

THE COLBY ECHO

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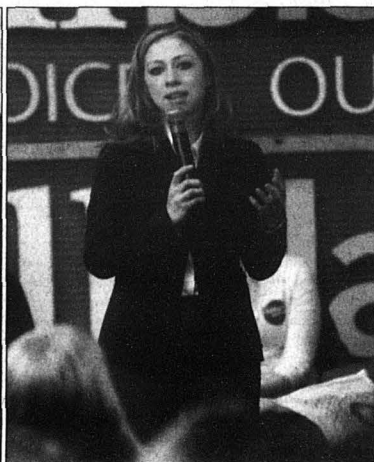
February 13, 2008

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CAUCUS '08



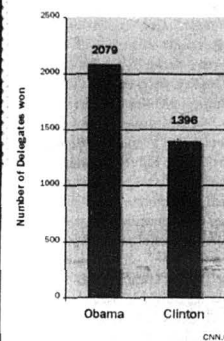
Obama spoke outside to the crowd denied entrance before his rally in Bangor (left); Chelsea Clinton gave a talk at the College for the Clinton campaign (right).



Record turnout for Maine caucus

Obama the big winner in Maine; more contests to follow

ELECTION RESULTS



By ELISABETH PONSOT
NEWS EDITOR

Despite inclement weather and lines that snaked out of buildings and around corners, voters in Maine demonstrated an unprecedented dedication to the democratic process on Feb. 10. Record breaking numbers of Democrats in 420 towns turned out in to cast a total 44,673 votes—more than 200 of which were cast by students from the College.

dedent turnout, Henry Beck '07—who himself has recently launched a campaign for the State House—said, "I am so proud 704 Waterville Democrats, including over 200 Colby students [who] braved snow to stand for change."

Leading up to the vote

Following the Feb. 5 "Super Tuesday" contest in which 22 states held caucuses and primaries, and neither Obama nor Clinton emerged as a definitive winner, the campaigns have rapidly switched gears to focus on other contests. In Maine on Saturday, candidates and their supporters traveled up North to spread their messages and en-

courage voter turnout. In turn, constituents in Maine also found themselves bombarded by various radio and TV advertisements for the candidates in the days leading up to the caucus.

CLINTON CAMPAIGN VISITS THE COLLEGE

Chelsea Clinton was on campus Saturday morning and fielded questions from an estimated 200-300 people in attendance. She spoke about her mother's desire to withdraw troops quickly from Iraq, the need for universal healthcare in the United States, and described her mother's fight against the devastating impacts of climate change to date.

Clinton also spoke about the econ-

See CAUCUS, Page 2

GIRL TALK

SPB concert causes a stir

Tickets sell out, leads to scalping and counterfeiting

By BEN HERBST
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Excitement for the Student Programming Board's Loudness concert, Girl Talk, a "mashup" DJ otherwise known as Greg Gillis resulted in the concert selling out the first day tickets went on sale.

"A long lined formed early in the morning and many people decided to not wait in line and figured that they would try to pick up a wristband later in the day or the next day. But when they came back later the tickets had sold out," SPB Concert and Live Music Committee Chair Adam Geringer-Dunn

'08 said. According to Geringer-Dunn, all tickets for the concert were sold at the information desk in Pulver Pavilion, and none were sold online.

"It is unfortunate that many people did not get a ticket, but at the same time, we had to distribute tickets on a first-come, first-serve basis because safety regulations restrict the number of people that we can have in Page," SPB President Laura Perille '08 said.

"We did not anticipate the incredible demand for this show. We knew it would be a popular concert but could not predict that it would sell out so fast," Geringer-Dunn said. Students were able to pick up one free ticket with their Colby ID and had the option to buy up to three additional tickets for non-students for \$10 each.

The demand for the tickets, and ultimately to see the show, led to students selling wristbands at a tremendous mark-up, or producing their own coun-

terfeit wristbands.

"The scalping was unfortunate in that students would deny others the opportunity to attend the concert simply because they wanted to put some extra money in their pockets," Perille said. Many students took the opportunity to buy three extra wrist bands and sell them to other students.

Messages on the Digest of General Announcements during the days leading up to the concert offered cash for bracelets or invited students to bid for the chance to buy a bracelet for up to \$50.

