living like the world is going to end next year has helped me out tremendously.

So go have some fun, but not too much fun. Because it would be a shame to spend your last year developing a close, personal relationship with a large hairy man named Zeke in the Thomaston Correctional Facility. □

I've stopped working out and I subsist on Spanky's and Miller Lite. Basically I've reverted to myself circa freshman year.

Forget winter, it's spring break time

BY BRAXTON WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

Two weeks ago I claimed that, after Valentine's Day, there is still something to be cheerful about despite the psyche-damaging sloppy greyitude that is late winter. I wrote about the joys of watching others slip and hurt themselves on the ice that coats the campus. Because of ice and its slippery properties, I posited, "there is a problem with viewing late February as a depressing anti-climax."

What a bunch of crap. What the heck is cool about sitting around in the cold and watching people fall on their butts? Aside from the fact that whoever thinks this is cool is a total idiot, "laughing at someone else's misfortune," as I put it, is completely sadistic. It's sick really. And because I recommended that you all go out and laugh at each other's unfortunate accidents, I have sentenced myself to a life of hard labor cleaning

bathrooms on the trans-Siberian railroad. There is nothing funny or cool about ice. I hate ice. And I hate myself.

My searching for a reason to enjoy late winter is a symptom of a cushy family-of-four utopia of a childhood that fostered the kind of unhealthy idealism typical of Democrats and baby-boomers. I have since become a Republican. But more importantly, I have become a staunch realist and an avid crack smoker. In the sarcastic words of a fellow manic-depressive, "I am too much i'the sun."

So I've accepted my situation of being caught in the scaly arms of the Winter Dragon, and I've accepted the endless

ennui he brings. But this is not to say that the end of winter and the dawn of summer around the corner are not both inherently good things, things to cherish and weep tears of sinful hurrah about. Summer is, and will always be, my reason for living.

But before summer, there is Spring Break '99, and this is something to be truly giddy about. When I start thinking about it, it makes me want to take some steroids, whistle and whoop at the nearest female, do a tequila shot and yell, "SPRING BREAK '99 RULES!!!" Because for me, there is only one option for Spring Break '99: Cancun. But before I go through the many reasons why, I should ask if anybody can think of a good reason

not to go to Cancun for spring break. Anybody? Anybody? No, I didn't think so. I think we all know that there's nothing better than placing our sun-deprived bodies in sun radiation's way every day for a week, getting naked with

multiple strangers nightly and doing tequila body shots with ex-Tijuana-prostitute bartenders 'till the break o' dawn. The best part of Cancun is that it's also a cultural experience. Like, last year I ended up making out with this 40-year-old married woman from Alaska to the tune of "Voulez Vous Couchez Avec Moi."

So forget winter. Take a bite of Lotus Flower and join me and all my greasy, tanned friends-to-be in the idle utopia of Cancun. Erase the "Carpe Diem" from your Geo notebook and write real big, "SPRING BREAK IN CANCUN '99 RULZ!" You grab the body, I'll grab the shots. □

When I start thinking about it, it makes me want to take some steroids, whistle and whoop at the nearest female, do a tequila shot and yell, "SPRING BREAK '99 RULES!!!"

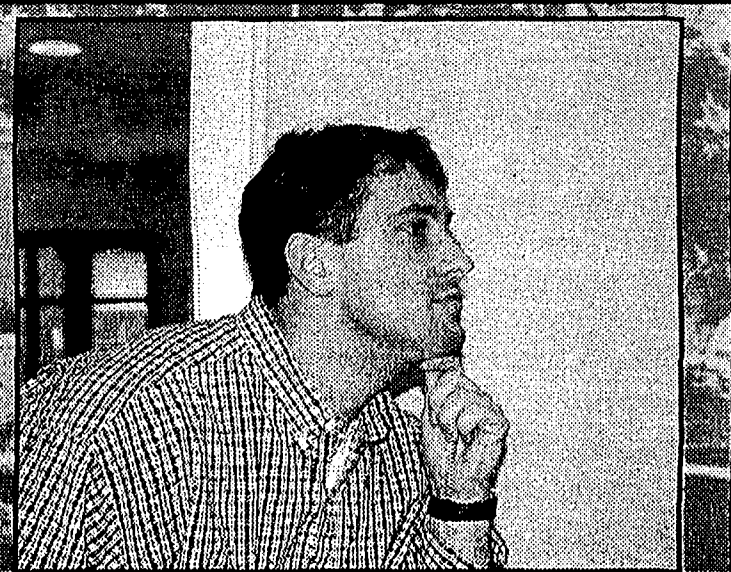
Students on the Street: After the fire and the earthquake, what could go wrong next?



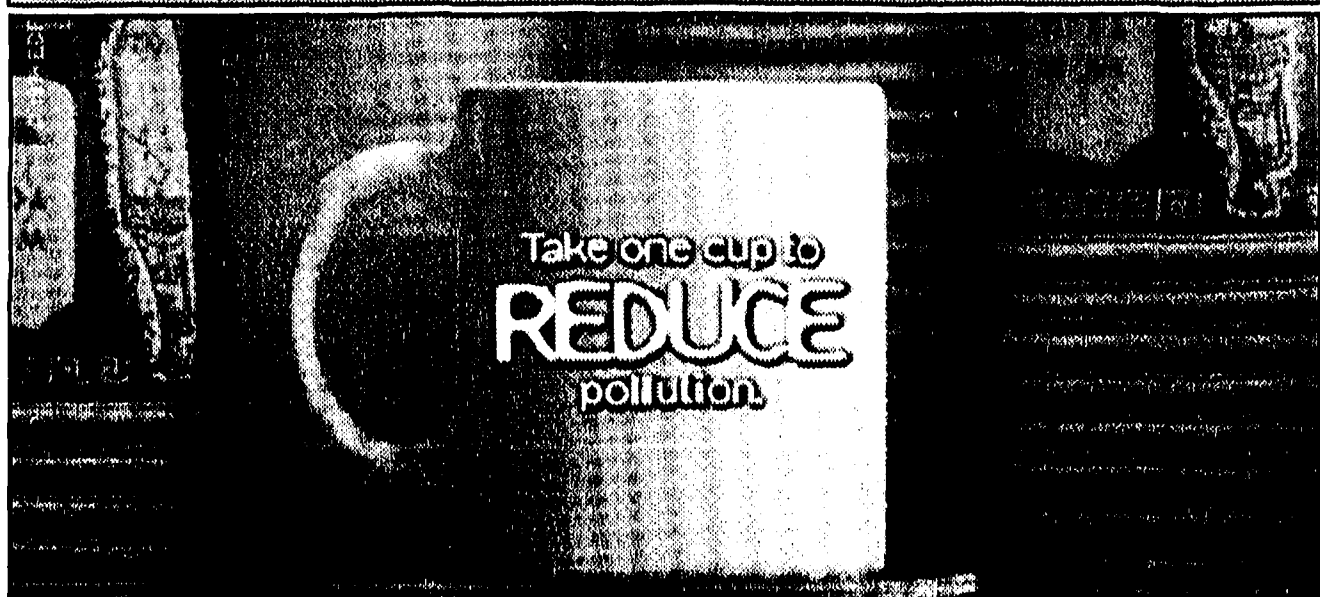
"Grasshoppers and locusts"
-Anna L'Hommedieu '02
and Megan Thomas '02



