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Johnson residence hall to be renovated



BRAD SEYMOUR/THE COLBY ECHO

Renovations to Johnson Residence Hall will begin this summer.

By JON SILBERSTEIN-LOEB
NEWS EDITOR

At their January meeting, the Board of Trustees approved renovation

of Johnson residence hall as the next phase of Colby's ongoing \$44 million upgrade of residence and dining halls. Construction and renovation

will begin this summer. Mary Low renovations will also be completed this summer.

Renovations to Johnson will

include changing the quads into triples. Unlike the triples in other residence halls, the Johnson triples will have one large bedroom for all the occupants and a common room. The triples will not have bathrooms.

"Because of the way (the quads) sit on the corridor," explained Associate Dean of Students for Housing Paul E. Johnston, "you can't carve it up so that everyone gets a window."

The singles and doubles will be expanded and the lounge on the first floor will be made bigger.

With a larger lounge area, Johnston anticipates moving the vending machines from the stairwell to the lounge. The new lounge will also have a kitchenette and separate study room like the lounge in Anthony-Mitchell-Schupf (AMS). The laundry room will also be moved to the first floor and the room that currently acts as the laundry room, will become the bike room so that bikes no longer crowd the rear entrance to the dorm.

Renovation of Johnson was part of a larger 10 to 15-year campus plan created in 1995, explained Johnston. It was then that the College decided to renovate all the dorms by increasing the size of the rooms and the quality of the dormitories.

"In '95 we adopted a standard to achieve a living space rate of 100 square feet per person, give or take

10 percent," said Johnston. In the course of renovation, because the size of the rooms had to be increased and because new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations had to be adhered to, the number of beds in each dorm had to be reduced. The number of beds in Johnson will be reduced from 82 to 61.

In 1995 the School calculated that the total loss of beds after all the dorms had been renovated would be 144. Anticipating the bed shortage but desiring to keep matriculation at the same level, the school created AMS, which houses 141 beds, and thereby stabilized the bed count.

Averill was next on the list to be renovated after Johnson, before moving on to the Roberts' Row dormitories, but the administration is uncertain whether Averill will continue to be a dorm or be converted into a faculty office building.

Like Johnson, Averill currently houses 82 beds. If the senior staff and the Board of Trustees decide to change Averill into an administration building, Colby will have to confront the same issues it did in

'95. The College will have to determine whether it wants to maintain the current matriculation rate or decrease it.

If it is desirable to maintain the current matriculation rate, then the administration must increase the number of people who live off campus annually or construct another residence hall on campus.

In their January meeting, the trustees also authorized commencement of "planning and fund raising" for two buildings that have emerged in strategic planning—a building for the social sciences and interdisciplinary study that will support academic programming in public and international affairs, and an alumni and development building.

The latter would free office space in Eustis and Miller, providing some relief for the faculty office-space crunch and perhaps obviating the need to change Averill into an administration building. Both buildings are still years away. Trustees also asked the College, as it reviews building priorities in the strategic plan, to consider further the role of the Cotter Union in student life.

UNLIKE OTHER TRIPLES, THE JOHNSON TRIPLES WILL HAVE ONE LARGE BEDROOM FOR ALL THE OCCUPANTS AND A COMMON ROOM.

Single non-lab science course causes enrollment crunch

By LIZ BOMZE
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Many students who sought to fulfill their lecture science requirement this spring were denied the opportunity. Among all the natural science departments, the only lecture science class offered is oceanography (geology 171), taught by National Science Foundation Fellow and visiting professor Matthew Schwartz. As a result, the class meant to hold 60 students was overenrolled by almost four times its capacity with

approximately 200 students signed.

Being new to Colby, Schwartz knew little about the problem and turned questions over to Chair of the Division of Natural Sciences and Associate Professor of Physics Duncan Tate, who confirmed that this is not the first time this issue has come up. Tate explained that in previous years, the same problem has occurred, however, the situation was worse because it was a lab science.

"Colby's graduation requirement for sciences (the N requirement) is two

courses," Tate said, quoting from the Course Catalogue. "At least one of which has a significant lab content."

"That is," he continued, "if necessary or desired, the student can take two lab science courses."

"In general, the biology, chemistry, physics, and geology departments try to offer at least one class that satisfies the N area requirement (without lab), in addition to courses with a lab that satisfy the N requirement," explained Tate.

"The situation this spring is that

there is only one class without a lab that satisfies the N requirement: GE171. Part of the reason for this is that there are faculty in physics, chemistry, and biology who are on sabbatical in the spring who have not been replaced, or not replaced fully."

Professors who are not "fully" replaced are those who are absent for only a semester. "This year, chemistry is down to one non-majors course for staffing reasons, and the physics (non-lab) courses are both in the fall," said Tate.

Because each science department tries to offer "at least two 'non-majors' (with or without lab) courses per year, in addition to the 'gateway' introductory courses (intended for potential majors), the situation makes significant demands on the science departments to cover the non-majors classes as well as the gateway courses.

"This is a situation that does not apply in the humanities or social sciences," Tate said. The issue of how to balance the "gateway" classes with the "general education" classes, Tate says,

is an ongoing dilemma.

A third reason behind this situation is that each department in the natural science division sets its own curriculum. The drawback is that department members do not get together to discuss upcoming curricula. Until classes are finally determined, there is no sense of how many lab and non-lab options will be offered and it is difficult to estimate

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Power outage shocks students

By JON SILBERSTEIN-LOEB
NEWS EDITOR

On Sunday night around 10:30 p.m., much to the dismay of students busy typing away at their computers, the electrical power to the entire campus shut down. For over two hours, students dealt as best they could with the darkness until power returned around 12:45 a.m.

In some residence halls, the emergency lights ran out and in others the card readers ceased working, locking many residents out of their dorms. Although many students assumed that the problem was a result of the weather, a combination of snow and ice, the problem was due to an equipment failure at the electrical substation that serves the campus.

According to Central Maine Power, electricians responded to a call from a resident on Marston Road at 8:51 p.m. When they arrived at the location they found the transformer on the pole was "arching," a term for sparking. It was soon discovered that the problem lay with the substation, which is responsible for distributing power over a larger area.

In order to fix the problem, electricians from Central Maine Power had to open the whole circuit, thereby shutting down the electricity to the Colby campus and its environs. It took approxi-

mately and hour and a half to get the necessary parts and fix the problem before the circuit could be closed and power restored.

Security Director Peter Chenevert explained that the reason Colby's back-up generators did not come on to alleviate the problem is because they take four hours to start up.

"Once we found out it would take (Central Maine Electric) only an hour and half to fix the problem, we decided it wasn't worth it to turn on the emergency generators...the heat was still working and we would have had to go to all the buildings to change them over," explained Chenevert.

Chenevert reported only two incidents on campus during the outage, both of them in Foss. On the second floor, someone kicked in the door of a vending machine and stole "quite a bit of the candy out of it," Chenevert said. "And down in the dining hall, some students decided to rearrange the chairs into some sort of chair structure." Chenevert was not aware of any leads in either incident.

"All in all, it went pretty smoothly," during the outage, Chenevert said. "It just kept us pretty busy with calls from people needing to be let in to their dorms."

London program for Feb Fresh discontinued

By MIRANDA SILVERMAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With the arrival of this year's "mid-year" students comes a new realization: the Colby-in-London program is no more.

For the past several years, the Colby-in-London program for first-year students has been a staple of the Colby curriculum, along with similar programs in Dijon, France, and Salamanca, Spain. During their first semester in London, freshmen live with host families and take classes at the Colby-Bowdoin-Bates (CBB) Centre. There they gain an immense amount of cultural experience while fulfilling requirements such as EN115 and history.

Colby has always boasted that having students spend the fall semester of their freshman year abroad gives each class and the entire campus a more worldly perspective and attitude.

Colby-in-London was officially cancelled prior to this year's program, although this year's Feb Fresh didn't find out until Nov. 2001, three months into the program.

Martha Denney, Director of Off-Campus Study, said, "The President (William D. Adams) and Senior Staff at Colby made the decision after consultation with Bates and Bowdoin and on our own campus."

As to the reasons for the cancellation, Denney said, "The program was canceled because it is no longer financially possible to provide a high quality program in London without using the CBB Centre for classrooms, office space, computers, and lounge space." She went on to say, "As the terms of our consortial arrangement with the other two colleges do not permit us to

use the CBB Centre any longer, we have discontinued the program."

President Adams also cited "a less-than-perfect level of satisfaction among students in the past." Specifically, some students faced long commutes from their host families' homes and other practical concerns.

According to the students on this year's program, the CBB Centre does not have enough space to house the proper facilities for Colby freshmen. At present, Bowdoin and Bates send only juniors to the Centre, while Colby sends both freshman and juniors.

If Colby had wanted to add on to the facilities or rent a new space, they would have had to do so on their own without the financial help of the other two colleges. The additional rental space would be for Colby freshmen only. These changes were not feasible.

"Our reasons were primarily financial," said Adams. "The alternatives were very expensive and were more than we could bear."

Jennie Macpherson '05, a mid-year from this year's program said, "We were told that Colby didn't have enough money to run the program for freshman again next year. A second center would be needed but it would be too expensive to do that."

Opinions around campus as to why the program was cancelled have all

centered around one entirely different issue: alcohol.

Many of this year's London mid-years do not deny that alcohol was quite prevalent while attending the program and are certain that alcohol problems are main reasons for the cancellation. Over the past two years there have been alcohol-related incidences so serious one student was asked to leave the program.

Macpherson said, "Although I am sure the financial reasons for the cancellation of the program do apply, I am convinced that alcohol-related problems have added to the cancellation decision."

Matt Brewer '05, another mid-year London student, has heard rumors and believes that the program was cancelled "because of excessive drinking and partying."

Denney said that "there was no connection at all" between alcohol use and the cancellation of the program, but other students believe that Adams' perceived stance on alcohol was a major factor.

Jesse Morrissey '04, who participated in the London program last year said, "I know that the program is expensive to run, but I don't think that this was the only reason it was cancelled. Bro has taken a very hard line with alcohol on campus and it would not surprise me if the recent drinking problems heavily influenced his deci-

sion."

"That's preposterous," Adams said in response to the rumors. "The decision had absolutely nothing to do with drinking."

Denney also strongly denied that alcohol concerns were involved in the decision, and said that the suggestion alcohol issues played a role "took me by surprise."

"I just want to put to rest the idea that alcohol had anything to do with cancellation of the program, because it certainly didn't," she said. "It was never part of the discussion. There is no particular problem with alcohol in London that doesn't exist on other programs."

In the end, despite the varied opinions between the administration and the students, the students agreed on one issue: all are upset over the cancellation.

Despite "minor glitches," Macpherson said, "Overall, the program was well-run."

In looking at the program as a whole, Denney spoke to the goals of Colby-in-London. "The goals of the program were to provide a high-quality academic and cultural program in London with an emphasis on the performing arts. These goals had been achieved," she said.

The Colby-in-London program gave a few students an experience that most freshmen will never receive. "The London program was probably the best thing that could have happened to me in terms of going away to college," Morrissey said. "I think I gained something, an experience, an independence that I would not otherwise have gained. I find it regrettable that the London program was cancelled."

What's Inside

BEDROOM:

Cristina Jaleru gives 'In the Bedroom', a scorching review.



FINALE:

Dick Sewell stages his final production 'The Maroni Notebook,' at Colby.



OVERRATED:

Briana Wright discusses why love is nothing special.



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The Colby Echo

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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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Bernidaki-Aldous discusses the handicapped throughout history

By RYAN DAVIS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

As Colby works toward making the College a more accessible place for handicapped students, Dr. Eleftheria Bernidaki-Aldous, Professor of Classics at the American College of Greece and mother of SGA Vice President Alex Aldous '02, spoke Monday night on the topic of attitudes towards the handicapped in Greece and America over the past 2500 years.

