

The Colby Echo

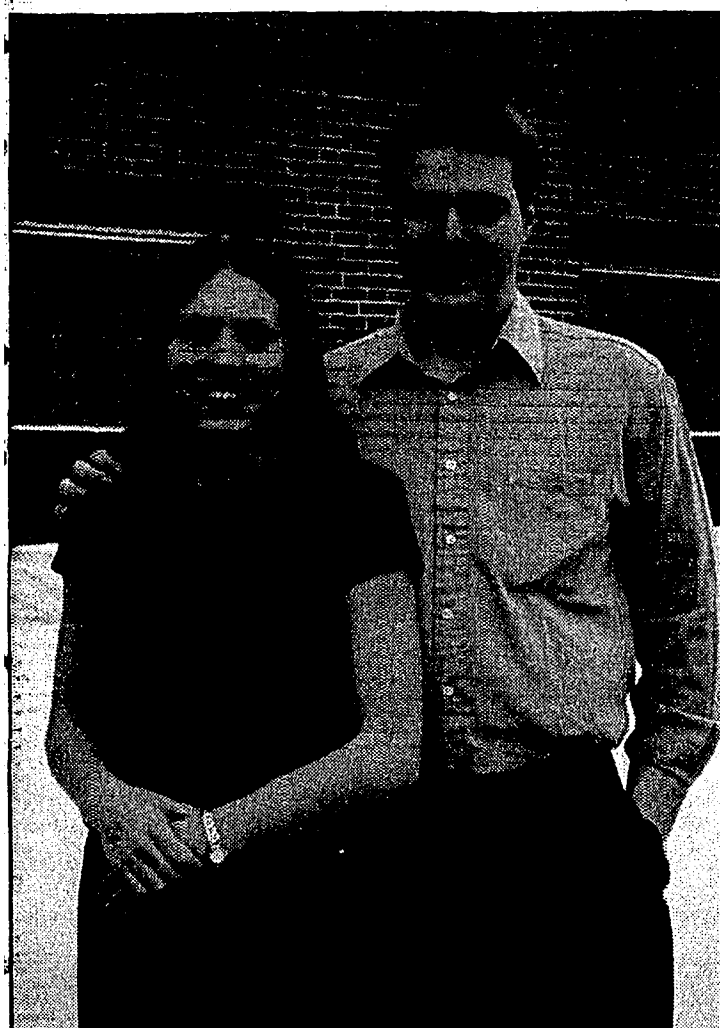
Volume CXXIII, Number 16

Published by the students of Colby College since 1877

March 15, 2001

Candidates for SGA President and Vice President

Jenn Coughlin '02 and Alex Aldous '02



president of the Debate Society for two years, sings in Chorale, and plays soccer and club volleyball. We know we work well together and we have a solid understanding of the issues that are important to Colby students.

We feel there is an overwhelming need to provide each student with an individual voice mailbox. We believe that this provides privacy and convenience. We have spoken with AdServ and determined that this can be done over the summer and requires no additional cost to the College. Also, this summer, the College's long-distance provider will change from MCI to AT&T. We will use this opportunity to negotiate with AdServ to lower the expensive international calling rates.

Our second goal is to address the inconvenient parking shortage affecting students. As a temporary solution, we propose to redistribute a portion of the commuter parking spaces to on-campus students. In turn, we would try to make commuter parking more accessible to academic buildings. We want to ensure that winter plowing frees up as many spots as possible and we'll work with PPD and the Dean of Students to see this happen. To permanently resolve the parking problem, we will advocate the construction of a fourth lot.

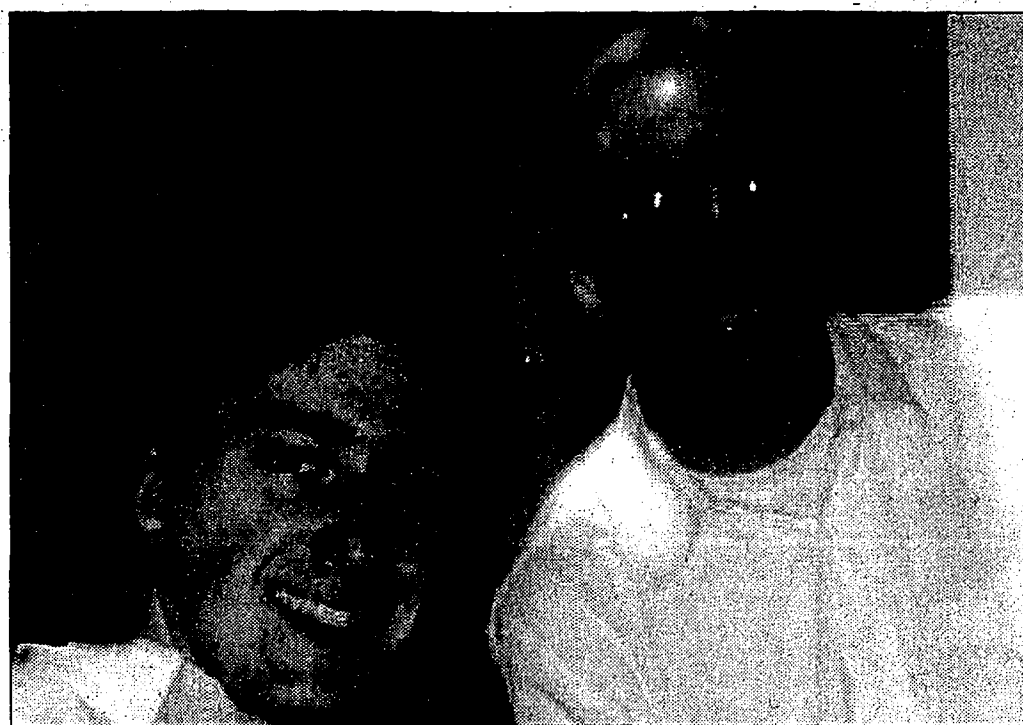
We would like to expand upon the social scene at Colby. We'll work with the Social and Cultural Chairs and Commons leaders to bring a greater variety and frequency of all-campus events to Colby. Examples include comedians, lecturers, and hypnotists. We will also collaborate with Bowdoin, Bates and WMHB to bring big-name performers and lecturers to our campuses. Also, we are fully committed to preserving Colby's existing alcohol policies and therefore strongly oppose any administrative move toward a dry campus.