"Raining midgets"
-Pete Hans '00 and Pat Fahey '02



"Me graduating"
-Ross McEwen '99



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reel Chat

"Dancing at Lughnasa"

☆☆☆☆

Meryl Streep, Michael Gambon, Catherine McCormack
Directed by Pat O'Connor

Crans: Braxton, are you Irish?
Braxton: No, Scottish.

C: So... do you hate Irish people?

B: No, just ones that make bad movies.

C: I don't know if I'd say bad, though I definitely thought "Dancing at Lughnasa" was a boring story, full of stock characters and a plot with less action, no, correct that, direction than Pamela Anderson Lee's honeymoon. The film was a complete derivative of every other "innocent boy tumbling in the fields" flick and had nothing new to say.

B: No kidding, Crans, watching these local-color-scenic-British-isle-Sundance-film-festival-nominee movies makes me want to rent Lethal Weapon 4 and take steroids during it.

C: Good call. I thought the main problem was the employment of a predictable plot structure, which is fine as long as the characters are exciting, dynamic and captivating. What we have are five stock female characters: the pretty one, the saucy one, the stuck-up one, the humble one and the "simple mind." While the acting was insightful, the only one who is able to transcend the boundaries of cliché is the humble sister Agnes, well played by Brid Brennan, whose defiance awards her with a lonely death in swinging London.

B: True! One of my major issues with this flick is that if the characters were dynamic or interesting, I would have been slightly invested, and therefore would have actually cared whether or not they met fiery deaths at the end of the movie. But I couldn't have cared less about what happened to them.

“There just aren't enough explosions in films these days.”

ter in the movie, the long-lost African missionary brother, much like Fool of "King Lear," possessed the knowledge needed to redeem their pitiful lives if only these women



Photo courtesy of Sony Pictures Classics

Meryl Steep (Katie) peers out her window in this Irish Drama

had the courage to listen. If you're interested in attractive cinematography set in the heart of Ireland and feel like dozing off as Gaelic strings are plucked over the wireless, then go drop your loot at Railroad Square and see D at Lu.

B: Well said, Crans. And another thing: was it me or did not one single character in "Dancing at Lughnasa" actually dance at Lughnasa?

C: No, all folk dancing was regulated to the backyard. Tarts.

B: Seriously. If the movie was about Pagan abandon and free will versus Catholic repression and depressing regularity, the title would have been apt. Indeed, the Pagan festival was given about five minutes in the movie. The "long-lost African missionary brother," as you so well-described him, could have been a pivotal, influential character. Instead, he was not paid attention to, which proves that the rest of the characters in the movie are just as absent-minded as the screenwriter.

C: Who's the screenwriter?

B: Brian Friel, widely considered one of the best Irish writers at work today. But Friel made the mistake of making the movie an Irish movie instead of a movie concerning universal themes of social constriction, a concept all viewers could identify with.

C: I must say that I did identify with the movie, though only because at the time I was wearing a silly hat, much like the doddering old geezer, who hitchhiked the Irish countryside looking for chicks.

B: Wait a minute, that never happened.

C: You're right. But it would have improved the film.

B: Definitely. Say, when's "The Faculty 2" coming out?

C: Shut up. I hate you. Crans punches Braxton.

B: Sorry. Braxton cries.

Braxton Williams and Crans Baldwin are film critics for the Echo.

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Painter Anne Harris to deliver slide lecture

Painter Anne Harris will give a slide lecture on Tuesday, March 9, at 7:30 p.m. in the Given Auditorium of the Bixler Art and Music Center at Colby College in Waterville. A reception will follow the talk, allowing guests to meet and talk with the artist.

Harris gained recognition this fall when the portrait of her infant son, Max, was a co-winner of the juror's prize in the Portland Museum of Art's Maine Biennial exhibition.

Harris is the recipient of numerous honors and awards including a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship in 1997 and a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in 1993. In recent years, she has taught at Bowdoin College and the Maine College of Art. Harris has participated in shows across the country. She is currently represented by Nielsen Gallery in Boston and D.C. Moore Gallery in New York City.

Harris's talk is sponsored by the Colby College Art Department and supported by the Arts Lecture Fund. The public is invited, and admission is free. For additional information, please call 872-3223.



"Portrait with Bridal Veil"

Photo courtesy of the Art Department

DISCUSSIONS

Music from the Motion Picture

You've Got Mail

☆☆☆☆

Various Artists

Warner Sunset/Atlantic

The fun part of "You've Got Mail," Nora Ephron's second romantic comedy starring Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan, was watching those two talented comedic actors at their most endearing, doing their darndest to charm audiences out of their seats (and out of the feeling that most had seen something like this a few years ago).