Bernidaki-Aldous, who has been blind since the age of three as the result of an accident, compared the relatively enlightened way the handicapped were treated in ancient Greece with recent legislation aimed at protecting the handicapped from discrimination in America. She also pointed out some of the problems present in both societies.

She first applauded the efforts of the SGA, led in part by her son, to develop a task force to deal with disability issues at Colby.

"I want to commend the student body for working towards improving the life of the handicapped on this campus now and in the future," she said.

She then discussed some of the essential messages of ancient Greek society, many of which were based on the writings of the blind poet Homer, and pointed out the ways in which those views affected the handicapped.

"The essential message of ancient Greece was that all human beings are subject to suffering and death," she said. "The human ideal is to act as if you know that there is a common human condition. Greek society gave opportunity to all individual citizens, who then had an obligation to get involved in public life. Individuals had every right to expect opportunity, respect and distinction, and had no right to be selfish."

The United States and ancient Greece, she said, "share similar if not identical view of life. Ancient Greece can serve as a bridge between old and new. Ancient Greece and America place great importance on individual human beings."

The United States has taken a similar egalitarian approach to dealing with handicapped people. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1992 was created to promote civil rights and eliminate discrimination by offering necessary training so that individuals "can cultivate their talents and abilities and claim a meaningful life, integrated into social interaction including gainful employment."

Bernidaki-Aldous reflected on her own experience as one of 12 blind students at the University of Rochester before the ADA. Even at that time, schools were expected to accommodate blind students by providing them with Braille books or

books on tape.

The trend at the time was "mainstreaming" handicapped students into traditional classrooms and eliminating special schools for them. Bernidaki-Aldous said that such tactics are "good in principal, but must be done under very, very right circumstances."

"On every level, awareness of common humanity helps for enlightened volunteerism without patronizing."

Eleftheria Bernidaki-Aldous

Professor of Classics at the American College of Greece

level, awareness of common humanity helps for enlightened volunteerism without patronizing. However, I do not mean to imply that all is well in the U.S. There is still discrimination caused by ignorance of the real situation and abilities of handicapped people."

She then spoke about patronizing treatment she has received in the past, including bank tellers asking people next to her what she wants, nurses asking her if she knew she was pregnant, and people speaking loudly to her, assuming she is deaf as well. When she applied to colleges in the United States, she received some rejection letters that told her she wasn't going to be accepted because she was blind.

"The letters said things like, 'you are perfectly well-qualified, but there are too many steps here,'" she said.

In ancient Greece, blind people were thought to have special powers or insights, and many famous prophets and seers were blind. On the other hand, Hades was conceived to be a place of eternal torment where one could not see or be seen.

She talked at length about a legal argument put forth by a famous Greek lawyer in the fifth century B.C. on behalf of a handicapped Athenian who was in danger of having his pension cut off. The basic premise of the argument, that basic human decency requires equal treatment of the handicapped, shows that common handicapped people in Greek society were treated with dignity and not just the illustrious poets like Homer.

Blindness in particular demanded sympathy among the Greeks because it reminded people of mortality. Greek society shared a basic understanding of suffering and the state aspired to act as a decent human being.

Bernidaki-Aldous encouraged all students to get involved in promoting issues that deal with civil rights for the handicapped and other groups.

"It takes one person who makes one minute decision to make all the difference in the world," she said. "Don't let anyone tell you what you can do. You know what you can do. If I only did what people thought I could do, I wouldn't have done anything. I'd just go out begging."

CRUNCH: non-lab classes scarce this spring

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the number of students who will be looking to fulfill natural science requirements.

Tate and his colleagues "do ensure that there are enough lab classes, because it is incumbent upon the science division to do so."

"In the end," Tate said, "this is an issue we care about, but something that we feel we address pretty well. Classes are not usually overenrolled by that much, and the college is going through a planning process through which there is potential to hire new faculty."

"In the end, this is an issue we care about, but something we feel we address pretty well."

Duncan Tate

Associate Professor of Physics

Tate added that the science department recently received a grant from the National Science Foundation as an

award for the Integration of Research and Education. It was through this grant that Colby was able to hire visiting faculty such as Matthew Schwartz and offer the long-absent oceanography course.

If Colby were to offer more classes, it would have to hire more professors and the price of tuition would escalate. Tate commented that one of the characteristics of small schools is the advantage of small classes and personal attention, yet the size simultaneously prevents the possibility of offering a great number of classes.

Terrorism experts explains "why us?"

By KAITLIN McCAFFERTY
FEATURES EDITOR

On Monday night in Olin 1, Martha Crenshaw, a terrorism expert and Professor of Government at Wesleyan University, came to speak about terrorism and why the United States seems to be such a huge target. Crenshaw gave a brief history of terrorism and her theory on the targeting of the United States.

"Terrorism is not new. If you read the papers you would think that it started on Sept. 11," said Crenshaw.

Crenshaw went on to go through the history of terrorism and try to prove her theory that "terrorism is a reaction to U.S. power. I am not making the argument that the U.S. brought this on itself. I'm not making an argument for an isolationist party," she said.

Crenshaw did, however, make the argument that the United States' power in the world is the reason that it is one of the main places to target.

One main point of Crenshaw's theory was that most terrorism sparks from a domestic problem. Groups of people are frustrated that they are not getting what they want. They see the United States as standing in their way and they decide that they need to attack the U.S. in order to get what they want.

"The United States was an obstacle to their goals. Their goals were local originally," said Crenshaw. But then the fight became international.

Although today's society equates terrorism with religious goals and ideologies, this is not always the case. Many times they merely facilitate and legitimize the attacks.

"It's not our culture, not our values, not our power that attracts terrorism," said Crenshaw. "It's not a threat to American primacy in foreign policies. It is a psychological threat. They are not trying to take over the U.S."

Modern terrorism began in the 1960s when "attacking the U.S. became plausible," said Crenshaw. "If they were not getting anywhere in struggles at home, then move it to

the international forum." In the 60s terrorists in Latin America began kidnapping Americans to try and get the release of other prisoners. The U.S. did not have their policy of not talking to terrorists so occasionally their demands were met.

In the late 60s the Palestinian National Movement began. A new form of terrorism began with the hijacking of airplanes. In 1970 the most significant hijacking of planes took place when a series of planes were brought to an abandoned air force base in Great Britain. The U.S. negotiated with the terrorists and the passengers were released. Palestine saw the U.S. as being a major factor in their war with Israel.

The next area of political unrest was in Western Europe. There were new groups of left wing revolutionaries in Germany and Italy. They were relatively small groups that

"Terrorism is not new. If you read the papers you would think that it started on Sep. 11."

Martha Crenshaw

Terrorism Expert and Government Professor at Wesleyan University

wanted to overthrow the government. They developed sympathy for the Latin American terrorists. The terrorists sought to end imperialism all over the world and especially to end American influence in Western Europe. The United States was seen as perpetuating the spread of NATO, which helped make their governments appear more powerful than they really were. The European terrorists believed that if NATO were abolished then the world would see how weak the governments in their countries were and then would easily overthrow these weak governments.

The 1980s were a time when religious affiliation and state sponsorship of terrorism began. Before this such issues did not exist.

"It was a shock to President Carter," said Crenshaw. He did not want to believe that a country would sponsor such attacks. Libya and Lebanon began to sponsor terrorist attacks. The 1980s were the time when Reagan's 'War Against the Evil Empire' took place. Reagan tried to blame the Soviet Union for sponsoring attacks, however, when the Cold War ended and terrorist attacks did not, that theory was done away with.

In the 1990s religious reasons and state sponsorship waned. There was a merger of different international terrorist groups. The fear of biological warfare had become a reality in the subways of Tokyo in 1995. People began to "fear catastrophic terrorism," said Crenshaw. Fears grew of attacks on American soil following the first World Trade Center bombing in 1993 and the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995. Also, the fear that terrorists might get hold of weapons of mass destruction became a viable concern.

During this time Al Qaeda became a major terrorist group. Osama bin Laden left Saudi Arabia because of its relationship with the U.S. He went to Sudan where he made connections with other terrorist groups. Following his exile from Sudan, bin Laden went to Afghanistan and joined forces with the Taliban. In 1997 he publicly declared jihad against the United States. The Taliban, bin Laden, and his contacts around the world all had the United States as a common enemy.

Crenshaw went on to discuss U.S. foreign policy. "Can you defeat a transnational conspiracy?" she asked. She said that right now there is no clear answer. The people who make foreign policy need to ask themselves questions such as "how can we prevent this from happening again? And how do you treat the terrorist prisoners?" She suggested that the U.S. help in nation building at the beginning stages and that that could take at least a generation to complete. However she does believe that it could be possible to wipe out terrorism.

BRIN offers new opportunities for Colby faculty and students

By LAUREL A. WOOD-WARD
STAFF WRITER

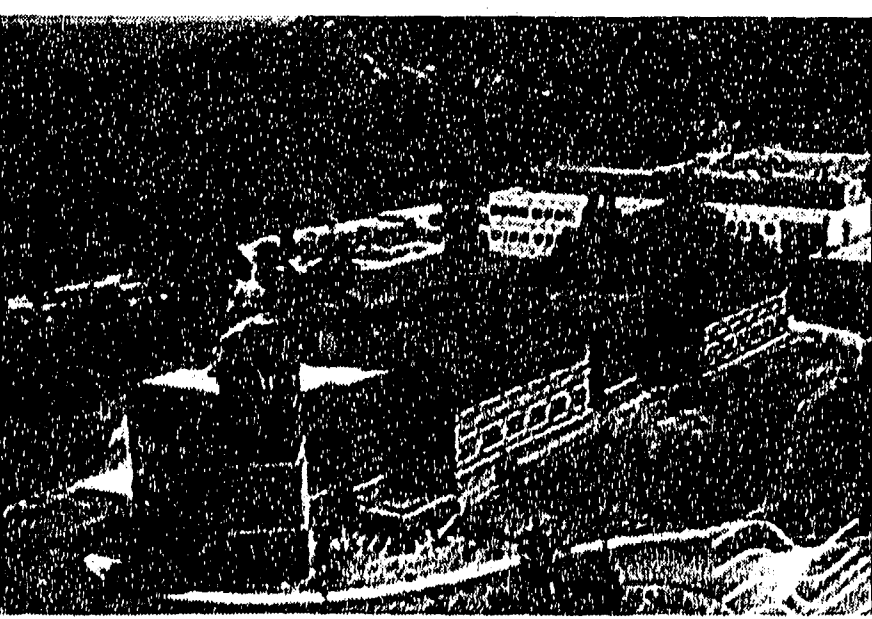
What do Colby, Bates, the College of the Atlantic, and the University of Maine have in common with the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory (MDIBL) and the Jackson Laboratory, two research institutes of worldwide renown located in the Bar Harbor region?

Thanks to a three-year, \$5.5-million National Institute of Health (NIH) grant, these six institutions are now linked through the Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network (BRIN), designed to foster education and training in biomedical research, and Colby will be able to collaborate with two top-notch laboratories.

The NIH encourages educational institutions to expand their research programs and capabilities. In 1993 the NIH created the Institutional Development Award (IdEA) program to provide funding for states to build their biomedical research capacities. BRIN was created to enhance the research capacity of institutions through the formation of collaborative partnerships, and it has allowed many institutions to expand their research opportunities and capabilities.

According to Dean of Faculty Ed Yeterian, who worked hard to make Colby part of the Maine network, the BRIN establishment is extremely important and exciting for Colby's future because it "is a great opportunity to link up in a significant way with two world-renowned research facilities. To be formally linked with this quality of research, all within the state, is a great opportunity."