See COUGHLIN/ALDOUS, continued on page 2

We're Jenn Coughlin and Alex Aldous, and we're running for SGA President and Vice President. Jenn is a junior from Hamilton, Massachusetts, and is a History major and Women's Studies minor. Alex is a junior from Athens, Greece, and dual-majors in Government and Classics. We think Colby has been an absolutely fantastic place to spend three years, and we want to lead Colby to make it an even better place for years to come.

We have solid leadership and experience. Jenn is the SGA Junior Class Representative and has served as a justice on the Judicial Board for the past two years. She is also the Echo features editor, and represents student interests on the College Affairs Committee. Alex is the HR in Mary Low, has been

Jonathan Greene '02 and Chris Schlosser '02



Get a pencil and piece of paper; we are going to have a short pop quiz. Fine, you can write on this Echo. We want you to list all of the Colby traditions you would not miss for the world. Yup, those times each year that you do not want to be any place but Colby College. Ready, set, go! How is that list coming? Is it a little short?

Colby lacks tradition. Tradition is the first loudness of the year, the Johnson Pond Regatta, the Colby vs. Bowdoin hockey game, Senior Week, an open Miller Street, and, with a little luck, the CBB Diversity Conference. Tradition is not another lounge party or the same Student Center dance with a new DJ. Building and maintaining traditions requires commitment, an understanding of its importance to the Colby experience as a whole, and money. The creation of endowments for a few specific yearly college social events would provide the money and the incentive for this continued commitment. While raising the principal for such an endowment may take a few years, it would ensure that events like the Regatta and Winter Carnival have the time and resources to grow into genuine traditions without straining the overall SGA budget.

We are Jon Greene and Chris Schlosser. We are running for SGA President and Vice President. Jon is a senior Economics and Biology major studying abroad in London for the year. He has done an

extensive amount of work in student government in high school and more recently at Colby as Foss Hall President and as a member of the Financial Priorities Committee. Chris is also a senior, majoring in Economics and International Studies. He is active at Colby in the Admissions office, WMHB radio, and is the driving force behind the financial success of the Colby Reader. We would like to share with you our vision for Colby and your experience here.

See GREENE/SCHLOSSER, continued on page 2

Peter Loverso '03 and John Skovran '02



As SGA President and Vice-President, we will serve the students of Colby College to the best of our ability. We promise to be a productive team in working with the student body and administration. In the past year we have seen much improvement in SGA to better serve students and their issues. We want to continue this tradition of cooperation by effectively working to enhance the relationship between the administration and the student body. The result will be increased awareness of the student voice and all it has to say.

Our goals for next year are listed below:

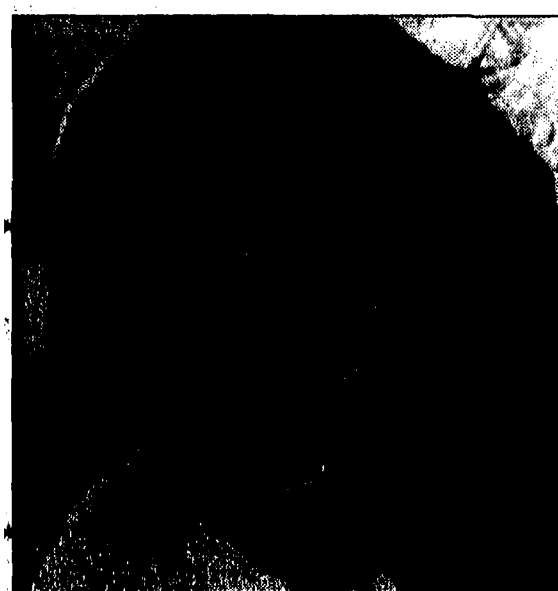
- * Orientation reform, including Feb-Fresh Orientation: In the current system, when freshmen return to campus after their outdoor trip, they are left with a brochure and a roommate. In the same light, Feb-Fresh, after going abroad for a semester, come to Colby and are left out in the cold when it comes to orientation. If elected we will reform orientation for ALL freshmen so that they have a better sense of Colby and all it has to offer them.