The most exciting part of the soundtrack to "You've Got Mail" was using the CD to cut the nuggets of crack cocaine that this collection of songs drove me to smoke. Not that the songs aren't fun to listen to, even though many aren't, but the whole thing is so damn cheerful that it will make the average Joe or Josephine want to listen to it in their car... in the garage... with the engine running. This collection is happy with a capital H, and though I'm sure Ephron (who

produced the album) meant it as a pick-me-up in our depressing, post-modern, loveless society, the endless good mood of Harry Nilsson, Bobby Darin and Carole King made this reviewer yearn to give Trent Reznor a big bear hug.

A few of the choices are bearable, including Nilsson's "Some-where Over

the Rainbow," Sinead O'Connor's "I Guess the Lord Must Be in New York City" and the always welcome "Signed Sealed Delivered I'm Yours," by Stevie Wonder.

But Nilsson's "The Puppy Song" should be buried somewhere in Siberia with Barney the Purple Dinosaur, and for God's sake, if I hear The Cranberries' "Dreams" on another soundtrack, I might just go postal.

Oliver Griswold is the Echo's A&E editor and music critic.

"This collection is happy with a capital H..."

Pianist Cheryl Tschanz in Concert

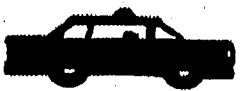
Pianist Cheryl Tschanz will perform works by Ludwig Van Beethoven, Franz Liszt and three other composers at 7:30 p.m. on March 6. The concert, part of the Music at Colby Concert Series, will be in Given Auditorium. Admission is free.

Tschanz will open the evening with a minuet and a sonata by Beethoven. She will perform Preludes No. 1 and 6 by Ruth Crawford Seeger and Franz Liszt's Mephisto Waltz, No. 1. Following intermission she will play Mateo Albeniz's Sonata in D Major and Isaac Albeniz's Iberia, Book 1.

Tschanz, who made her major orchestral debut with the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra at the age of 11, has performed throughout the United States, Canada, France, Italy and Finland. She also has performed in New York's Lincoln Center and Carnegie Recital Hall. She is an adjunct assistant professor of music who teaches piano at Colby.

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Colby women: strut your stuff in Miami!

The Miss Teen All American Pageant is currently seeking young women, age 13 to 19, to compete for the chance to be the Maine Representative to the pageant.

The pageant will be held Aug. 5-8 at the Miami Airport Hilton and Marina in Miami, Florida. Contestants will be judged in evening gown, swimsuit, and one-on-one personal interview. There is no talent competition and no experience

is necessary.

Prizes for the winner include \$5000 cash, a personal appearance contract, jewelry, luggage, travel opportunities, a fur coat, a \$500 shoe wardrobe, fitness programs and more. All contestants will be interviewed by representatives from the TV/Film Industry and Modeling Agency Personnel. Past contestants include Halle Berry, Tonja Walker, Debbie James, Shanna Moakler,

Paula Trickey, Sandra Ferguson and many more. **YOU COULD BE NEXT!**

To qualify as a delegate-at-large, women age 13 to 19 as of Aug. 1 must send a recent photo along with their name, address, telephone number, date of birth and a short biography by fax or mail to: Dept. A Miss Teen All American, 603 Schrader Ave., Wheeling, WV 260039619.

IN THE NEAR FUTURE

HERE

Feminist Fortnight Events (see posters around campus for details)

Anne Harris (see release)

Cheryl Tschanz (see release)

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Colby Symphony Orchestra
Lorimer Chapel
March 13, 8 p.m.

THERE

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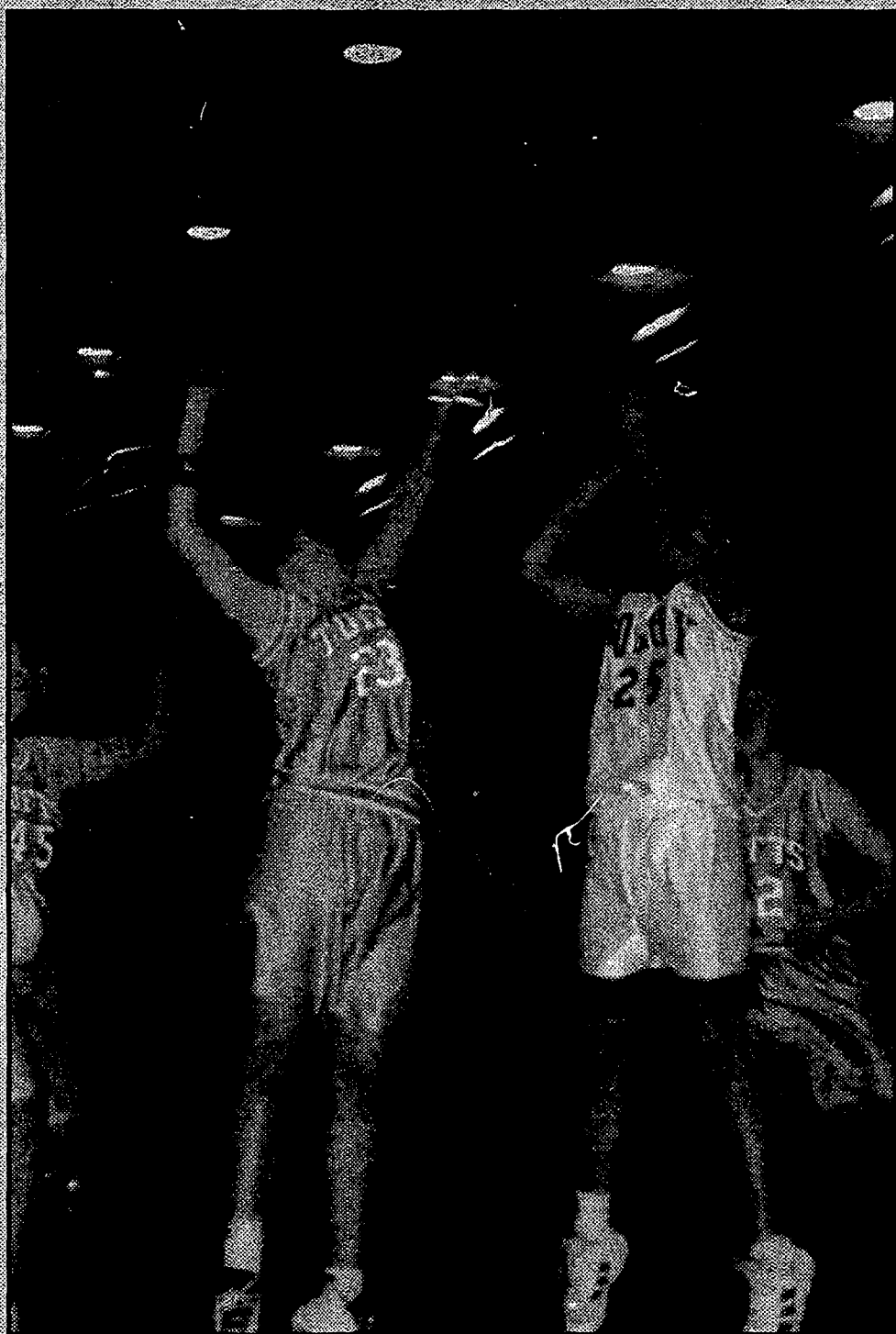
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Condon goes up for two points against Tufts