This opportunity is extremely important for Colby because the



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Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine.

enhanced research capabilities of both faculty and students will increase Colby's research abilities and make it, as well as the other academic institutions involved in the network, better able to compete for federal funds for future research opportunities.

The two laboratories will offer ten-week summer research programs to students. Those who receive the research positions will have the opportunity to work with senior-level biomedical scientists. As part of the program, students will receive a stipend of \$250 per week and free room and board. A second program will allow 16 students and two faculty members, selected by a committee composed of members of the various academic institutions involved, to spend approximately two and a half weeks at MDIBL, learning new research techniques.

MDIBL was originally designated as a school for the study of under-

graduate marine biology, but shortly after its opening expanded to include a facility for marine research as well. Since its founding in 1898, the laboratory has become known worldwide for its scholarly pursuits. In 1985 the laboratory opened a toxic research center to study the toxic effects of heavy metals and other environmental contaminants on membrane transport systems.

The Jackson Laboratory is on the forefront of the genetics research. It is one of eight institutes designated by the National Cancer Institute as a Cancer Center to perform basic research on the genetic factors underlying cancer, which requires the identification and analysis of genes in model organisms. The Jackson Laboratory, like MDIBL, is a leader in the scientific research community and home to the world's largest mammalian genetic research facility.

NEWS BRIEFS

Colby Film Society will continue next year

The Colby Film Society will continue next year, after the graduation of founder and president Noah Charney '02. Aaron Charniak '05 and Hannah Emery '05 will take over the reins of CFS for the next three years, and the Colby Film Society will hopefully be perpetuated indefinitely. Showing classic films introduced by professors, free of charge on a big screen every Wednesday night in Keyes 105, CFS promotes student/professor interaction, and hopes to introduce students to great films to which they might otherwise not have exposure.

New Jump Into album available soon in Bookstore

The Jump Into, Colby's rock band, have just completed their first full-length studio album. The album will be available in the very near future, for sale for \$5 either from the Colby Bookstore, or directly from the band. For more information, check out their website at www.geocities.com/thejumpinto@yahoo.com.

Black History Month lecture on Feb. 14

A lecture on the civil rights movement presented by political scholar and author Frederick C. Harris and titled "It Takes a Tragedy to Arouse Them: Collective Memory and Collective Action During the Civil Rights Movement" will be presented at 4 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 14, in Lovejoy 100. The lecture is part of Colby's Black History Month programming.

Harris is an Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of the Center for the Study of African-American Politics at the University of Rochester. He is the author of the award-winning book "Something Within: Religion in African-American Political Activism" and the article "Will the Circle Be Unbroken? The Erosion and Transformation of African-American Civic Life" in the collection "Civil Society, Democracy, and Civic Renewal." Harris has also published articles in the Journal of Politics and Policy Studies Review.

Burlington Taiko ensemble to play at Colby Feb. 16

The ancient Japanese tradition of taiko will be on display at Colby College at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 16, when the group Burlington Taiko performs in the Page Commons Room of Coter Union.

Taiko-Japanese for "big drum"—incorporates thunderous drums up to 60 inches in diameter, colorful pageantry, and ritualistic choreography influenced heavily by martial arts. The ritual's origins began when priests used the performance to dispel evil spirits and insects from the rice fields and samurai used it to instill fear in their enemies. Peasants also used taiko in their prayers for rain and in harvest festivals.

Burlington Taiko, from Burlington, Vt., has been performing since 1987. The group performed at the 100th running of the Boston Marathon, the Joseph Campbell-Keepers of the Lore Festival, and the Black Ships Festival, and performs annually at Burlington's First Night in Vermont. The group has twice been recognized by the International Taiko community for their mesmerizing and powerful performances.

Development of Cuban communities discussed at Colby

"Another World is Possible: Cuba and Revolutionary Community Development" is the title of a panel discussion to be held Thursday, Feb. 21, at 4:30 p.m. Members of New York's La Abeja Obrera (Worker Bee) Community Construction Project will discuss the Cuban revolution, U.S.-Cuban relations and Cuba's classification as a terrorist state. The event is part of Colby's Women's Studies Colloquia and will be held in Arey 5.

Panelists include: Mia Herndon, Assistant Director of the Third Wave Foundation, a national activist and philanthropic organization for young women; Betsy Maclean, founder of La Abeja Obrera, Associate Director of the Center for Cuban Studies and member of Colby's Class of 1994; Eric Miles, Program Director of the Groundswell Community Mural Project and member of Colby's Class of 1993; and activists and Abeja Obrera members Karen Oh, an artist and member of Colby's Class of 1993, Chaiiko Omawale a filmmaker, and Shonali Saha, a medical student.

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Editorials

Averill should remain a dorm

The administration and other higher-ups intimately involved with the planning process are currently debating the fate of Averill Residence Hall. Averill's future is in question because the administration needs more space than they have. Because Averill is centrally located, with proximity to Miller Library and Eustis, faculty and administration hubs, the space is a viable location for new offices.

If campus planners decide to make Averill an administration building, they will then have to either construct a new dormitory, allow more students to live off-campus, or decrease the matriculation. These are not satisfactory options; rather, campus planners should build an administration building and keep Averill as a dorm.

There exist few locations for another dormitory that are close to other dormitories and the academic quad. Between the Alford Apartments and the Hillside parking lot is one option and between Dana Residence Hall and the Heights Residence Hall is another. The space between the Alford Apartments and the Hillside parking lot is best left alone because it keeps the Apartments distinct from other dorms, the importance of which was demonstrated last year when Apartment residents moved to prevent underclassmen from accessing the building. In between Dana and Hillside is no good because it infringes on Runnels Hill, a secluded part of campus that students enjoy that way.

Increasing the number of students who live off campus by 61 (the number of beds available in Averill after renovations) would be silly. Not that many students currently want to live off campus, there are not many viable off-campus housing options for students near to the School, and the administration is currently discussing how to best deal with off-campus parties. Decreasing the matriculation would increase the tuition and make the School too small.

In their January meeting the Board of Trustees authorized commencement of "planning and fundraising" for an alumni and development building. This was a step in the right direction. Building a new alumni and development building would free-up offices in Millet and Eustis and make space for other administration. Such a building should be erected either next to or connected to Lunder House. Alternatively the new building could replace the Eustis parking lot or be constructed in the woods next to the Physical Plant Department.

Averill is a great location for a residence hall. It is one of the closest dorms to the academic quad and Miller Library and it is right on the Chapel Hill lawn which is used extensively by students in the spring and fall. Averill's only shortcoming is its interior, which needs to be renovated.

The best option for alleviating the office crunch is not changing Averill into offices; rather, it behooves campus planners to renovate Averill as a dorm and build a new alumni building elsewhere on campus.

Religion is present for those willing to seek it out



Uncommon Sense

Emma McCandless

Let's talk God. For that matter, let's talk church, temple, prayer and just plain faith. Let's talk religion.

Although it hasn't been a major issue on campus recently, religion at Colby has certainly been brought to people's attention since we were ranked in the *Princeton Review's* list of top five schools where "students ignore God on a regular basis."

I'm not sure whether I agree or disagree with that label. From my perspective as a leader of the Newman Council, I know there are a lot more "card-carrying Catholics" on campus than show up at Mass on Sundays, which is somewhat dis-

heartening and suggests to me that the *Princeton Review's* assessment of Colby might be accurate.

Last semester's disastrous forum on religion — which was attended by about ten students, most of whom were there to participate — only served to support the opinion that religion is dead at Colby.

It makes me sad to think that religion is ignored here, especially in the wake of Sept. 11. Now, more than ever, it seems that people all over the country have turned to religion of some kind. It's comforting; it gives us something bigger than ourselves to lean on for support. Religion and faith really are good things to have in our modern world.

But maybe religion is more present at Colby than we lead outsiders to believe. When I think about the wide variety of religions represented in student organizations, all very active groups — Newman Council,

Colby Christian Fellowship, Hillel, Colby Muslim Group and C.I.R.C.L.E. — I'm proud to think that Colby is showing much of the diversity that critics think it lacks. It's just that this sort of diversity gets overlooked, because it's associated with religion. Religious diversity, it seems, can't be considered "real" diversity.

Religion is alive and active at Colby, you just have to be willing to go out and look for it. Believe it or not, all of the religious groups on campus are comprised of very friendly people who would welcome new members. I think that sometimes religious organizations come off as "cults" — exclusive groups of morally upstanding prudes who don't want to have anything to do with "those other people." No stereotype could be more untrue or unfair. Religion at Colby, as I see it, is about education, com-

munication and fellowship between people of all faiths — agnostics and atheists included, too.

Religion at Colby is anything but dead. Granted, old-fashioned morality is "out" in our culture, and, at least on this campus, being religious often equals being considered that evil C-word: "conservative." But I don't think most religions are what outsiders think they are.

Colby's agnostic image — which I maintain is inaccurate — can be shattered through cooperation on the parts of all those who would like to see a change. Outreach and acceptance are important in all aspects of life, and religion is no exception. For anyone with an open mind and a willingness to look, religion is a presence at Colby, one that's here to stay.

Emma McCandless is the Echo Opinions editor.

Valentine's Day takes on new meanings as we grow

By JEFF LEDERMAN
STAFF WRITER

My least favorite Hallmark holiday has always been Valentine's Day. Although it is the only one I get to enjoy — the others being Mother's Day and Father's Day, and no Kids Day (because "it is every day"), it was always such an ordeal. The history of Valentine's Day throughout the years is an integral part of many people's lives, so it is important to catalogue the history of Valentine's day, at least for me.

In elementary school, Valentine's Day was relatively simple. Everyone, at 2:15 p.m., would get out their boxes and pass out valentines to each other.

In fifth grade, I prayed that I would get a Barbie cut-out card by the cute blue-eyed girl that I used to tease on the playground. I would eagerly rip open the card, look

inside and hope for something, anything out of the ordinary.

After school, my friends and I would compare which girls signed their cards "Yours Truly," "From," or "I Choo-Choo-Choose you," and with this data analyze which girls liked us the best. It was a necessary ego boost at the time.

For me, it was important to pick out the coolest Valentine's Day cards, one with either Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles or X-Men on the front. I made it a special point to choose what heart inscribed message to place, if at all, in certain envelopes. Our teachers made sure that everyone would get a card from everyone else, so as not to feel left out and be "fair."

When I graduated from elementary school, the Valentine's Day scene changed. For me, junior high was a "transitional phase" — lost years — so Valentine's Day came

and went.

High school was a new experience as well. Being mature teenagers, we were able to send each other roses through the school. Depending on how cheap/cool you were or how many times you were willing to send yourself a valentine, you received varying amounts of roses. If you were one of the more attractive upperclassmen, you proudly walked around, showing off your endless bouquets of roses, reinforcing the cool high-school hierarchy. A touching gesture by the school allowed everyone to get at least one rose.

Once again, people also compared: "Oh how many flowers did you get? Did you get one from...? Who was the #1 hole that forged Kim's signature...and why was I stupid enough to thank her for it?"

Valentine's Day was always an unpredictable experience. The one

stable thing throughout all the years was that I received a card from my parents, every morning in my cereal box, saying that they loved me. At first I hated these, but over the years I grew to love them.

Living at college now, being able to drink myself to oblivion (and laugh about it the next day), and having no predetermined schedule are all hints that I have grown up. This Valentine's Day, when I stumble down to breakfast already five minutes late for class, not having my letter in my cereal box will be a harsh reawakening.

However, I have grown older, wiser, and sexier. I no longer need the simple gesture of a valentine to tell me what I already know — that the Colby community is awesome and everyone here is important.

Jeff Lederman is a staff writer for the Echo

Alternative classes set Colby apart



Lexicon Devils

Noah Charney

The past two Jan Plans, I've had the privilege of taking two classes that set Colby apart from other schools of its type. We are fortunate enough to attend a school that allows professors to teach many classes of their own design. For this reason, the curriculum is full of courses that inspire the professors who teach them.