- * Elimination of the Wellness requirement: Instead of a requirement that consists of lectures given all throughout

the year, we propose that the money now spent on these lectures be re-appropriated to more advantageous areas. Some of these funds would be better used for specific programming and lectures most pertinent to freshmen during orientation. Other funds should be used in Hall Staff Programming and other events promoting health and well-

See LOVERSO/SKOVAN, continued on page 3

Zahra Khilji '02
and Mary Katherine Brennan '02



Still buzzing from the diversity conference, we would like to thank those that helped put it together. It offered yet another reason why we think that the current SGA is doing so commendable a job. Our ticket would like to build on the framework that has been laid by them, and remind the Colby community that there is still so much more that could be done to improve our Colby careers. We are running because we are involved, sincere, and aware students of this campus; having had, between the two of us, experience as Hall Staff, International Club President, Colbyettes, Crew, Colby Dancers, and been on various advisory boards. We want to enrich and simplify student life by looking at the following issues as a starting point:

- * Parking is a problem on this campus. According to Pete Chenevert, the head of Security, there are 958 student parking spaces on this campus (including commuter spots) and 962 registered student cars. We believe that these figures indicate a need to push for accelerated action on this matter. Expanding the Roberts lot parking another lot behind the Heights is what we propose. The latter would alleviate the pressure on some of the other lots and eventually could take on the growing concerns for faculty

parking as well.

- * Book sales leave everyone, except the Bookstore, dissatisfied. We intend to better organize the student-to-student book buy-back. We propose the creation of a tangible location similar to the ride board where students wishing to make back at least some of the money that they invested in a book, have an opportunity to do so by posting which books they are selling. Another option we would like to investigate is if the library could have on reserve a copy of every textbook being used as course work for that semester.

- * Coffee machines could easily be added to more locations on this campus, such as the street of the library. There is one in the gym, which is a little difficult to appreciate, so we intend to place them at more viable locations.

- * The Jitney service is what we boast about when prospective families on a tour ask about a shuttle service to downtown Waterville. It is a noble idea but needs to be made into a more reliable option. We propose hiring more back-up

See KHILJI/BRENNAN, continued on page 2

Geoff Ward '02 and Brian Wezowicz '02



SGA has improved a great deal this year, but more needs to be done to connect SGA to the students. Our student government lacks the power to effect change. Too many students on this campus have told us that they're unaware of what SGA is doing. Too often the Colby administration ignores students when setting policy. We believe it is time for Colby to be given back to the students to whom it belongs.

We believe that, if elected, we can accomplish the following goals, goals that will improve Colby and strengthen our student body.

- * Currently students are outnumbered on College committees. We would like to see an increase in student representation on these committees to ensure that students are not only heard, but have the ability to enact change. We will also push for greater disclosure of committee meetings.

- * We would like to create a commission to study our current room draw system and provide a more equitable system. The commission would look at models from similar schools and be required to report back to the Presidents' Council by the end of the first semester next year.

- * The parking problems on campus need to be solved. The number of student parking spaces on campus has been significantly reduced, and this needs to be rectified. Currently there are too few spaces, a situation that has resulted in a rash of tickets and towing. This needs to stop, and student parking needs to be

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The Colby Echo

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since 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.

LETTERS

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. The Echo will not, under any circumstances, print an unsigned letter.

If possible, please submit letters in Microsoft Word or text format either on 3.5" disk or via e-mail at echo@colby.edu. The Echo reserves the right to edit all submissions.

EDITORIALS

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

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Editorial

This year, for the first time in recent memory, the Echo will break from tradition and not endorse candidates for the positions of Student Government Association president and vice president.

Two members of the Echo staff are running for the position of SGA president and we cannot, in good faith, endorse candidates with complete objectivity.

Our decision not to endorse candidates does not reflect a disinterest in the electoral process. On the contrary, we are pleased that there are five sets of candidates running for SGA president and vice president; this plethora of candidates affords the student body a wide variety of platforms and personalities from which to select its next student government leaders.

The advent of the Marchese Blue Light Pub and the recent success of the first annual Colby-Bates-Bowdoin Diversity conference stands to affirm the continued relevance of student government in our lives.

The Echo believes that detailed campaign promises are more likely to be realized than vague notions of "improving social life" or "alleviating the parking problem." Both aforementioned problems demand attention and

must be addressed by next year's SGA leaders.

The Echo applauds the efforts of the current SGA and hopes to see its success continued into the 2001-02 academic year.

The Echo would like to call particular attention to the position of SGA social chair. This position has become increasingly unenviable as Colby's social programming has paled in comparison to that of our peer institutions. The onus should not, however, fall exclusively on the SGA Social Chair or on members of the Student Programming Board who are forced to work with a meager budget. In order to attract more students to Mayflower Hill and to keep current students happy, the College must agree to expand the budget of Student Activities dramatically. With fewer off-campus options for entertainment than other more cosmopolitan colleges, the importance of maintaining a viable social life complete with big-name bands and many College-sponsored events is tremendous. Our social options are simply inadequate for a college of our stature. Next year's SGA president and vice president must petition President William D. Adams and the board of trustees for more money to be devoted to the cause of improving Colby's currently anemic social life.

In addition to requesting a larger budget, next year's social chair should come to the job with ideas for events and performances that can generate real student interest and involvement.