With 24 points from Kim Condon '01 and 17 more from Jen McGonagle '00, the Lady Mules basketball team ended their regular season in impressive fashion. Colby handed an 86-69 loss to the Tufts Jumbos on Feb. 27 to end their injury-plagued season at 13-11. Erin Cole-Karagory '00 was also key in the win, netting 13 points, while Katy Lawson '02 contributed eight points, grabbed seven rebounds and dished out six assists.

McCloskey shatters six records as 10 fall for swimmers



Echo file photo

Colby swimmers take off in the backstroke.

BY BECKY POLLARD
Sports Editor

Last weekend's New England Men's Swimming Championship Meet was more than successful for the Mules; it was record-breaking.

Jeff McCloskey '00 broke six Colby records on his own to contribute to the total 10 that Mules swimmers shattered in the Williams College pool. McCloskey set records in the 50, 100 and 200-yard backstroke, the 100 and 200 IM and the 100-yard freestyle. His strong, timely performances qualified him for the B-cut to nationals next weekend at the University of Minnesota. His B-cut status means McCloskey will learn today whether or not he can compete at the meet.

Also breaking Colby records were co-captain

Andy Brown '99 in the 100-yard freestyle, Quinn Keating '01 in the 100 and 200-yard breaststroke and diver Steve Feldman '01 in the three-meter event.

Head coach of both the men's and women's swim teams Sura DuBow said that breaking so many records in one year is rare, let alone 10 in one meet.

"It's really unusual," she said. "Normally teams break one record a year."

The New England Championships signaled the final meet of the season for the team. Still, strong performances from the youth-laden team mean good things for the future of the program. McCloskey will return next year to anchor the experienced crew.

"He can do anything pretty much," DuBow said. "He's more of a sprinter, but he can do anything for us and he's still got a year left." □

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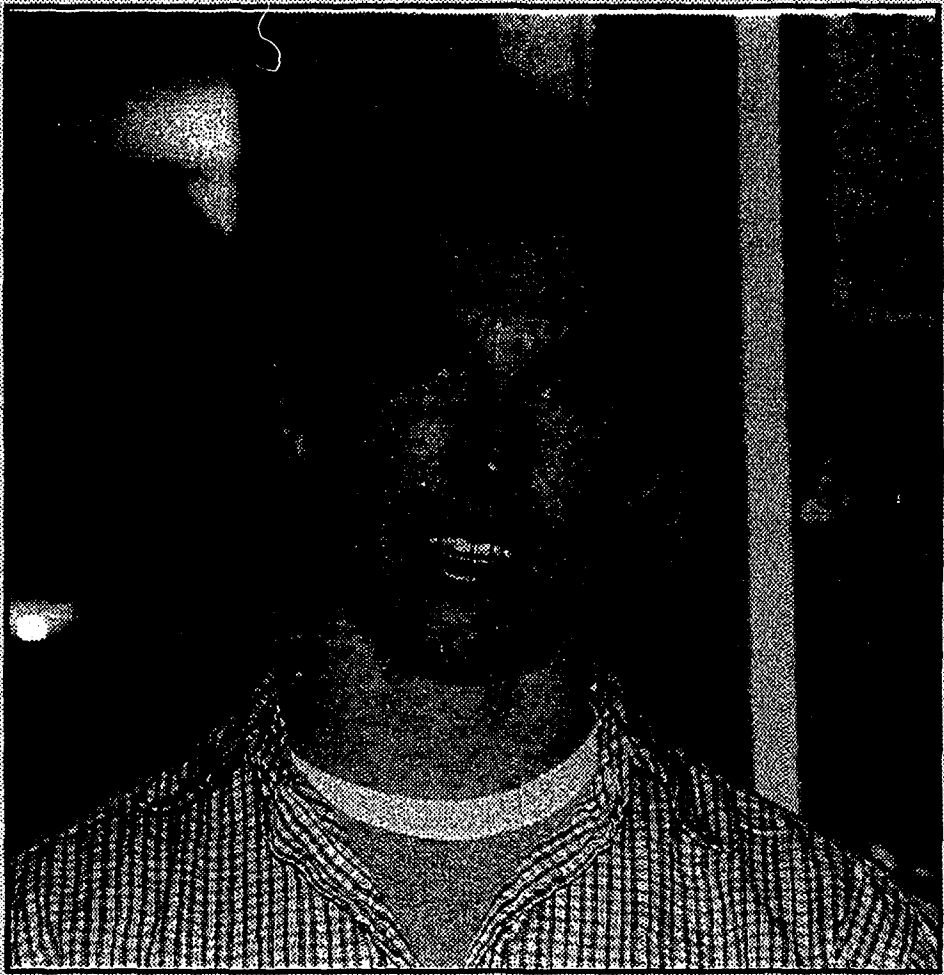
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DEVASTATOR

of the week



Echo photo by Jenny O'Donnell

David Riss '01

At the Middlebury College Snow Ball for the Eastern Championships held Feb. 26-27, Colby alpine skier David Riss '01 qualified for the upcoming National Collegiate Athletic Association Championships to be held this weekend at Sunday River in Bethel, Maine. The sophomore's two best places in the slalom (12th, 15th) and the giant slalom (11th, 17th) earned the seventeenth spot for qualification. He is the first male Colby alpine skier to qualify for Nationals since 1993.