There is nothing better from a student's perspective than learning from a teacher who is passionately in love with the subject they teach. The freedom of professors to mold the curriculum to their interests and areas of expertise makes for richer classes and is a privilege that larger universities, such as Yale, where my mother teaches, do not allow their faculty.

The excellence of academic classes is subject for another column, and is entirely evident to any Colby student. The diamonds in the rough that truly push Colby to a higher level than comparable institutions, are the non-academic classes, most of which are offered during Jan Plan.

This past Jan Plan, I had the priv-

ilege of taking a course in residential design, taught by Professor Scott Guay. This course is an excellent example of the wonderful collection of courses offered uniquely by Colby, because they fall within the passions of a professor.

Professor Guay designed and built his own home, without hiring contractors. He took the time to learn the craft of house-building, from drafting to construction, and developed a love for it. Every Jan Plan, he teaches a small group of students all that he learned, and does so with an evident love for the material that inspires his students.

It is hard not to enjoy a class taught by someone who is so enthusiastic and interested in the material he presents. From drafting to wiring electricity, from laying a foundation to hooking up plumbing systems, students learn every aspect of house design and construction.

Students design and draft a house of their own, coming away from the course with working blueprints, and a small scale model of their design. They also construct a small scale model of a cabin, made entirely out of wood, with the dimensions of floor joists, girders and trusses all calculated.

Such a course is unique to Colby, because it relies on the enthusiasm of one professor, who is allowed to teach what he loves,

Perhaps the best-kept secrets in Colby's curriculum are the two courses taught at the Hume Center, merely ten minutes away from campus. Blacksmithing and Furniture Making are taught every Jan Plan to a very small group of Colby students.

I had the privilege of taking Furniture Making last Jan Plan. I went into the course with no expectations, no knowledge of furniture making, and no thought that it would be anything more than a refreshing break from my academic course load. What I, and most of my classmates, discovered was a love for the hobby of furniture making.

Since last Jan Plan I and several friends from that class have gone to the Hume Center at least once a week to work on projects. During the class, Dr. Hume, a retired surgeon who allows Colby to use his property on Lake Umbagog, and blacksmithing, and swimming when the weather warms up.

The Hume Center woodshop is beautiful, full of all of the expensive woodworking equipment that is difficult to keep up. Perhaps the best parts are the quantity and quality of wood and that anyone who has taken the course or been certified by Dr. Hume may use for free. The presence of the equipment and the access to quality wood, allow students to

participate in a past time that is usually expensive and difficult to come by.

The furniture making course teaches the use of all the woodworking machines, and students work on a project of their own over the month of January. After the course, students are welcome to return to the wood shop whenever they like and continue to work. I found in this course a soothing, meditative hobby, a breath of fresh air when you need a break from academia, and, best of all, the result of your work in the wood shop is a piece of (theoretically) functional furniture for your dorm room.

Students in the class last year made coffee tables, bookshelves, cabinets. This year, students made more elaborate projects, such as a coffee table inlaid with a chess board and a large foosball table. Having taken the course, I can now build any piece of furniture that I need for my room.

During your time at Colby, seek out courses that fall beyond the fringes of your major, and take advantage of the passions of professors. They're what make Colby unique.

Noah Charney is a weekly columnist for the Echo

A man's search for smoothness



The American Perspective

Matt Guy-Hamilton

The "American Perspective" thus far has concerned itself mainly with issues of American politics at the expense of American cultural concerns. In addition, this column has maintained, as a manner of journalistic technique, the decidedly serious tone necessitated by the topics investigated.

In my perpetual desire to examine the American perspective on a variety of issues, I have decided to change the focus of this column for the next three to four weeks to a cultural introspective, specifically grooming, style and the American man.

Every culture has a certain stylistic comportment which easily betrays a person's origins; each culture displays its own nuances of elegance. Whether it is England's Savile Row, French haute-couture, or the mélange of styles that constitutes "American," one cannot escape the importance of style in custom,

Over the next few weeks, I hope to offer several parts cultural exposition as well as a small measure of how-to; how worthwhile the latter shall be is yet to be determined. I will look at whom and what defines American style and why it's perennially difficult to charac-

FOR MOST MEN THE PERFECT SHAVE IS THAT MYTHICAL ACHIEVEMENT THAT OCCURS WHEN THE COSMOS ALIGN AND THE GODS FEEL GENEROUS.

terize. Obviously, my bias in something as personal as the definition of style will be unavoidable, but I do not think that will render what I will write useless. With that caveat out of the way I hope that gents will find my opinions some- See **SHAVING** continued on page 4

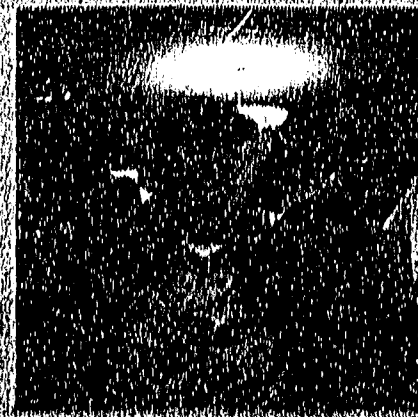
Students on the Street



"We made chair sculptures and feasted on vending machine food,"
— Jess Povtink '02 and Mindy Williams '03



"Got drunk and started a fire,"
— Jay Chew '04, Lee Rankin '03, Dee Michaud '03



"Looted Miller because the sensors were down,"
— Bobby Redwood '05

"Mr. Osaki, Batteries, man, batteries,"
— Kristen Jiggetts '04 and Jess Knight '02



What did you do during the power outage?

SHAVING: Guy-Hamilton discusses the search for the mythical "perfect shave"

continued from page 3

what informative, especially those contained in this first column.

For the majority of American males, the morning regimen most mornings — consists of a vigorous toothbrushing, an exceedingly hot shower, and a painful scraping of the face. Having my father bequeath to me the genes for a beard that, when left to its evil devices, closely resembles steel wool, has led me to a lifelong pursuit of the correct combination of shaving supplies and mechanisms that would yield the perfect shave.

For most men, the perfect shave is that mythical achievement that occurs when the cosmos align and the gods feel generous; in short, we obtain a perfect shave about as often as we throw a perfect game.

Whether it was a cayenne razor burn or bloodletting sufficient to satisfy an Aztec god, something always went awry when I picked up the knife. The discovery of my methods came about in a manner similar to evolution: punctuated equilibrium; the shave did not change much except for some brief periods of significant adjustment. The first revolution came in the area of location: Where is the best place to shave: shower or sink? Then came preparation: how does one prepare the whiskers for the blade? Finally I figured product: what is the best manufacture for a clean, cool and close shave?

Where one shaves is the biggest single determinant of the quality of the outcome. The best time and place to shave is during the (hot) shower and the best investment in shaving one can make outside of a sharp blade is the fogless shatter-proof mirror. One can be purchased with suction cups for less than \$15, or you can make your own by rubbing some shaving cream on a small suction-cupped mirror and then lightly rinsing.

The hot water and steam in the shower serves several functions in the perfect shave, namely softening the beard, opening the pores, and lubricating the skin. There simply is no better time to get rid of the beard, but if the shower will

not work for you the consolation location would be in the bathroom after the shower; before the shower will not do. Shaving in the shower will necessitate a longer shower, but who doesn't want an excuse to spend more time in the water?

Preparation before the shave is also of vital importance and should be done before entering the shower.

Although it may initially seem a bit counterintuitive, I found that scrubbing with a good exfoliant helps to clear away dead skin that can lead to post-shave pimples as well as the arch nemeses of scrapers worldwide, the ingrown hair and razor bumps.

The next recommendation can be filed under the heading "for best results," as it is not an imperative, but it leads to fewer nicks and a smoother cut. If you have the time, heat up a facecloth with the hottest water available out of the tap and throw it on your face for about 30-45 seconds.

After you have lathered, shave with short, quick strokes and rinse the blade often. Always shave with the grain starting with the easy spots (cheeks) in order to give the tougher beard more time to soften. To nip the stubborn whiskers, go back against the grain making sure to keep the skin wet.

The products you use to remove the five o'clock shadow are the last variable in the calculus of the perfect shave. As a rule, when you are buying shave cream, do not reach for the Barbasol or any other foam; while the striped cans may be cheaper, they contain mostly air, which does little to prevent the cold steel from carving up your face.

The best economical choice (though not the best choice in general) for face lubricant is a shave gel; I find that Nivea for men makes the highest quality. There are better choices for making your beard slippery, best of all foamless shaving cream like the kinds manufactured by Coates, Zirh, and Mont Source, which can be purchased at some drugstores and

many department stores or online at www.regimens.com. These products provide skin emollients and vitamins that gels and foams cannot, and they allow infinitely better razor glide.

I find that when used in conjunction with a foamless cream, a pre-shave oil makes the razor glide without incident. Not a nick to speak of. I employ a cheap alternative to shave oil: electric razor pre-shave, which in addition to making the beard extra slippery makes it stand up for easier trimming. Williams Electric Pre-Shave is green and costs about \$2.95. Splash a little on before applying shaving cream.

Finally, we take a look at the equipment actually doing the cutting: the razor. While most guys have been swayed by the Gillette juggernaut and pay outrageous sums for triple blade Mach Threes, I never experienced a big enough advantage over the trusty two blade disposable. At well over \$15 per package, the money saved on Mach Three cartridges would be better spent on a more expensive shaving cream, or perhaps a badger hair shave brush to coat each bit of stubble evenly with shave cream.

Follow these guidelines, allow around ten minutes each time you shave, and watch for your shaving woes to cease abruptly. After you shave, use one product and only one: Nivea Aftershave Balm. It cannot be topped by anything even three times as expensive. With aftershave always follow O'Doules' rule: nothing with alcohol. Alcoholic aftershaves are self-defeating and plus they sting a freshly shaved complexion worse than sticking it in a hornet's nest; you want moisture, not pain and desiccation.

Best of luck with the adventures in sharpened steel and stay tuned for more words on style.

Matt Guy-Hamilton is a weekly columnist for the Echo.

Romance is overrated



All Talk

Briana Wright

This is the column I don't want to write.

I don't want to write it because the timing is wrong, because I'm afraid I'll be accused of being bitter or irreverent, and, mostly, because I'm afraid I won't be able to find the words. Sometimes there are concepts so big they just can't fit inside a four-letter word.

I've changed my mind about love. Yes, love, that wonderfully ambiguous term we're seeing plastered over flags and Hallmark cards this time of year. The thing is, I'm a sucker for love, especially the Hallmark variety.

I used to think there was nothing more worthy or perfect than love, romantic love, the love that inspires sappy poetry and fuels the floral industry. It was somehow removed from the pettiness of everyday life, as close as we could come to transcendence. Love was holy. I don't think it's an exaggeration to say I based my life around it.

And I don't think it's an exaggeration to say I was far from alone in this. I have so many friends, women and men, who seem to base their lives around finding a romantic partner. We're a strange contradiction, the Colby campus. Hardly anyone actually has a serious long-term relationship, but it's something we all think about. Love, romantic love, is something we're all looking for. For some of us it's the most important thing in our lives.

I don't feel that way anymore. I can't describe what changed, what shifted to somehow allow me to view my entire life from a different

perspective. I was at Sugarloaf, riding the King Pine chairlift on a beautiful sunny Thursday, when I suddenly realized that romantic love was not at all what I had thought. I turned around to face my friend.

"I agree with you about love," I told him.

This year the two of us have picked up the habit of hiking every weekend, and the long car rides between Waterville and various trails has given us plenty of time for conversations about, among other things, love.

"I don't believe in love," he told me once, as trees blazing with autumn colors rushed past the passenger side window.