As many of the candidates for president and vice president have acknowledged, student parking at Colby has reached crisis-level proportions. Whether the College constructs a new lot or prohibits first-year student parking, bold measures must be adopted to ensure that student drivers can park their vehicles on campus. Next year's student government officials must be firm in their resolve to create at least as many parking spaces as there are vehicles.

Finally, the Echo believes that candidates for SGA positions must commit to bridging the gap between students and SGA officers. The Mary Low dorm president already provides her constituents with the opportunity to vote on whether they support motions before Presidents' Council; shouldn't all Colby students be afforded this privilege? The Echo believes that next year's SGA should take steps to increase student communication with Security and with College committees.

Before voting, we implore students to review the platforms of all the candidates carefully.

Please note: The Echo has not altered the statements of candidacy enclosed in this issue in any way other than through performing courtesy copy editing. The opinions expressed are those of the candidates, not the Echo. The platforms and pictures were placed in alphabetical order, beginning with the last names of candidates.

COUGHLIN/ALDOUS:

Continued from page 1

We believe that Colby's student body is mature enough to make decisions regarding the purchase of cigarettes. If elected, we will conduct a student referendum to determine if a majority wishes to the on-campus sale of cigarettes to be resumed, and will petition the administration based on these results.

This year there has been a commendable effort by student clubs and SGA to emphasize diversity. These efforts enrich life at Colby, and they not only need to be continued, but further developed. We want the CBB diversity conference to become an annual tradition. Also, we'd endeavor to pool under-tapped financial resources, such as the Cultural Events Committee and the Dean's Fund, to draw high-profile diversity lecturers to Colby throughout the year.

The Wellness requirement needs to change. We believe that varsity and club athletes, and CER volunteers, should be recognized for their athletic practices and medical training. We would work with the College's Administrative Vice President and the Academic Affairs Committee to change the requirement so that student athletes and EMTs on CER would only attend four wellness lectures.

We would like set up a free shuttle service, running daily

during exam period from Colby to Portland and Boston Logan. It would be similar to the JanPlan Colby-Sugarloaf shuttle and manned by Colby Driver Certified student volunteers. We would work with the Student Activities Office to procure the minimal funding. We also have spoken with the Dean of Students about re-opening the convenience store in the Spa, to sell groceries, Ben & Jerry's ice cream, and basic toiletries. We believe this would be a great service to students and would also provide more student jobs. We will continue SGA's commitment to 24-hour Health Center coverage, and we have also researched hiring a part-time nutritionist for treatment of eating disorders and for sports training. We believe that a staff nutritionist would help to improve the quality of student health care on campus. Lastly, we will improve communication between SGA and dorm residents so that students play a more active role in SGA decision-making, and are aware of how their representatives are addressing the campus issues.

We have researched these proposals extensively by talking with students, faculty, and administrators at Colby. Without a doubt, we can make these things happen.

Please vote for Jenn and Alex for SGA President and Vice President!

KHILJI/BRENNAN:

Continued from page 1

drivers so that inconveniences like exams will not result in a lack of service. And if this proves to be ineffectual still, then hiring a permanent jitney driver may be what is needed.

* A mini-mart on campus that would cater to a variety of student needs such as snack food, plastic cups and cutlery, along with basic food items, is also an idea we would like to pursue. We are aware that one such establishment existed on campus a few years ago and did not do too well, but we want to research this idea to see what types of things people would want, how late this mini-mart should be open and how to ensure fair prices.

* Career Services is something that the current administration has already begun to look at and we as a ticket maintain that that is one area of definite concern. We think that when we talk about our alumni being our best link into firms, we need to realize that there needs to be a career services position created that would be responsible for maintaining direct contact with the alumni and through that contact, have the resources to

constantly update the status of potential work offers. There need to be individual career fairs organized throughout the year for at least the most popular career paths, i.e. including, but not limited to investment banking and, shall we say, working "outdoors." Furthermore, there needs to be counseling available to seniors who receive a job offer, advising them on how to evaluate it in order to make the right decision.

These are just some ideas that we, if placed in office, would like to pursue. All of these issues are what this ticket has come to learn about from speaking with other members of this community. MK is abroad this semester but I, Zahra, am more than willing to talk with anyone about any of these areas, or others for that matter. We are serious when we say trust us, we will deliver, and we are even more serious when we ask that everyone votes. As cliché as that sounds, we want to know that whoever gets the honor of serving this campus next year is someone that the people asked for. Every one of us, seniors included, has a vote. Please use it, and use it well. Thank you for taking the time to read this, and good luck to all the candidates!

GREENE/SCHLOSSER:

Continued from page 1

Reading this might make you think, that we should be running for Social or Cultural Chair or maybe even SGA Treasurer. Nothing could be further from the truth. At a school like Colby, where life is so campus-oriented, social life, college tradition and the Colby experience become totally inseparable. These things impact academics, respect for the physical facility and Colby's reputation. They also impact respect for diversity. Our commitment to tradition is a commitment to Colby's future participation in the CBB Diversity Conference. We are not just talking about your Saturday night.