Mule Pack

Jessica Knight '02

The first-year swimmer who had qualified for three events in the 29-team New England Swimming Championships helped garner the Lady Mules a ninth place finish. Knight placed 10th in both the 100-meter freestyle and butterfly events, but really came alive in the individual 100-meter relay where she swam to a second place finish.

Jeff McCloskey '00

McCloskey broke six Colby records at the New England Swimming Championship Meet held at Williams last weekend. His strong showing qualified him for the B-cut to Nationals next weekend at the University of Minnesota.

Preston Amos '01

Along with his 5-0 win in the final of last weekend's NISRA team nationals, Amos earned himself the opportunity to compete at this weekend's NISRA individual nationals to be held at the University of Pennsylvania.



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Sports Shorts

The Colby's women's hockey team battled in two of their closest games of the season last weekend but came up short in each case. On Feb. 26, the women fell to Yale University by a score of 4-1. Down by two goals, the Mules came out in the second period with a goal from Amy Bonnefond '01. The assists came from Carrie Swiderski '02 and co-captain Juliana Bontecou '99. The goal was the Mules' first since Jan. 10. On Feb. 27, the victor was the Princeton Tigers. Colby goalie Josie Chapman '01 made 60 saves in the 5-0 defeat.

□□□

With 24 points from Kim Condon '01 and 17 more from Jen McGonagle

'00, the Lady Mules basketball team ended their regular season in impressive fashion. Colby handed an 86-69 loss to the Tufts Jumbos on Feb. 27 to end their injury-plagued season at 13-11. Erin Cole-Karagory '00 was also key in the win, netting 13 points, while Katy Lawson '02 contributed eight points, grabbed seven rebounds and dished out 6 assists.

□□□

The women's indoor track team came up against some tough competition in the New England Division III Championships at Smith on Saturday. With many White Mules recording personal bests, Colby

placed 14th out of more than 22 teams. The pentathlon event brought the highest scores, with Faith Anderson '00, Katie MacDonald '02, and Kate Isley '01 taking fifth, sixth and seventh place. Recording their third fastest time this season, the 4x200 meter relay team of Jacqueline Johnson '01, Ann Birenbaum '00, and co-captains Kathryn LaRochelle '00 and Jeannine Bergquist '00 placed sixth. Although they did not score, the 4x800 relay team of Margaret McCusker '02, Ellen Cantillon '02, Laura Wilcox '01, and Isley knocked 15 seconds off their personal best. Colby competes in the ECAC Championships on March 6.

SWIMMING, cont'd from page 16

"They [young swimmers] didn't know the power they had at first," Feraco said. "They didn't realize their impact until after they finished this weekend."

Still, the team benefited highly from the swimming of its senior members. Tri-captain Kristin North '99 placed 19th in the 1650-meter freestyle and 30th in the 500-meter freestyle. Tri-captain Kate Lowe '99 earned 35th in the 1650-meter free, 48th in the 200-meter freestyle race and 51st in the 500-meter freestyle. Laura Feraco '99, the third tri-captain, swam three races for Colby, finishing 10th in the 200-meter backstroke, 23rd in the 100-meter backstroke and 25th in the 200-meter IM. Finally, senior Emily Dowd '99 managed to qualify for three races during the weekend. Dowd placed 24th in both the 100-meter breaststroke and 50-meter breaststroke, and placed 37th in the 200-meter breaststroke.

Colby also qualified for four of the relay events. The White Mules won a 10th place finish in the 400-meter free relay, a 12th place finish in the 800-meter free relay, 10th in the 200-meter medley and eighth place in the finals of the 400-meter medley.

The women's team, although they will lose strong members next season, will certainly be backed up by the young talent that is already scoring big points for the White Mules.

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Men's squash ends season with good showing at Harvard