"Why not?" I asked.

"Well, I just don't think it's anything special. It's liking someone a lot. It's not this mystical thing everyone builds it up to be."

I disagreed. Of course love is liking someone a lot, but I argued that there had to be something more. Love had to be somehow special. It was, after all, the most important thing in my life.

What I realized on the King Pine chairlift is that love, especially romantic love, is human. It is irrational, occasionally unfair and, always and fundamentally, a human activity. There is nothing that sets romantic love aside from the rest of human activity, nothing guaranteeing it will be somehow truer or purer than the rest of our lives. The pursuit of romantic love is not a worthy center for a human life.

Does this mean love is no longer holy? I don't think so. Love still has the power to be transcendent, to lift us out of our lives. Love can be transformative, it can heal, it can cause change. But these are not qualities inherent in love itself. A really good class can also heal and trans-

form. A conversation or a ride up a chairlift can change your life. Love is one, not the only, holy element of human lives.

In trying to think of how to express this change to my family I realized I couldn't say that I no longer believe in love. For one thing, it's a hopelessly dismal statement that would probably have my family worried sick about whether or not I was really happy living so far from home. For another, it's not true. I do believe in love, in its power and its importance. If anything, my definition of love has been expanded.

Romance is inarguably a form of love, and a passionate one at that. Yet that passion is often a double-edged sword, causing more pain than happiness. One of my friends swears that friendships are better than relationships because they don't have the element of danger inherent in romance. Believing in the special and separately holy nature of romantic love, I quickly dismissed him as insane.

Now I think I might have been wrong. I have so many friends that I genuinely love, and too often I've devalued those relationships in pursuit of something else, of that elusive mystical experience. But the mystical experience wasn't hiding in romantic love, waiting somewhere to be discovered and, in return, to grant some kind of unending happiness.

There is no mystical experience awaiting discovery in romance. Love is liking someone a lot, and the mystical experience is right here, in every experience of our everyday lives.

That is what we have, and that is enough.

Briana Wright is a weekly columnist for the Echo.

SHOC Corner

Your health questions answered by Student Health On Campus

Q. My friend has been really sad for a while now. How do I know if she has depression?

A. To be diagnosed with depression, your friend would have to exhibit several changes in his or her behavior. Examples of these changes are a loss of interest/pleasure in things, sadness, changes in sleeping patterns, changes in eating, and suicidal thoughts, among others. Changes such as these would have to last at least two weeks for your friend's problem to be diagnosed as depression, but only if there is no reasonable explanation for these changes. If your friend has recently had a traumatic experience, such as the death of a loved one, these changes would have to endure for two months to be diagnosed as the work of depression. For a complete list of symptoms and criteria for a diagnosis of depression, see the fourth edition of the "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders," which can be found in the reference section of Miller Library.

Rather than worrying about a diagnosis, though, the best things you could do in this situation would be to support your friend by listening to him or her, and to strongly encourage your friend to get help from a professional. Even if this is an unpopular idea to begin with, a professional can help your friend in ways that you cannot, beginning with diagnosing his or her problem (as there is more than one type of depression) and then providing the proper treatment. A good place for your friend to start would be at the Health Center, which offers counseling services for students. Depression is a serious problem; do not assume that your friend can control the way he or she feels and stop "being depressed" when he or she wants to. To make an appointment, call x 3394.

Submit your health questions in the SHOC CORNER question box in the student center.

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'The Maroni Notebook' a remarkable finale for Sewell's Colby Career

By HANNAH EMERY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

There was a certain mystique surrounding "The Maroni Notebook." Those not directly involved knew little about it besides that it was written and directed by Colby's own Professor Richard Sewell. After all, the show's run in Strider Theater was its premiere.

Anyone who had friends involved in some aspect of the play, though, went into it with high expectations. After all, it seemed that half the campus spent their Jan Plans working on sets, costuming or rehearsal. When I went to see the show, I expected to see the result of all that hard work, but I was utterly blown away by the quality put before me.

At first, the script seemed simple. The first scene featured a single character, a vaudevillian named Ernesto Maroni (Gregory J. Robinson '02), interacting directly with the audience as he performed a trick reminiscent of William Tell with a handgun pointed at his young son, Albert, standing behind a paper screen.

Once the shot had been fired, the abrupt transition to the home of Robert and Elizabeth Browning (Eric Laurits '02 and Christina Wallace '03) left the audience wondering

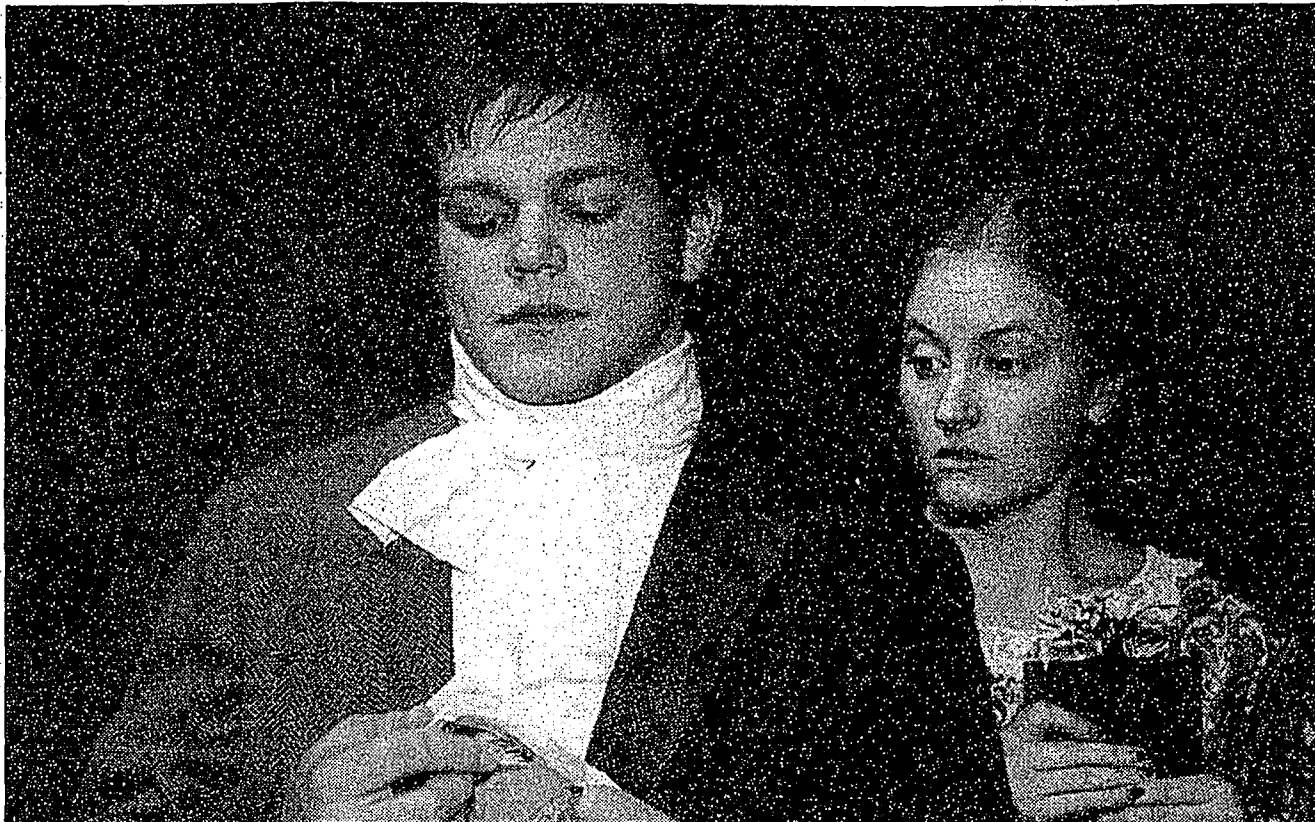
what significance Maroni had.

Years had clearly passed in those few seconds; young Albert (Walter Belenky '02) appeared a few minutes later as a grown man, along with his wife Agnes (Emily Bridwell '02). From the way the Brownings' close friend and physician Dr. Domley Churmagen (Andrew Moroney Volk '05) behaved toward Albert Maroni, it was clear that Maroni was not as simple as he appeared, and his motives for wanting to get close to the Brownings quickly became suspect.

EVEN THE BEST SCRIPT LOSES SOMETHING IF IT IS POORLY CONVEYED. THIS PLAY HAD NO SUCH WEAKNESS.

But Sewell's script led the audience along, making them almost forget about the serious undercurrents of the play with a multitude of witty lines. When the opening scene was repeated, almost verbatim, at the start of Act II, the audience began to realize that it must have some significance to the greater plot. But it was only in the last 20 minutes or so that all the plot pieces scattered throughout the course of the play — pieces which the audience had not even recognized for what they were — fit into place. The script was amazing.

Even the best script, however, loses something if it is poorly conveyed. This play had no such weakness. As Ernesto Maroni, Robinson rose to the difficult task of playing a character existing alone in space and



Walter Belenky '02 and Emily Bridwell '02 as lovers in Richard Sewell's "The Maroni Notebook."

PHOTO COURTESY OF COMMUNICATIONS

time.

As convincingly, it was difficult to remember that Laurits and Wallace were not truly an adoring couple — the Brownings' devotion to one another came through in every line and action.

As the devoted physician, Volk was amazing in his ability to convey staid middle-age, not sure what to make of all the idealistic bohemian thoughts flying around him.

Belenky's portrayal of Albert Maroni was skillful as well — the character was so well-played as a simple charlatan that the revelation of his true, deeper nature came as a shock.

But it was Bridwell's Agnes Maroni who stole the show, receiving many of the best lines and coming across perfectly as a woman torn between her ideals and reality.

Everyone involved with this magnificent production deserves

praise — the beautiful set, the elaborate Victorian costumes, even the extensive explanations of unfamiliar terms and references included in the program served to transport the audience into the 19th-century world of the Brownings and the Maronis. Truly, the production was a triumph, and a fitting send off for Sewell.

African drumming tantalizes audience

By MELV LADERA
STAFF WRITER

Performed before a packed house in Given Auditorium, the students

of Jordan Benissan's African drumming Jan Plan put together a fantastic show filled with vivacious rhythms and powerful beats. The audience was mesmerized and

cheered continuously for the ensemble throughout the performance. It seemed like every student in the group had a fan base that kept on yelling "Yeah (insert name of stu-

dent)!" The praise and applause were much deserved.

The large ensemble began with a piece in conjunction with a Colby band. This was an interesting but enjoyable combination. After this opening, the ensemble continued with some traditional African music that they dedicated to Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Black History Month. This piece was enjoyable and catchy; by the end of it they had the audience singing along, "All around the world we pray for world peace," as a few of the performers demonstrated different forms of praying.

They did struggle in the next piece, originating from Ghana. I'm not quite sure what went wrong but they put that piece aside and performed it later. They then performed it superbly, highlighted by the vocals of Rodwell Mabaera '02.

The western African dance piece that followed later was particularly amusing. A portion of the ensemble moved along to the drumming, performing a rather provocative dance. There was a lot of racy movement and spanking involved as they waved cloths that represented Colby's colors, silver and blue.

There was a large assortment of musical instruments showcased that intrigued the audience. Hearing all

of the different sounds was a lot of fun. There was an incredibly varied assortment of sounds including different types of drums and bells. Benissan also performed with an intriguing string instrument made with a string, a stick and a can.

Benissan's vocals were outstanding. He remained enthusiastic throughout his performance, creating an inviting and entertaining atmosphere. Obviously, he and his students worked really hard to create such a well-done performance. They put together a wonderful ethnic experience, even down to the costumes, as they all were appropriately dressed.