Tradition is not, however, the only aspect of your college experience. Here are some other things that, if elected, we promise to address:

Colby's Wellness requirement is in desperate need of reform. Too many lectures are needed to fulfill the requirement and the content of the lectures

that do earn credit needs review. Students should be allowed to earn at least one of the two required Wellness credits through participation in varsity sports, I-play, or frequent use of the Alford Athletic Center. This reduces to 4, the number of lectures required and allows students to tailor the program to fit their needs without adding to the requirement.

We want to expand the use of the Colby One Card system, both on campus and off. We know many students would like to be able to use the card at stores, restaurants and other locations in Waterville. How nice would it be for the WHOP driver to scan your card rather than count the heap of change you dug out of the couch? While the success of such a program depends on the Waterville merchants, there is good reason to think many would be interested.

The SGA web site is another underutilized resource. We will expand and update the site to become a timely source of information about the school and the SGA. The site will contain informa-

tion about current motions in Presidents' Council, upcoming social events, academic speakers and debates. Additionally, online polls, messages boards and frequent committee reports will improve interaction between the Colby community and the SGA.

Increasing support for Career Services is a continuing concern, especially as the economy slows down and the job market becomes more difficult. Presidents' Council's proposal that another full time staff member be added to the office is an excellent idea, however, it is not a total solution. We will continue to support the development of Career Services and the development of Colby contacts in all career fields.

We look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the coming week before the election and we hope that you will share your vision for Colby's future with us. Vote Greene and Schlosser on March 19.

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WARD/WEZOWICZ:

Continued from page 1

expanded.

also explore pooling resources will Bates and Bowdoin to bring acts to Maine that might otherwise be out of our price range.

This year has been one of success for the Student Government Association at Colby. We would like to continue the progress realized in the last year. With your support, Loverso and Skovran can make certain that the 2001-2 school year is an improvement still.

- We will work to bring a wider variety of social events to Colby. Students are thirsting for weekend life and are tired of the same old events. More diverse social programs will bring us closer as a community. We would

We believe these goals can be accomplished, and we promise to work hard each and every day to make our goal of a united and stronger student body and student government a reality so that your voices are heard. Vote for Geoff Ward and Brian Wezowicz for SGA President and Vice President on March 19.

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COMMONS

Lovejoy Commons

Lilla Lund '04 and Lauren Abbott '04



Now that Alex and Guito are passing on the job of Lovejoy Commons leaders, two ladies are stepping up to the plate. Lauren Abbott and Lilla Lund are attempting to uphold the Lovejoy weekend standards characterized by a plethora of lounge parties followed by the infamous Colby theme dances. Although these are both fun weekend activities, we'd also like to spice it up a little right here in Waterville, Maine.

It's a goal of ours to find out what the residents of our commons really want. We plan to send out a survey at the beginning

of the year to residents of Lovejoy Commons asking your opinions about events you'd like to see on campus. Since there's not much of a social scene in the greater Waterville area, we feel it's our responsibility to keep the weekends exciting right here on campus. We'd like to see more musical performances moving through our area...but not just any bands. It's important to represent the tastes of all Colby students when choosing acts.

Lauren spent her "first year" here at Colby as an SPB for Leonard...the prime site for many

lounge parties. After a year on the third floor of Leonard, she has perfected the art of avoiding both Security and the perpetual "phantom boot". Lilla is also a member of the Leonard posse...though she spent her first semester across the pond attempting to figure out the idiosyncrasies of becoming Eurotrash in Espana.

We are committed to "keepin' the love" in Lovejoy Commons, so you should vote for us...besides, we're the only ones running.

Mary Low Commons

Rachel Noiseux '04 and Christine Pennypacker '04



Hi, we're Rachel Noiseux and Christine Pennypacker. We're running to be the next Mary Low Commons Leaders. Just so you know we are already involved with Mary Low Commons as SPB's in our respective dorms. This year we worked closely with our Commons Leaders and know what the job entails. In addition to this, we have worked closely with Student Activities, Dining Services, and other important non-student groups.

Better than anyone else, we have seen what the job of being a Commons Leader requires. Both of us recognize the responsibility involved, and we are both enthusiastic about this position. We will put the time in to plan events that are new, different, and exciting.

In this past year, we have worked at events such as the Stoplight Dance, Steve Taubman, the hypnotist in the beginning of the semester, Valentine's Semi-Formal, JanPlan Movie Marathon, and Slide. We helped make these activities happen. Whether it was planning weeks in advance or cleaning up at 2 a.m., we were there to make it a success. These

were popular events that we want to make happen again.


Besides the old favorites, we had the chance to plan and implement our own ideas. During January, we had the chance to plan a bonfire with a DJ, sugar on snow, cookies, and hot chocolate. We want to continue to implement new ideas next year such as Oktoberfest, Singled Out, and a Dance Marathon. For Oktoberfest, we would use Foss Dining Hall, decorate it in a German theme, have German food and an oompah band. This past year has given us the experience necessary in order to make these new events happen.

This year as SPB's, we have done activities such as Harvest Dinner, Apple Picking, Big G's night, make your own pizza and nacho night, weekly study breaks, monthly birthday parties, Sunday sundaes, and a dinner at Freedom Café and Kafé Kino. These events have taught us what works in dorms and what doesn't. We are eager to pass this knowledge onto our SPB's next year, so that they can do the best dorm programming possible.