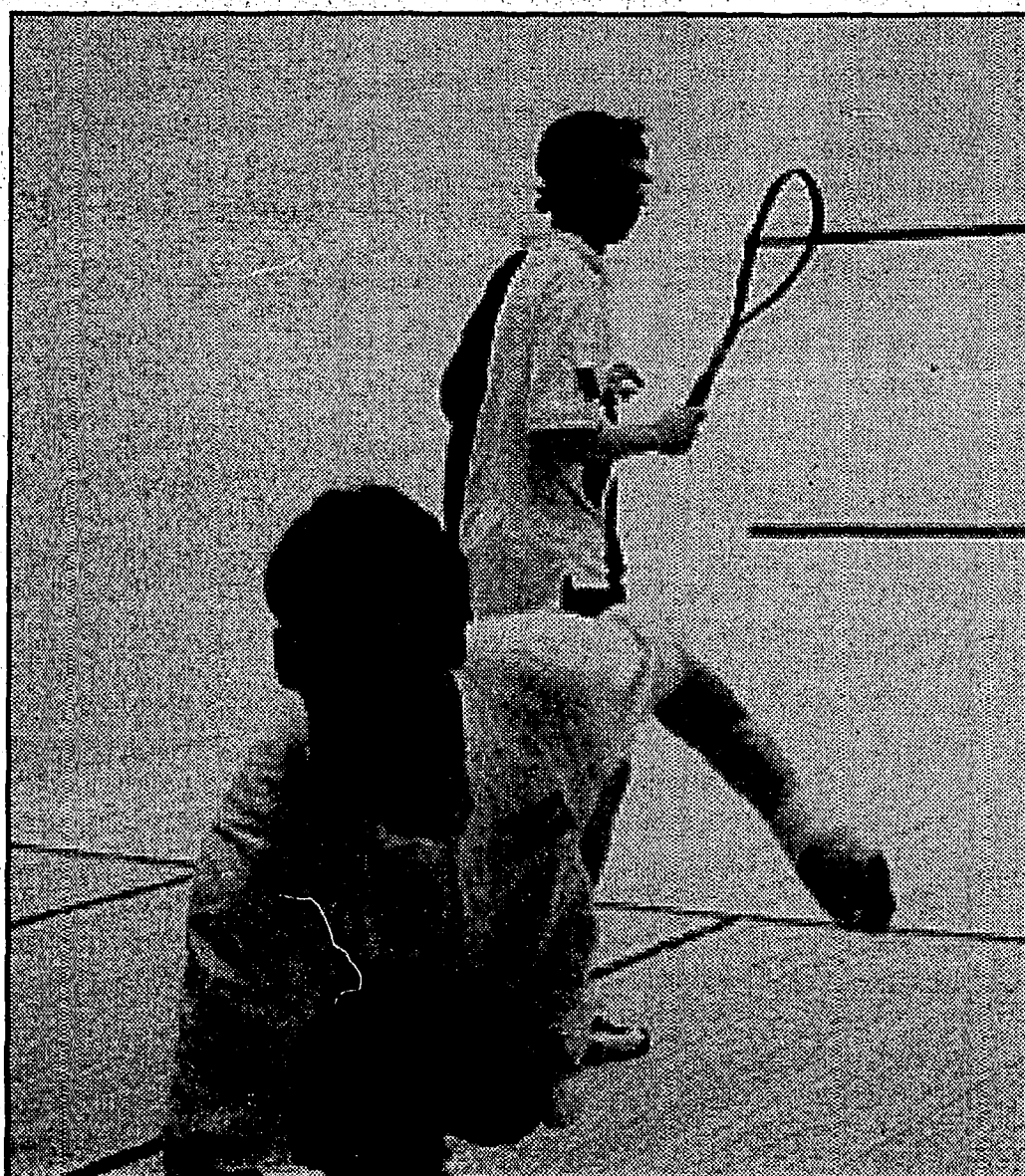
BY HEATHER DAUR
Staff Writer

Colby's men's squash team traveled to Harvard University, Feb. 26-27, to compete in the NISRA team nationals.

The Mules were victorious in the first two rounds of competition before falling to Cornell University in the final round of the Division III contest. Colby, which was ranked 17th in a pool of 36 teams, held the top seed in the third division. Each division is composed of eight teams.

The White Mules decisively defeated Vassar College in the first round by a score of 7-2. Later in the weekend, Colby again proved successful when they defeated Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 7-2, in the semi-final round of competition. Still, the momentum wasn't enough when Colby faced Cornell in the final round. Despite a 6-3 loss, the Mules exhibited solid play throughout the weekend.

Colby's three wins in the final round came from Preston Amos '01, who captured a victory 5-0, sophomore James Pook, who won 3-2, and Mike Natenshon '01, who was victorious 4-0. The impressive play consistently shown by Amos has earned him a trip to the NISRA individual nationals this week-



Chris Ucko '99 lunges for the ball.

Echo photo by Aubrey Love

end at the University of Pennsylvania.

Colby head coach Fred Brussels has mixed emotions on his team's results for the 1998-99 season.

"On the whole, the team played

well," said Brussels. "Different individuals stood out at different matches. . . It was a very enjoyable season with disappointing results, a hard season, but a good season." □

Colby Scoreboard

Men's squash

Mar. 5-7 NISRA individual nationals @UPenn

Women's squash

Mar. 5-7 NISRA individual nationals @ UPenn

Women's hockey

Mar. 6 @ St. Lawrence

Mar. 7 @ Cornell

Men's indoor track

Mar. 6 ECAC Championships

Women's indoor track

Mar. 6 ECAC Championships

Men's and women's skiing

Mar. 7-13 NCAA Championships @ Sunday River, ME

Upcoming Events

Men's basketball vs. Tufts University 77-65

Women's basketball vs. Tufts University 86-69

Men's hockey vs. Connecticut College 5-0

Women's hockey vs. Yale University 1-4

Women's hockey vs. Princeton University 0-3

Women's squash vs. Williams College 0-3

Men's squash vs. Bates College 6-3

Women's squash vs. Hamilton College 6-3

HOCKEY cont'd from page 16

ing to Hamilton in the first round.

Colby will play second-seeded Williams tomorrow night in the ECAC semifinals.

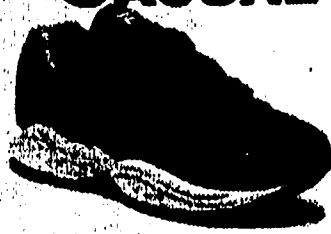
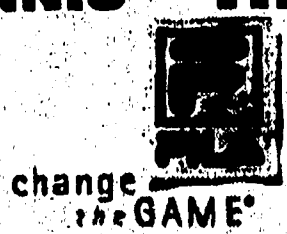
"If we play like we did on Saturday night we are very tough team to beat," Koh said.

The Mules lost 5-4 in an overtime contest against the Ephs on Jan. 30. But the Mules also lost to Connecticut College before shellacking them on Feb. 27. A win versus Williams would match Colby up against the winner of the Norwich-Trinity game. □

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Mules maul the Camels in ECAC post-season quarterfinals 5-0