Overall the performance was an appetizing experience. I found it extremely difficult to keep still, my head kept bobbing along to the beating of those tremendous rhythms. Much of the audience seemed to agree with me, as many of them jumped out of their seats and danced along to several of the pieces.

Benissan also runs an African music ensemble in the spring for any students that are interested and inspired by his astounding highlife music.



BRAD SEYMOUR/THE COLBY ECHO

Jordan Benissan's African Drumming class performs their skills learned over Jan Plan.

Franz Schubert's "Die Winterreise" portrays traditional sensitivities

By KATE RUSSO
A&E EDITOR

Of all the events that happen at Colby, many of them go unattended. It can be scary to go to something you don't understand, I was nervous to go to "Die Winterreise" because my knowledge of classical music is embarrassingly limited. Not knowing what to expect, I slipped into the back and thoroughly examined the program, hoping to make some sense of what I was about to see and hear.

"Die Winterreise" is a work by Franz Schubert made up of 24 songs, all sung in German, with piano accompaniment. The contents of the program came with German lyrics and the English translations. I took a sigh of relief and sat back to enjoy the performance.

"The Winter's Journey" was performed by tenor William Hille and pianist Michael Bahmann. Both world-class musicians, their presence at Colby was a real treat. In the beginning I kept my nose buried in the program, following along with the words of the songs and hoping to grasp a greater meaning. But when I finally looked up with

curiosity for Hille's operatic voice and remarkable annunciation, I realized that his performance was quite theatrical.

Though I can't understand German, I was able to tell the mood

SCHUBERT TAKES HIS LISTENERS ON A JOURNEY THROUGH A COLD WINTER NIGHT WITH A LONELY MAN WHO HAS JUST LOST HIS LOVE.

of the piece by his movement and expression. From that point on I spent very little time staring at the program and more time watching the actual performance.

But the meaning of "Die Winterreise" is still a mystery to anyone who wasn't at the concert that night. Schubert's "Winter's Journey" is a piece that stands the test of time, like so many classical works. It is a story of love and hopelessness, who

can't relate to that?

Schubert takes his listeners on a journey through a cold winter night with a lonely man who has just lost his love. All the songs allude to his solitude in harsh winter with a broken heart. The lyrics are actually the poems of Wilhelm Müller, which Schubert adapted to his 24 pieces.

In "Gefr'ne Tränen" or "Frozen Tears" the last words are "Yet you burst from a wellspring / Of my heart so burning hot, / As if you wanted to melt / The entire winter's ice!"

Even though I now know I can relate to the words of Müller, this accessibility should not undermine the beautiful and complex music as something enjoyable on its own, which it certainly was. It is very rare in central Maine to be able to hear such talented musicians at Hille and Bahmann.

Though I am relieved I don't have to write a ten page paper on the subject of "Die Winterreise," I learned a lot last Thursday night by just listening and learning to appreciate something I would normally dismiss.

Portland String Quartet once again initiates a season of Colby music

By MICHAEL GREENBERG
STAFF WRITER

Fresh off its Jan Plan course in chamber music, the Portland String Quartet did what it does best — play some of the most lyrical, passionate, and intimate string quartets to a welcoming audience in Lorimer Chapel. Last Saturday's concert, the first in the Music At Colby series since the Carols and Lights celebration in early December, was well attended by the Waterville community, Colby faculty and several students.

The program consisted of three pieces and focused on Bedrich Smetana's (1824 - 1884) string quartet in E minor, "From My Life." Violist Julia Adams introduced the piece, saying that the work was featured in the group's Jan Plan course, including a question on the final exam.

Of all the pieces studied during the month, Ms. Adams felt that the class connected most strongly with this one, particularly because of the

associations to Smetana's personal story as a nationalist composer.

While the mood at the start is one of pride and energy, coming in a rare viola theme, a high-pitched dissonance near the end represents the composer's melancholy at becoming deaf. The fourth movement, modulating to a major key, returns to the feelings of hope and pride that began the work.

The other two pieces in the program, Beethoven's (1770 - 1827) quartet in D Major, Op. 18, No. 3 and Mozart's (1756 - 1791) quartet in C Major, K. 465 "Dissonance," bookended Smetana's work. These two popular quartets showcased the group's experience at breathing new life into familiar tunes.

Violinists Stephen Kecskemethy and Ronald Lantz exchanged melodies with ease, and Adams and cellist Paul Ross provided a majestic foundation for the group to soar.

The group clearly enjoyed performing. See STRINGS, continued on page 6

This Week's EVENTS

2/14

Social Sciences and Humanities Colloquium - Philson Lounge Cotter Union 12:00-2:00 p.m.
Philosophy Talk with Cheshlre Calhoun - Lovejoy 215 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Black History Month Lecturer Fred Harris - Lovejoy 100 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Vagina Monologues - Page Commons Room Cotter Union 6:00 p.m.

Jonathon Carter At Colby - Pugh Center Cotter Union 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Vagina Monologues - Page Commons Room Cotter Union 9:00 p.m.

SGA Film "Riding In Cars with Boys" - Lovejoy 100 9:30-11:30 p.m.

2/15

International Coffee Hour - Mary Low Coffeehouse 4:30-6:00 p.m.

SGA Film "Riding In Cars with Boys" - Lovejoy 100 7:00-9:00 p.m.

SGA Film "Riding In Cars with Boys" - Lovejoy 100 9:30-11:30 p.m.

Valentine's Day Dance - Page Commons Room Cotter Union 10:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.

2/16

Meditation - Lorimer Rose Chapel 9:00-10:00 a.m.

SGA Film "Riding In Cars with Boys" - Lovejoy 100 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Craig Karges (Psychic / Mentalist) - Page Commons Room Cotter Union 9:00-11:00 p.m.

SGA Film "Riding In Cars with Boys" - Lovejoy 100 9:30-11:30 p.m.

2/17

Protestant Worship Service - Lorimer Chapel 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Elizabeth Patches & Cheryl Tschanz - Blixer 178 (Given Auditorium) 3:00 p.m.

Catholic Mass - Lorimer Chapel 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Vagina Monologues - Page Commons Room Cotter Union 7:00 p.m.

2/19

Meditation - Lorimer Rose Chapel 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Study In Latin America Info Meeting - Lovejoy 215 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Folk Music Gathering - Mary Low Coffeehouse 7:00-9:30 p.m.

AM271 Film Showing "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" - Arey 005 7:00-9:30 p.m.

Senior Class Lecture with Professor Bassett - Spa Cotter Union 8:00-9:00 p.m.

2/20

Spanish Tutorial - Lovejoy 301 7:00-9:00 p.m.

AM398 Film Showing - Arey 005 7:00-9:30 p.m.

Film Society Movies - Keyes 105 7:30-10:00 p.m.

Wellness Lecture: The Thin Line - Page Commons Room Cotter Union 8:00-10:00 p.m.

Meeting - Pugh Center Cotter Union 8:00-10:00 p.m.

Massage Club - Marson Lounge Cotter Union 9:00-11:00 p.m.

2/21

Goldfarb Lecture Series "The Choice of Odysseus" - Lovejoy 213 4:00-6:00 p.m.

more Women's Studies Colloquium Series - Arey 005 4:00-6:00 p.m.

STRINGS: PSQ does Mozart

continued from page 5

forming with each other, as one could see their smiles during the humorous sections of Beethoven's work, when the instruments seemed engaged in light conversation. Ultimately, the appreciative audience returned the cheer with a standing ovation at the conclusion of the Mozart.

This spring is filled with music both at Lorimer and Given auditorium. Elizabeth Patches, mezzo-soprano, and Cheryl Tschanz, piano, perform "A Celebration of Children in Music and Literature" on Feb. 17 at 3 p.m. in Given Auditorium, and the Bakken Trio, a popular chamber group out of Minnesota, will perform works by Beethoven and Ravel

among others Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. in Lorimer.

Later in the semester, a very unusual percussion group, NEXUS, performs at 7:30 p.m. in Given on Mar. 10. This group, consisting of five members who have performed together since 1971, will perform works that combine world, jazz, chamber and symphonic music.

These concerts, plus the performances of student groups, including the Chorale, Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, and Collegium Musicum, are all free and open to the public.

You don't want to be "In the Bedroom"

By CRISTINA JALERU
STAFF WRITER

Should you decide to go see "In the Bedroom," as a result the numerous and overwhelmingly pushy media praises, be prepared for two hours of emotional drainage. The film, directed by beginner Todd Field, is beautifully shot and the story is wonderfully told, which makes it so different in the eyes of the critics bored with the conventionalities of Hollywood. However, it is so personal that it forces the viewer into a world to which one does not belong, thus imposing a huge amount of emotional pressure.

It tells the story of a young man killed by the ex-husband of the older woman he is dating, and how his parents deal with his violent demise. Tom Wilkinson plays Matt Fowler, the easygoing father who just wants his child to be happy, and Sissy Spacek plays Ruth Fowler, the rigid mother who opposes the relationship.

Marisa Tomei, in the role of provocative Natalie Strout, proves once more that she is a really good actress and she did deserve the Oscar in 1992 for "My Cousin Vinny." Nick Stahl, an upcoming young actor, stars as Frank, the undecided son and lover who gets killed by the rogue Richard Strout (William Mapother).

The actors are impeccable in their quest for an answer to the pain that has taken over their lives. Every scene adds a new question about their motivations and feelings. We don't see them talking openly about their feelings; instead we have to bear their silence, looks and insinua-

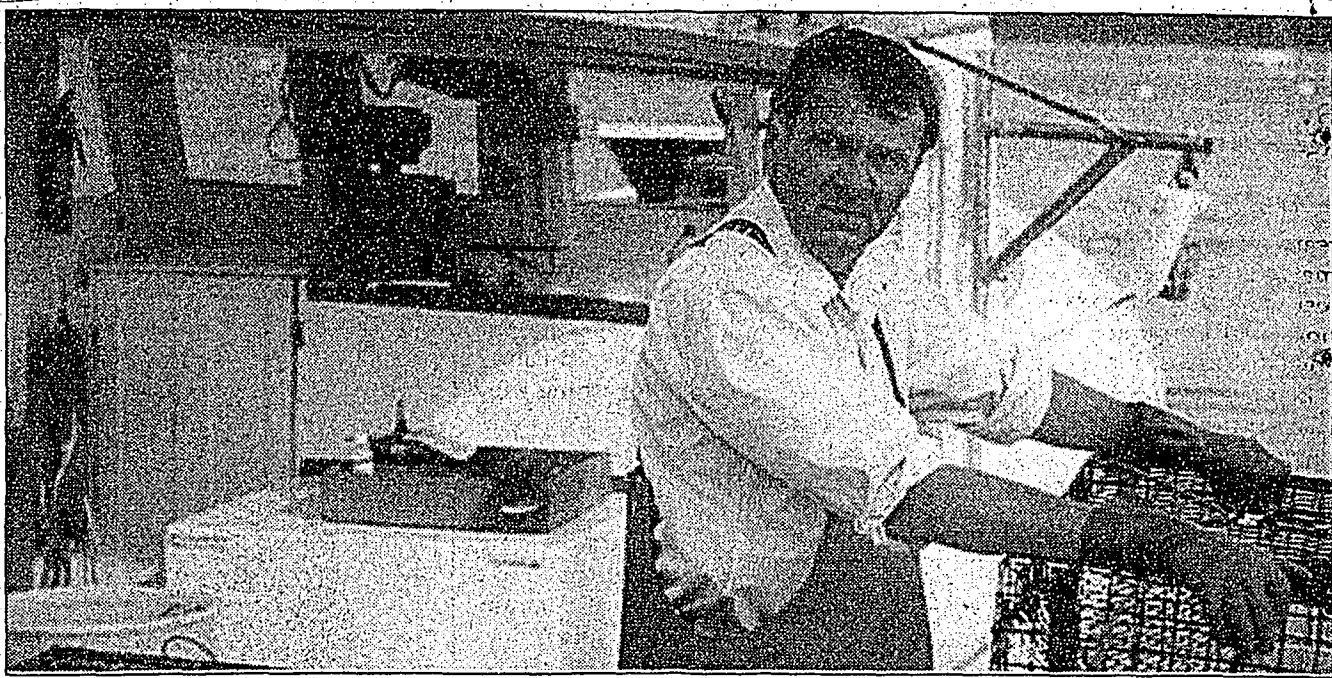


PHOTO FROM OF IMDB.COM

Tom Wilkinson from "In the Bedroom," set in coastal Maine.

tions and make up our own story from it.