We know what the job requires; we've been doing it all year long and want to keep going and making things better. Many of you who live in Mary Low Commons already know us, and, if you don't already, we look forward to meeting you. Feel free to call us (Rachel 6709 or Christine 7124) if you have any questions or just want to get to know us better. We will be open to any suggestions you may have as we have been all year long as SPB's in our dorms. We will be easily accessible to you via e-mail, phone calls, and in person. We will have one open commons council meeting a month for people to pitch their ideas. This will give you a time to tell us what we're doing right, what we're doing wrong, and what you want us to plan for you.

What else are we going to do? Well, we're still thinking about various ideas. We will work our asses off to make next year the best it can possibly be. So remember: While "There's no wrong way to eat a Reese's", there's only ONE way to vote for commons leaders. Vote Rachel and Christine.





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LEADERS

Johnson-Chaplin Commons

Maura Myers '04 and Reid Swayze '04



Please allow us to introduce ourselves as candidates for the Johnson-Chaplin Commons leader position: we are Reid Swayze from Simsbury, Connecticut and Maura Myers from McLean, Virginia. We are both members of the class of 2004 and are residents of Treworgy and Piper, respectively. Both of us have been involved in student government prior to coming to Colby, so we have some experience under our belts! Reid is planning on declaring a dual major in Government and Biology and

Maura is planning on majoring in History and American Studies (in case anyone is curious, I know that it is an extremely important and interesting factoid!). Ok, time to cut to the chase, folks, here is our framework for the social world that is J.C. Commons next year; we plan to focus on the three C's: Community, Colby-life, and Cervesas (alliteration gets tricky!). *1. Community: We both feel that it is extremely important not only for the Colby community to come together, but to also incorpo-

rate the surrounding Waterville community on the Colby Campus. Town/gown relationships are important to build and strengthen, as we are in effect, a major influence on Waterville and the surrounding community. Some ideas that we have had are an Oktoberfest style celebration that would build on Colby's current Halloween community program and have 'autumn' activities as well as local restaurants, vendors, et cetera on campus. Also, get the community to become active in the Winter Carnival and other campus-wide events.

*2. Colby: Bringing the entire campus together fosters school spirit and helps to get rid of weekends when it seems like there is "nothing to do at Colby." We want to increase the occurrence of lounge parties, have inter-commons competitions such as a Colby-style field day (like the old Colby Olympics), campus golf, a spring Johnson Pond regatta, and so on.

*3. Cervesas: This should be self explanatory, more registered lounge parties, and registered keg parties on fraternity row. That way the administration and we are satisfied!

If these sound appealing to you, please remember to vote Swayze and Myers before 8:00 PM on March 19.

Derek Taff '04
and Josh German '04

Taff-German... True
The bottom line is this: we are committed to making next year a lot of fun. Our key objective is to fight for what people in Johnson-Chaplin, and all across campus, want the social scene at Colby to be like. We want to bring the campus together more with larger and more frequent social events that will strengthen the Colby community and keep people excited to be here, even in the doldrums of winter. Among some of our priorities are more live music performances, more kegs at parties, and more fun activities like theme parties. We also hope to take advantage of the out-

doors and the short time when the weather is warm and it's nice to be outside. Especially in the winter, we want to pull together the student body and take advantage of the campus with a winter carnival and other more regular activities that will keep people content.

In closing, we believe that we are the best people for Johnson-Chaplin Commons leaders because of our commitment to making sure that there are always fun activities and parties taking place. We are qualified and motivated to deliver on our promises for a very enjoyable year.

Heather Unterreiner '02
and Brad Booth '03

Residents of Johnson-Chaplin Commons, we are asking for your vote for Commons Leaders.

Throughout the course of this year we both have served students' interests. Heather is an active member of SPB, organizing and helping out with numerous campus events. Brad is currently a member of Presidents' Council, looking out for students' interests. He also serves on the Cultural Events Committee, bringing a wide range of lectures and performances to campus. We both have

played an active role in organizing dorm events and keeping our residents informed about what the leadership of the school is doing for the student body.

We have really enjoyed having leadership positions representing our fellow students, and we would appreciate your support in allowing us to continue our service as Commons Leaders next year. Please vote for: Heather Unterreiner '02 and Brad Booth '03 for Johnson-Chaplin Commons Leaders.



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Ed Jastrem '02



Thank you for taking a moment to read this brief statement. I would like to remain involved in SGA in a major way because I have enjoyed my past experiences with the Student Programming Board and my current work on Presidents' Council. The position of Treasurer requires outstanding organization and communication skills, as well as the desire to work hard and the willingness to accommodate the needs of others. My past experiences, both on and off campus, serve as a stepping stone to this SGA Executive Position. Also, by working alongside Colby students, faculty, and administrators since 1998, I have learned what it takes to see an idea become a reality.

I encourage all students to participate in the elections on Monday, March 19. I ask for your support, and I hope that I may serve as your next Student Government Association Treasurer.

Thank you, and good luck to all SGA candidates.

Nicki Shoemaker '02

My name is Nicki Shoemaker and I am running for the position of SGA Treasurer. I am currently studying abroad in Australia and therefore cannot be on campus to campaign, but I am hoping this short statement will get the message across that I would do this job well because it is something that I really care about. It is difficult to campaign from overseas because I am not able to talk with other students, but if anyone has any questions, please feel free to email me at nashoema@colby.edu.