BY MATT SMITH
Contributing Writer

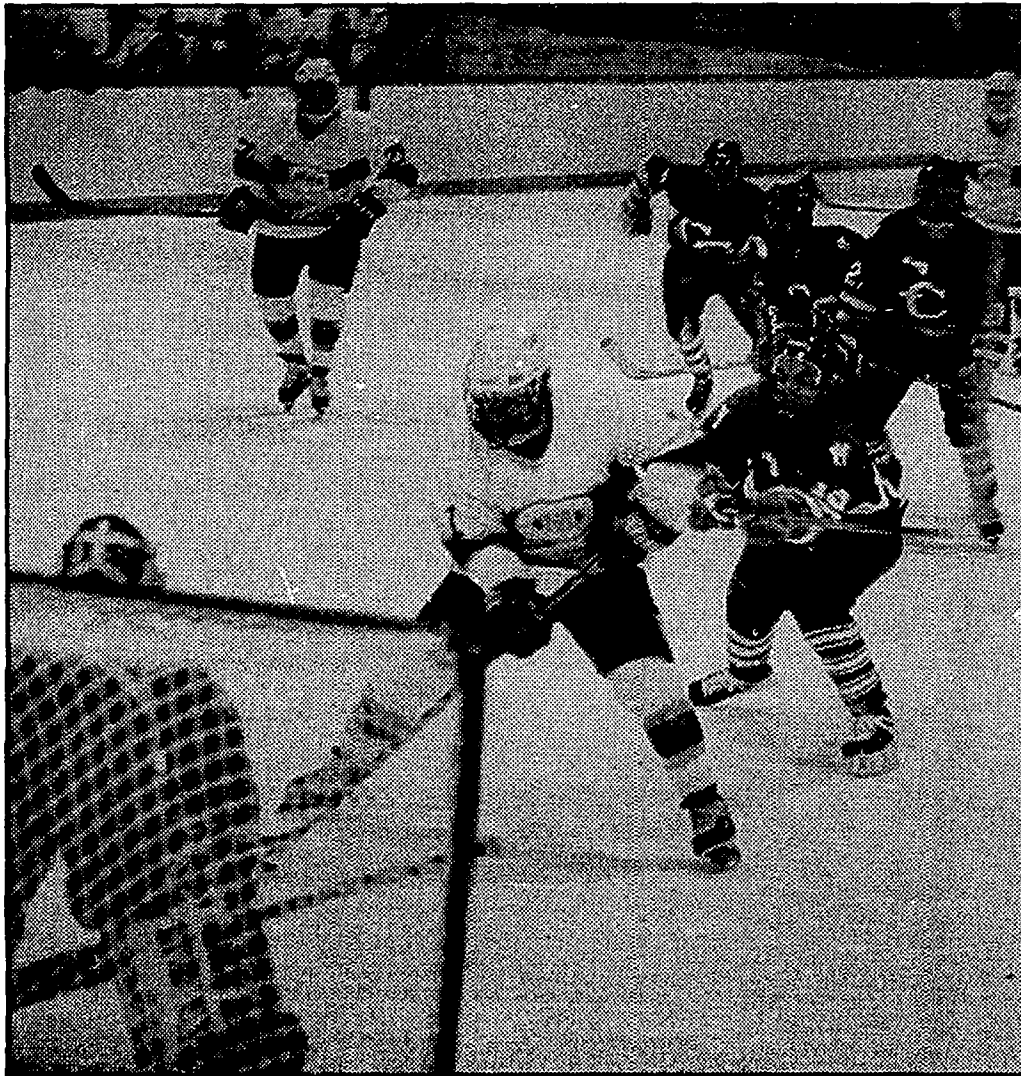
The Norwich University ice rink was kind to the Colby men's hockey team two years ago, when they beat Bowdoin in the championship game to give the Colby program its first Eastern College Athletic Conference title in 30 years. Colby hopes the same Northfield, Vt. rink will treat them equally nice this weekend when they play in the final four of the ECAC playoffs.

It took a commandeering effort on Feb. 27 to get to this point. The third-seeded Mules opened up the post-season by dominating their first round opponent, the Camels of Connecticut College, at Alford Arena.

The Mules came out strong as they peppered 21 shots on goal in the first period. Ken Kearns '01 scored the only goal of the first period when he took Chris Tashjian's '01 pass and knocked it past Connecticut goalie Justin Brackett at 16:48.

The second period was much more balanced, until captain Rob Koh '99 blasted a shot from the point for the Mules second goal at 16:51. Ross McEwen '99 started the third period rally when he scored just over a minute into the final period. But the Mules were unrelenting.

With the score 3-0, Colby continued to pour it on as Fred Perowne '01 scored at 9:42, much to the liking of his fan contingent in the bleachers.



Echo photo by Jenny O'Donnell

Ross McEwen '99 takes on Connecticut College goalie Justin Brackett and wins the battle by scoring.

Tashjian finally capped off the scoring at 13:34 in the third to put the final score at 5-0. Jason Cherella '99 made 16 saves in his shutout effort.

For the seniors, it was a chance to leave the home ice of Alford Arena with a win.

"It was definitely redemption after not winning our game against Amherst," said Koh. "As

a team we definitely played one of our best games of the year."

The key for the Mules was bringing both sides of play together for a cohesive team performance.

"We shut down their offense. Yet our offense was still able to put the puck in the net," said Koh.

Last year, the Mules failed to advance to the semifinals after losing. *See HOCKEY, cont'd on page 15*

Colby hoops it up with 77-65 win over Jumbos Victory propels Mules into the playoffs

BY BECKY POLLARD
Sports Editor

The Colby men's basketball game marked its third straight road win on Feb. 27, but this last one was the most timely. Beating the Tufts University Jumbos 77-65 earned Colby a berth in the Eastern College Athletic Conference post-season tournament after missing it last year.

Colby is the third seed and played sixth-seeded Salem State yesterday in Wadsworth Gymnasium. The Salem State Vikings came to Waterville with a 17-7 record.

But the Mules would not have been there without their end-of-the-season run. The team won four of their last five games, including an upset win over the Hamilton Continentals to put their regular season record at 15-9. The loss came in overtime at the hands of the Trinity Bantams. Over their final 13 games, Colby recorded nine wins.

It has been the team's balanced scoring efforts that have fueled their consistency. The Feb. 27 contest in Medford, Mass. was no different.

Things did not look promising for Colby in the first half as the Jumbos netted six three-pointers in the first 20 minutes

of the game. Tufts led 37-34 at the break.

The Jumbos could not keep their paws to themselves in the second half, as Colby pulled away by making 21 of 24 free throw attempts.

Ken Allen '00 paced Colby with 14 points, while tri-captain James Spidle '99 scored 13 for the Mules. Sam Clark '01, who knocked in two key points during Colby's early second half run, finished the game with 13 points.