Sometimes the camera lingers too much on close-ups and one has the

WE DON'T SEE (THE CHARACTERS) TALKING OPENLY ABOUT THEIR FEELINGS; INSTEAD WE HAVE TO BEAR THEIR SILENCE, LOOKS, AND INSINUATIONS AND MAKE UP OUR OWN STORY FROM IT.

impression of being in the middle of a moment they should not be in. However, there is no reason for the critics to make such a big deal out of Spacek's performance, since she is no worse and no better than usual.

On the other hand, Tom Wilkinson bears the responsibility of making this film work. He seems to be the link between all the other characters and also the story ends as a result of his decisions.

The deterioration of the communication between each other and between them and the rest of the world is enhanced by the fact that the murderer is released on bail. All moral principles suddenly fall apart and the rules seem to play in favor of the guilty one. The solution the two estranged parents find to their rela-

tionship and their internal agony is drastic and surprising. The love from the beginning turns into violence, raw grief, and vengeance.

The music is haunting and it is in synch with the interior torment or joy of the characters. At times it has an undefined line so as to suggest the vagueness of their sentiments. The purpose of the movie itself is not very clear because it keeps one in uncertainty perpetually.

Folks, if you feel you enjoy emotional tension, or you just love Maine landscapes go and see it. But if you are emotionally unstable and like your space very much stay home and watch some "Cheers" reruns.

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Men's volleyball off to a good start Two tough weekends ahead

By SUZANNE SKINNER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Colby men's volleyball team did not expect to win a lot of matches this season, since they lost many key players to graduation, and although they have talented players, they felt they did not have the depth to be truly competitive. This past weekend proved that depth is not everything. Through old-fashioned hustle, motivation, and sheer grit, the volleyball team went 4-0 beating Bowdoin, Southern New Hampshire University, the University of Maine, and the University of New Hampshire.

The Mules first faced UMaine. "We had never really played in a game or scrimmage situation," said captain Patrick Fahey '02. "We were hoping it would come together." Their wish came true. Led by seniors Chase Gentile '02 and Andrew Recknagel '02, the Mules dominated the game. "They were ridiculous," said Fahey. The Mules easily won the first two games of the match, 25-22, 25-19.

"We took that momentum and played SNHU," said Fahey. Feeling confident and realizing that SNHU was not as strong as UMaine, the Mules decided to try a new rotation. "We struggled a little in that rotation," said Fahey. However, the Mules stepped it up, ran speed stuff, and played good defense. The won the match: 25-15, 25-17.

The third match was not so easily won. The Mules faced their big rival: the Bowdoin Polar Bears. "It's really a matter of personal pride," said Fahey. So, "we really took it to them." The Mules won the first game 25-9.

Bowdoin proved to have more talent than they displayed in the first game. Colby suffered its first loss of the day as Bowdoin took the second game 25-19.

It seemed as if the mighty Polar Bears would walk away with the match. In the third game, the Mules were "cursed," said Fahey. They were doing everything they needed to do to put away the game, however, nothing seemed to work. "That was one of the most ridiculous games I've ever played," said Gentile. "We were snake bit. Shit just went wrong; it was almost comical to be a part of." Luckily, the curse was lifted before the end of the game - the Mules won 17-15.

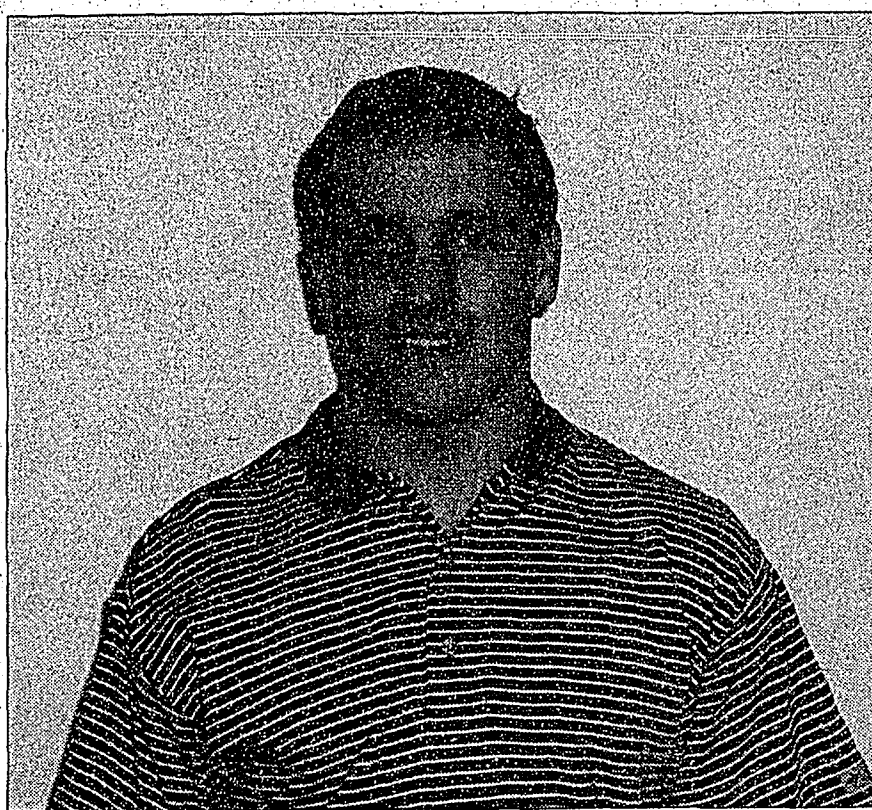
In the final match of the day, the Mules faced UNH. "They are a well-coached and huge-budgeted team," said Fahey. The Mules did not expect victory. This match, however, proves that flashy teams do not always win. "We were having fun and they were trying to do what they were told," said Fahey. The Mules won the games 25-21, 25-23.

The Mules play Boston University this weekend. And they will play in a big home tournament the weekend after that. These next two weekends are crucial. The games will determine whether or not the Mules will qualify for Nationals. This weekend proved that the Mules have the talent to qualify.

"I'm optimistic," said Fahey. Nothing is set in stone. "We are young and still make mistakes. We can do it, but it's going to require great focus on the court."

"We were snake bit. Shit just went wrong; it was almost comical to be a part of."

Chase Gentile
senior player



MIKE MELOSKI / THE COLBY ECHO

DEVASTATOR OF THE WEEK

Rob Saunders '05

This Freshmen won the Giant Slalom event with a time of 2:04.23 at this past weekend's Dartmouth Carnival. He is the first Colby athlete to finish first in a NCAA Division I competition. This win also secured a berth in the Division I National Championships in Alaska later this year. This accomplishment is impressive for a freshman as Colby normally sends only one or two people to Nationals annually.

Squash looks to gain national recognition

By MIKE MELOSKI
SPORTS EDITOR

First year coach Shaki Khan would like Colby's squash program to be one of national prominence. Unfortunately, this season the team will fall short of being one of the top programs in the country. It is in the middle of the pack. There is only one division in squash, where the women are ranked 15th nationally and the men's team is 19th nationally. Khan is pleased with the teams' performance, but believes in the years to come both teams can be nationally recognized.

The men's team holds a 6-9 record on the season. The team's longest winning streak was three games with impressive victories over Columbia, Wesleyan, and Connecticut College. One of the top performers for the men's team has been Todd Hunsdorfer '04, who is 10-5 with a 67 percent winning percentage.

"We work extremely hard in practice and play hard, but if we can be sharper mentally we will be able to come out on top in some of the close matches we lose."

Shaki Khan
Squash coach

In addition, Ryan Phelan '05 has been a nice surprise for the Mules. Khan said, "he is much improved over the season and is really starting to grasp what we are trying to do."

Khan also said that the team's dedication is unquestionable. The problem is more mental.

"We work extremely hard in

practice and play hard, but if we can be sharper mentally we will be able to come out on top in some of the close matches that we lose" stated Khan. Khan gave the Hobart and Bates matchups as examples of games where the Mules lost by a close margin, but will be able to come out on top in the future.

The women's team has shown some success with a 9-10 record. The women held a four-game win streak at one point in the season and had impressive victories over Bowdoin and Connecticut College. The women's top performer has been Lydia Terry '02 who has a solid 15-4 record. In addition Jen Barrett '04 has played very strong for the Lady Mules.

Khan is very happy with the women's play and feels they too have certain mental aspects keeping them away from being a top tier team. "On the women's side it is similar to the men's because if we were stronger mentally we

would have come out on top in some close games we lost; we would be ranked higher nationally as a result," he said.

Khan stressed that in his first season both teams have been solid, but he wants more for the program as a whole. His goal is for the program to be ranked in the top 12 nationally year after year. Khan plans to direct a great amount of focus toward recruiting.

"If I am able to land a couple of nationally ranked players for both teams with the talent already on both teams, we will be able to compete and beat some of the top teams," he said.

The women's team has its national championships this weekend at Princeton, while the men's are the weekend after, also in Princeton. Both teams look to improve on their national rankings with strong individual performances.

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Skiing places 8th at Dartmouth

Led by freshman Rob Saunders, Alpine ski team does well

By E. DREW McKECHNIE
ASSISTANT LAYOUT EDITOR

On Feb. 8, Colby's Alpine and Nordic ski teams traveled to Hanover, N.H. to participate in the 92nd Dartmouth Winter Carnival, where they would witness an event unprecedented in the history of Colby athletics.

Freshman Rob Saunders '05 of Park City, UT defeated skiers from Division-I powerhouses UVM, Dartmouth and Middlebury en route to a time of 2:04.23 in the men's giant slalom, earning him the title of being the only Colby athlete to place first in an NCAA Division-I competition.

"It is impressive, especially considering that we had to adjust to Dartmouth's GS hill which is much flatter than the surface we train on at Sugarloaf," said captain Nicole Boulanger '02.

With his race on Friday, following a third-place finish earlier in the season, Saunders secured himself a trip to the NCAA Division-I National Championships in Alaska.

"In the last five years, we've only sent one Colby skier to NAAs, but if the season were to end today, we'd be sending two

from this year's team and two would be barely missing the cut," said coach Mark Godomsky. "This is remarkable considering both Colby's history in the sport and the fact that the NCAA only selects 17 skiers from the East for Nationals

"In the last five years, we've only sent one Colby skier to NAAs, but if the season were to end today, we'd be sending two from this year's team and two would be barely missing the cut."

Mark Godomsky
Alpine ski coach

each year; an elite group picked from the 80 men that go out each weekend to compete."

The men and women's teams finished strong in Friday's events ranking fifth and seventh respectively in GS, but faded a bit on Saturday earning seventh and

eighth place marks respectively in slalom. The team as a whole left the carnival weekend finishing in eighth place overall, just behind rivals Bates and St. Lawrence.

Skiing being an event which requires significant travel time and takes place during the first academic week of the second semester, the Colby squad was not able to compete at full strength. With one member out due to illness, the women's team was only able to race three skiers and the men's team has been without their senior captain due to injury for the entire season.