I believe that I have the skills necessary to perform the duties required of this job. I know how crucial it is for club leaders and the treasurer to work together and I know that my ability to work with others will ensure that this partnership flourishes. As a Head Resident for the past two years, I have seen how important clubs and organizations are to this campus. I want to work with them on their budgets so they can continue to provide activities and outlets for the student body. I have spoken with the current SGA Treasurer and I fully understand the time commitment and the work this

position entails.

The SGA Treasurer needs to be someone who is extremely organized and detail-oriented, and I proved that I possess both of these skills while serving as match secretary of the Colby women's rugby football club. For the past year, I was in charge of planning all of the team's games, which required meticulous organization, good communication skills, and an attention to detail to ensure that all team events ran smoothly. Now that I have passed that position on to another team member, I am ready to use these skills as treasurer.

Why should you vote for me? Because I have the skills, the knowledge, and the dedication to do this job well. I believe my personal attributes and experiences qualify me as the best choice for treasurer. I am extremely proud of the services the SGA provides and I will work hard to contribute to their continuance. I am prepared for this position and guarantee that I am the right person for the job. On March 19, please vote Nicki for SGA Treasurer.

Social Chair

Michael Bergan '02

Hello to all back on Mayflower Hill. I write this letter from my apartment overlooking the amazing city of Melbourne. I'm spending this spring studying on the other side of the globe, and although it has been an amazing experience, it makes running for elected office surprisingly difficult. Nonetheless, I've decided to throw my hat in the ring and run for the position of Colby's Social Chair.

I've been involved in Colby's Student Government Association for the last two years, and I'd like to continue that work with this position on SGA's Executive Board. I've been a hall president for two terms (Heights and Go-Ho), I've sat on the College Affairs Committee for two years, I serve on the SGA Hearing Board, and I recently chaired the task force to re-evaluate the room draw process.

I've come to learn the designs of event planning through my work on two different Commons' Councils and through various dealings with the Student Activities office. This means that instead of having to spend the first few weeks of this fall trying to get my bearings, I will instead be able to jump right in and hopefully start things off with another amazing Loudness.

Rob Henzi has done a great job as Social Chair by bringing in some larger acts and putting together some great events, but I think there's also more that can be done. Even though this is said every year, I really believe that the position of Social Chair can be expanded. The role of the SGA Social Chair is not only to co-chair the Social Planning Board, it also has a role to be played on the SGA Executive Board. There has typically been a clear divide between the Presidents' Council and the Social Planning Board because the roles of the two organizations have

been perceived to be distinct entities. However, both groups are involved extensively in student life on campus and can lend a great deal of expertise and assistance to the other.

Additionally, I think the time that each individual Social Planning Board member contributes could be more effectively put to use. SPB members should not only be used to clean up or monitor a party, or to put together a couple study breaks during finals week. In order to have an effective board, SPB members need to have more say and greater involvement in the actual planning and execution of campus-wide social events.

Additionally, in terms of the events that the Social Planning Board puts on, I also think there is room for improvement in this area. The Colby community has certainly witnessed a wide variety of fun and creative social activities, but there are also some events that are put on simply to fill a vacant time slot. I love a Heights funk party as much as the next guy, but after the Heights disco party, Heights '70s party and the Heights retro party, the events begin to lose some appeal. Colby should stop wasting money on events that no one will attend, and focus its resources on better events that the whole school will enjoy and appreciate. There should be more than just free beer to draw Colby students to an activity.

During this past semester abroad, I've come to realize just how amazing our school really is. There is a unique sense of community that Colby students are presented with. We need to capitalize on this feeling and use our small size to our advantage by bringing the entire student population together. I will do my best to make this happen as the Student Government Association's Social Chair.

Cultural Chair

Chris La Putt '02

What am I doing running for Cultural Chair? Over the past few weeks, I have constantly asked myself that question. I start to feel lightheaded but then I am suddenly reminded of why: ingenuity. Looking back at the previous Cultural Chairs, I'm awestruck. Colby's previous Cultural Chairs have brought Nobel Peace Prize winners, human rights leaders, and award-winning journalists to Colby. Their hard work paid off. I want to continue this tradition and fulfill the expectations of the SGA Cultural Chair.

So what? Everyone has the need to fulfill something, what makes you think I can succeed? Freshman year I would not have had the answer to that question. I was a shy and insecure freshman. However, I managed to force myself to become a member of Colby's debate team to conquer my fear of public speaking. It worked. I became active in the Colby community working for Student Computer Services (yes, I'm probably that Chris that fixed/destroyed your computer), volunteering as an Admissions host, and now vice-president of the George E. Murray Debate Society. If I was motivated to get out of my room in my freshman year, I want to see if I can push myself even further next year.

How would I go about improving the Cultural Chair? Cooperation. I have been talking with numerous club leaders and committee members and that's the one word that keeps popping up. As Cultural Chair, I want to start from the ground up - talking with the Colby community about what they want. I want the Cultural Chair to be

constantly working in conjunction with club leaders, committees, the Colby staff, faculty, and alumni. I have talked with members from SOBHU, Hillel, Multicultural Affairs Committee, SGA, SPB, Dining Services and many others who are willing to participate in my vision of cooperation.