According to tri-captain Nahum Meisner '99, the players' mental preparedness contributed to their recent surge.

"It seems like everyone has their heads on straight," said Meisner. "And when that happens, we play really well... The way we can play has always been there. It's just that people have realized what they can and can't do."

The semifinals of the ECAC tournament will take place this Friday at the seed of the higher team. The winner of yesterday's Colby-Salem State match-up will play either number seven Colby Sawyer or number two Williams. Plymouth State is the top seed, while Keene State is fourth, Amherst is fifth and Wheaton is eighth. □

Women's swimmers lap up the competition at New England

BY BROOKE FRAPPIER
Staff Writer

On the weekend of Feb. 19-21, the Colby women's swim team dove into the Bowdoin pool to compete in the New England Championships. With 15 White Mules qualified for events in this competition, the team managed a respectable ninth place finish out of 39 teams.

"We swam out of our minds," said tri-captain Laura Feraco '99. "We knew we had a lot of depth."

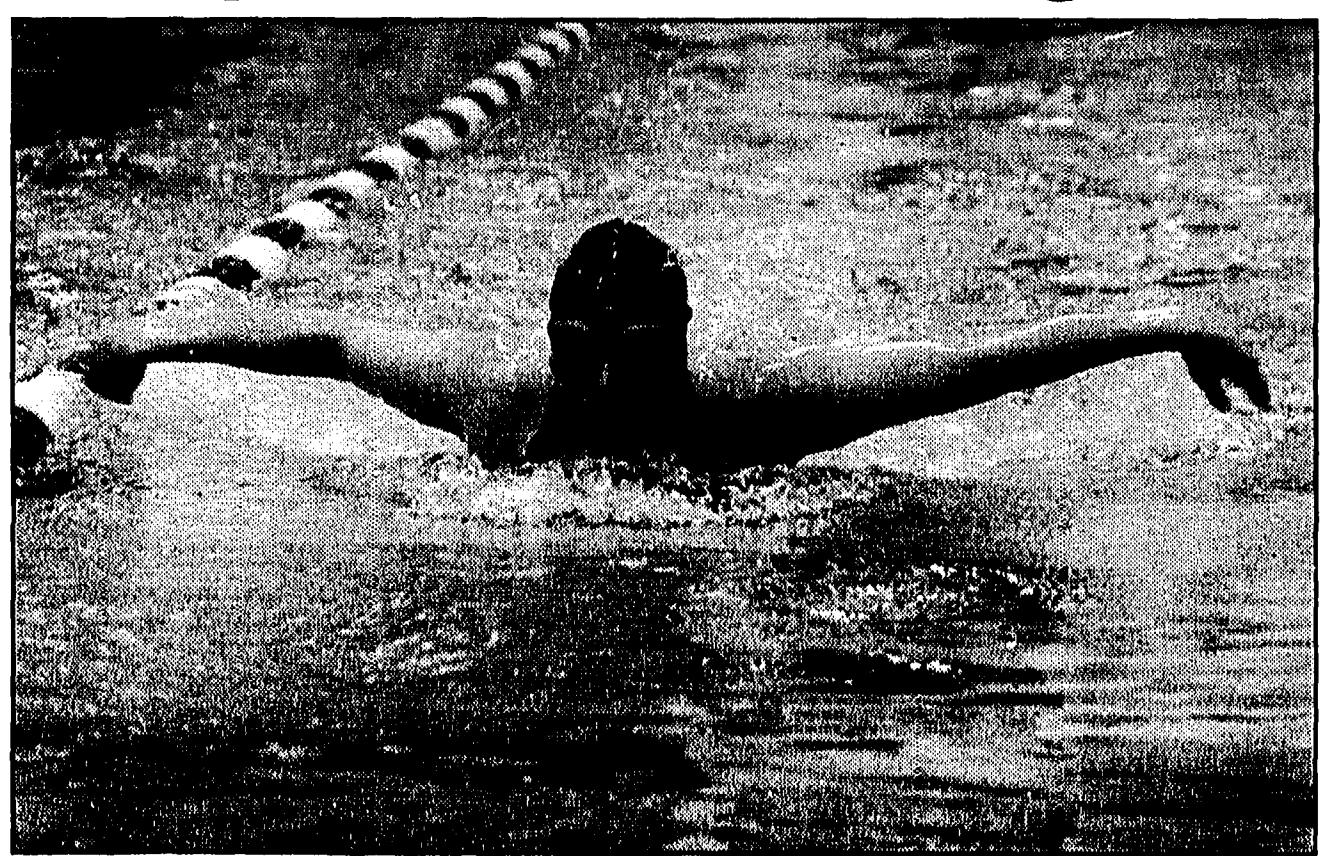
Williams won the meet with a point total of 1419, with Amherst and Middlebury following behind with 1195 and 1149 points respectively.

Colby's young and talented squad paced the Lady Mules, boding a strong

future for the program. Outstanding in the racing lanes was Jessica Knight '02. Knight qualified for three events and placed within the top ten in the finals of all of them. In both the 100-meter freestyle and the 100-meter butterfly she placed 10th in the finals. She also pulled off second place in the 100-meter individual medley.

Other first-years who raced well included Blake Hamill '02 who earned fourth place in the 200-meter IM, ninth in the 100-meter IM and 17th in the 400-meter IM. Alyssa Severn '02 placed 18th in the 50-meter backstroke and 23rd in the 100-meter backstroke.

Amy Millett '01 made an impressive show with a 14th place finish in the 50-meter butterfly, a 24th place finish in the 100-butterfly and 37th in the 200-meter butterfly. Fellow sophomore



Echo file photo

A Lady Mule swimmer races to the finish.

Michelle Cook earned 25th in the 200-meter freestyle.

Junior Mary Snyder '00 qualified for three races for the White Mules, picking

up points for her eighth place finish in the 200-meter IM, 13th in the 400-meter IM and 20th in 200-meter breaststroke.

See SWIMMING, cont'd to page 14