Godomsky looks forward to the future output of his men's team. "We have a solid core of skiers here; racing two juniors (Noah Siebeck-Smith and Thomas Richardson), a sophomore (Kristian Knights), and three freshmen (Warner Nickerson, Tyler Rowe, and Saunders)," the coach said with genuine optimism.

Both teams look forward to positive future results as the carnival season winds down with Williams and Middlebury in coming weekends and individuals strive towards qualifying for Nationals.

Nordic Ski team "wax" to a better finish on the second day

By E. DREW McKECHNIE
ASSISTANT LAYOUT EDITOR

The men and women's Nordic ski team traveled to the Oak Hill Cross Country Center in Hanover, New Hampshire February 8 and 9 to join the Alpine squad to compete in the ski competitions at one of the oldest winter carnivals on the East Coast - the 92nd Annual Dartmouth Winter Carnival.

Differing from their Alpine counterpart, the Nordic team started the slower on Friday and finished with strong improvement on Saturday. "Expectations are never high heading into a meet during the first week of the second semester, as it is usually difficult getting back into the daily rhythm, we usually tend to see an improvement on the second day over the first, as we did this past weekend," said coach Tracey Cote.

Unfortunately, the weekend was structured as a 'pursuit' style race series and the Colby skiers had to start Saturday's race where they finished on Friday. "After a slow start on our first day, we met as a team Friday night to discuss Saturday's races and to refocus,"

said captain Anna Carlson '03. This resulted in a better performance on the second day and a positive all-around feeling heading back to Colby.

"We appeared to have a noticeable advantage over the other teams during warm-ups with regard to 'waxing,' and this proved to be a psychological motivator for the team entering Saturday's race," said Carlson.

"Expectations are never high heading into a meet during the first week of the second semester, as it is usually difficult getting back into the daily rhythm..."

Tracey Cote
Nordic ski coach

Waxing or applying different types of wax to the base of skis is something each team does to improve the skis' response to an athlete's movements. The chal-

lenging thing about waxing is that the wax needs to be the proper consistency to give the skis strong grip and good kick on the uphill sections of the course while at the same time providing glide and avoiding drag on the downhill sections.

Individual success was also highlighted as men's co-captain Chris Cogbill '02 placed 24th in the Men's 10K Classical Pursuit with a two-day time of 1:03:02.3. On the women's team, Carlson placed 33rd in the Women's 10K Classical Pursuit with a time of 1:18:11.0, moving up eleven spots after coming in 44th on Friday.

Teammates Sarah Getchell '04, Anna Carvill '03, Jordan Burke '04, and Kate Durda '05 all moved up six or more places from their finishing times on the first day. Colby's improvement stood out as they joined Dartmouth as the only two women's teams from which every member had faster times on the second day.

Men's basketball controls own destiny

By GREG SAWYER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In the first meeting against Bowdoin on Jan. 15 in Wadsworth Gymnasium, the Polar Bears completely dominated the Colby men's basketball team on both ends of the floor in a blowout, 80-48. Knowing that their playoff lives hopes hung in the balance, the White Mules came out with an inspiring effort on Saturday and knocked off their CBB rival, 78-68.

Entering Saturday's game, the Colby men's basketball squad had all odds stacked against them. First, the team was coming off a demoralizing 74-71 loss at the

hands of a mediocre University of Maine-Farmington team. It was a disappointing effort considering the Mules were coming off their biggest victory of the year in the 91-79 Bates win on Feb. 6.

In that game, captain Damien Strahorn '02 put up 31 points, and Nick Loukes '04 added 19 while being all over the court on both offense and defense in the losing effort. The Mules gave a tremendous effort, but were unable to come up with the defensive stops down the stretch. In addition the youth of the team was evident as questionable decisions down the stretch hurt the team.

The first half of the game

against Bowdoin was very tightly contested and ended with Bowdoin leading 31-30. At the start of the second half, the teams traded baskets until Strahorn took over the game, scoring 11 straight points and spearheading a 15-0 run that gave Colby a 59-44 lead and put the game out of reach.

This was a huge win for the White Mules, upping their overall record to 10-12, but more importantly giving them three wins in the very tight NESCAC race. The win moves them to a tie for 5th in the conference, along with Amherst and Tufts. The win also gave Colby a share of the CBB title.

Coach Roy Dow referred to the Bowdoin victory as a "wonderful team achievement," and "as good as any Colby victory in recent years."

The Mules were lead by Strahorn, who absolutely torched the Morrell Gymnasium nets for 43 points on 15 of 20 shooting from the field. He went five of eight from three-point range and eight of nine from the free-throw line in his 37 minutes of action.

When asked about Strahorn's performance, Dow was quick to point out that the victory was a total team effort, but stated, "Given the season situation, the CBB at stake, and the earlier deci-

sive loss to Bowdoin, his performance within a total team victory was simply outstanding, ranking with any other." For his phenomenal play, Strahorn has been named the NESCAC Player of the Week.

Although Strahorn was the only Mule in double figures, the rest of the squad made big contributions in other areas. Loukes cleared 10 rebounds and had four assists, while Patrick McGowan '05 added five rebounds and three steals from his point guard position.

Coming off the bench, Jared Cushman '05 added eight points, including two of three from behind the arc. As a team, Colby

shot 55 percent from the field and 54 percent from the three-point line on a Bowdoin defense ranked 2nd in the conference in scoring defense.

The win over Bowdoin gave the Mules control of their own NESCAC playoff destiny. They need to muster up one win in the upcoming weekend against either Trinity (Friday) or Amherst (Saturday) to guarantee a playoff appearance.

The wins will not come easily though, as Trinity is currently ranked 1st in the conference and Amherst, the preseason league favorite, boasts a 15-6 overall record. Wins in both games could

Women's Basketball looks ahead to important weekend

By SUZANNE SKINNER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Colby women's basketball team managed to hold Bowdoin throughout most of the game on Saturday Feb. 9. In the end, the Polar Bears, who are ranked number four in the country in Division III, proved to be too much for the White Mules. In the last eight minutes of the game, they pulled ahead winning 74-60.

As the players stepped onto the court, it was obvious that both the Mules and the Polar Bears had come prepared to play. The score remained pretty consistent throughout the first half of the game. Kate Chyprevich '04 came up huge for the Mules, scoring 14 points. Alyssa Henley '04 also contributed with 13 points and 10 rebounds. Defensively, Colby was also strong.

They were up against Bowdoin's Lora Trenkle '04, who according to coach Patricia O'Brien is "close to one of the best players in the league." The Mules "held her in check." At the end of the first half, the Mules were ahead 32-30.

The second half started in a similar manner to the first. With only eight minutes left in the game, the score was still tied. Unfortunately, the Mules "got tentative towards the end," said O'Brien. She suggested the Mules began to play more cautiously because "a couple of people were playing with four fouls." Or "maybe we just ran out

of gas. Bowdoin is a more talented team than us."

The Polar Bears capitalized on the Mules' mistakes. In the last five minutes of the game, "they went on a little run that we couldn't answer," said co-captain Christine O'Donnell '02.

Although obviously disappointed over the loss, the Mules are happy with the way they played. Throughout the season, the Mules had had trouble connecting as a team on the court. They feel this game has proved they've overcome this problem.

"I think we played really, really well up until the last eight minutes of the game," said co-captain Katy Lawson '02. "It's one of the best games we played as a team."

"It's close to the best game we played all season," agreed O'Donnell.

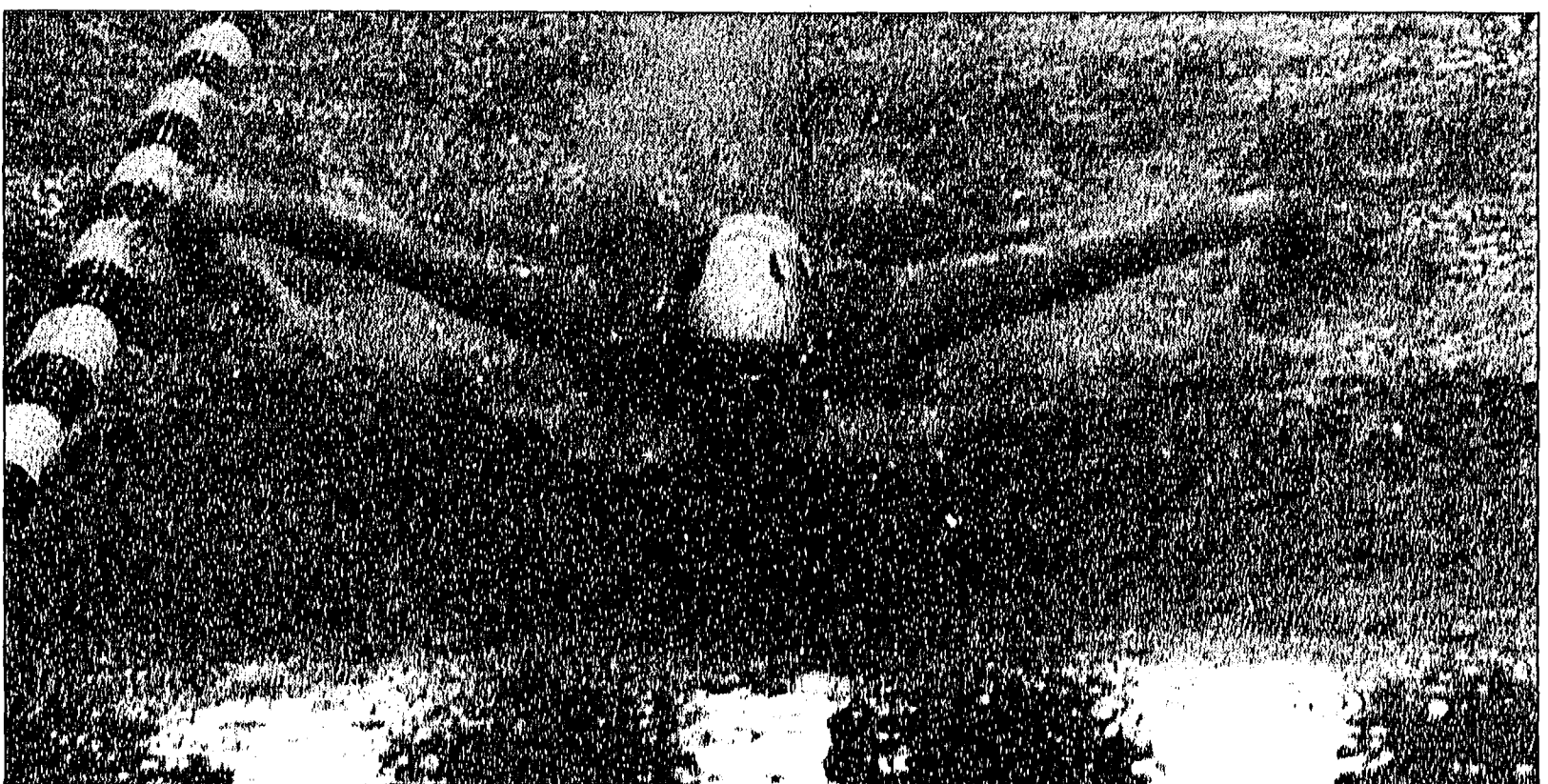
The Mules face Amherst and Trinity next. They must win at least one game in order to potentially qualify for the NESCAC tournament. If they win both games, they will definitely qualify.

"There is a lot of pressure," said Lawson. "It'll be tough, but I'm really looking forward to it."

"I'm really confident we are going to win both games," said O'Donnell.

"If we play the way we played against Bowdoin this weekend, we should win both games," said O'Brien.

JESS KNIGHT POWERS COLBY



Captain Jess Knight '02 swims to victory in the 100 meter butterfly in the meet against Amherst. Unfortunately, the Mules were unable to defeat the Amherst Jeffs.

BRAD SHYMOUR / THE COLBY ECHO

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