And what's in my vision? For starters, as a Filipino-American, I'd like to do events similar to the Chinese New Year Celebration, with some martial arts demonstrations, cuisine, and speakers. I have talked with Colby Martial Arts and Dining Services and both have supported this idea. However, I also want to explore Colby's own diversity on campus such as the problems of race and racism facing Colby today. For example, I would like to implement a discussion with SOBHU, Hillel, and a speaker with first-hand knowledge regarding the Black-Jewish relationship in America. Growing up in Manila, Brooklyn, and Jersey City, I feel

that urban culture has not been thoroughly discussed at Colby. The majority of Colby students do not live in major cities. As Cultural Chair, I would like to bring in survivors of gang violence, inner-city teachers, and city leaders to speak to Colby students. However, I do not just want to bring lectures to Colby that serve my interests. I want to implement campus-wide events in conjunction with other clubs and organizations on campus. Culture does not come in a pre-packaged box to be consumed in a two-hour lecture by the Colby community.

Kate Magnuson '02

There are a lot of smart people at Colby, but how often do you have intellectual conversations in the dining hall? There are many steps that students can take to remedy this situation. Little steps like continuing a conversation after the professor lets you out of class, or watching the news and talking about current events. What I would like to do as Cultural Chair, however, is invite more speakers to campus. I sincerely believe that the increased number of speakers will light an intellectual fire that seems to be burned out on this campus right now.

Second, I will work with clubs to fund and organize a wide variety of performances. Performers have always played a role in increasing the multicultural awareness of Colby students, but their shows have not always been well attended. By working with clubs and individual students, I can more directly increase the consciousness of cultures and issues that

affect and are a part of our campus.

Finally, as Cultural Chair, I hope to continue Colby's examination of diversity, but I will make that examination a colorblind one. Everybody has a different definition of diversity. To me, it doesn't come down to black and white. I will highlight the non-visible differences we encounter every day. Our first week on campus, the college is proud to tell us that we have students from different states and different countries, students who achieved in any number of categories, be it music, athletics, or community service. Since that week, we haven't heard about these kinds of diversities. I hope we will hear about them next year.

I make no impossible promises, I only tell you this: if I am elected to be the next Cultural Chair, I will work hard with students, to give students' issues the respect and attention they deserve.

Diana McFadden '02

Fellow Members of the Colby Community:

My name is Diana McFadden and I am a junior running for Cultural Chair. As a new person to SGA, I have many new ideas. First, as Cultural Chair, I would like to arrange a Career Day. This Career Day that I am proposing would be helpful to graduating seniors, like myself, not only as a way to network, but to feel at ease about finding a job after graduation. I do not feel like Career Services does enough in this department. Also, this forum would be useful to underclassmen in choosing majors or career plans.

Not only would I like to bring our alumni together for a one-day event, but I would like to increase the number of alumni who speak at Colby. We in the Colby community have much to be proud about, especially our alumni. As undergraduates, we never hear why we should be proud of our community, and alumni speakers would increase school spirit. Our community of alumni is large and includes interesting people, but it does not necessarily include famous people; if an alumnus is not famous, we never hear about them. However, not being famous does not make somebody's story boring or worthless. As Cultural Chair, I would invite the alumni who may not have had the typical post-Colby experience to share with the current students their paths to success. There are many willing alumni who want to share their experience with us undergraduates, and sometimes all people need to come and speak is somebody to ask them.

Also, having recently come back from abroad, I have enjoyed hearing and comparing experiences of other students who were abroad. As Cultural Chair, I would organize a night for students to share their experiences in front of the students, to both the at large community and the students who are going abroad, and to allow people to ask questions. I did not feel prepared for study abroad.

Also, since I have been back, I have not felt like I have been able to share in other people's experiences, and I bet there are many others who feel the same way. Therefore such a presentation would be beneficial to many people.

Furthermore, this past weekend's Diversity Conference speaks volumes about the dialogue that needs to open up on campus and the necessity for the Pugh Center clubs to open their doors. I propose that there should be an Open House Night. On Open House

Night-once a semester in the middle of each semester-clubs in the Pugh center open their doors at a fixed time and allow students to float between clubs and ask questions of the members. As Cultural Chair, I would facilitate and organize this, perhaps in conjunction with a speaker. Although there is a club fair at the beginning of each semester, I feel that these events are geared towards freshmen. A mid-semester club presentation might incorporate more students, especially upperclassmen. Dialogue is key on this campus-it's only a matter of organizing a time and place for it.

Lastly, as Cultural Chair I would like to create more concentrated celebrations of big events-like Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; and Women's History Month celebrations-with speakers on one or two nights, not two weeks. While the current set up of these two examples certainly celebrates the cultural aspects they represent, having better publicized speakers over two or three days might attract and reach out to a greater number of students. Also, as Cultural Chair, since I would work with SPB, I would make sure that SPBs are doing their jobs, and that an active dialogue between students and their officials is taking place. Though I am sure many of you have never heard of me, or are wary that I am new to SGA, I am very willing to hear ideas from students-it's just a matter of asking.



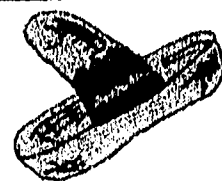
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