"It's a real shame that there are people within the Colby community who aren't decent enough to simply share a free ticket, which they are not using, with fellow Colby students," Geringer-Dunn said. "Instead, there are people who feel the need to exploit other stu-

See GIRL TALK, Page 2



Girl Talk, in the hoodie above, performed on stage among a large group of students from the College.

Kenya 21 begins

Letter-writing campaign to address turmoil

By BEN HERBST
EDITOR IN CHIEF

When Michael "Kip" Kiprop '07 learned about the political turmoil and rioting in his native country of Kenya he was devastated to see a once prosperous nation stricken by civil war and uncertainty.

Instead of watching idly he resolved to raise awareness through a letter writing campaign to members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives. Kiprop teamed with Romeo Raugai '06 and Tunde Bamigboye '07 to launch the effort and started with fundraisers in Boston and New York City, with an event planned for Thursday, Feb. 14 in the Marchese Blue Light Pub in Cotter Union.

"It's important to raise awareness about the current events in Kenya because as fellow members of a democracy, we must stand behind them as they defend their democratic process. As fellow human beings, we have an obligation to take action when men, women, and children do not have access to basic humanitarian services. Over 250,000 Kenyans have been displaced from their homes as a result of the political violence, with as many as 40 percent of them women and children," Raugai said.

According to Raugai, the initial response to the group's request for help from friends, family and coworkers has been "overwhelming." The Boston event attracted over 100 guests and the New York event brought in over 85. While the fundraisers were designed to raise funds for postage and printing costs, they also served a double purpose of providing concerned friends to sign letters to their congressmen and women.

"We aim to bring together students and young professionals (Africans and non-Africans alike) that are invested in these issues. Utilizing this network of concerned and motivated individuals, we aim to enact real, positive change through our organization," Raugai said.

Also, Student Government Association Secretary Joel Pitt '09 has orches-

trated an on-campus effort to collect letters and signatures to aid Africa-21. As of press time Pitt had 500 signed letters.

If successful, the letter writing campaign will be attempted at other colleges where the three organizers have contacts willing to get a program started. Kiprop said that by starting at Colby they could draw upon friends still at the College and gauge the response. Once the process is streamlined they will package the letter writing campaign and distribute it at other NESAC schools.

This Friday the organizers will mail the 500 letters collected on campus, those collected at recent fundraisers and any signed Thursday and mail them to lawmakers.

Recently the current issue in Kenya was the topic of a resolution passed in the Senate, introduced by Sen. Russ Feingold (D-Wis.). There is also a resolution in the U.S. House of Representatives working its way through committee. "It's a good start in the sense our legislators are

acknowledging the situation," Raugai said of these bills, adding "but in real terms it makes no commitments

[A]s members of a democracy, we must stand behind them as they defend their democratic process.

Romeo Raugai '06
Africa-21

for action on the behalf of the US government." Raugai said that action by President George W. Bush would be more effective in aiding the humanitarian crisis.

Raugai and Kiprop said that after this project, Africa-21 will use the network they have developed in order to raise awareness for other issues.

"Africa-21 aims to be more than an organization dedicated to aiding the humanitarian crisis in Kenya. We are a not-for-profit organization that seeks to initiate, support, and help enact policy changes that promote addressing socio-economic and political challenges in Africa through effective institutions rather than ethnic structures," Raugai said.

Kiprop was unavailable for an interview as of press time, but planned to be on campus Thursday for the fundraiser event. "Besides raising awareness about the issue, people will have a chance to sign letters petitioning their legislators to take the following actions: making a commitment to provide humanitarian aid, demanding an end to the political violence, and making a commitment to work with Kenya to restore democracy through new elections," Kiprop wrote of the event in a recent e-mail to the writer.

THIS WEEK'S ECHO

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Swim team wins CBB championship, Page 14

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Lecture series to act as voter guide

By JAMES BELTRAN
STAFF WRITER

The Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement is sponsoring talks under the series title "Know Before You Vote," in which there will be a lecture discussing the issues students should be aware of as they decide how to vote in the upcoming presidential elections this November.

Assistant Director of the Goldfarb Center Marnie Terhune who organized the talks, stated that since most students at the College will vote in presidential elections for the first time, it was important that the students were informed about broad policy areas and "the specific issues that fall under each." Terhune identified the environment, education, foreign policy, and the economy as issues she thought concerned most Americans, and in turn, represent the four lectures that will be given at the College. Terhune admits that these four choices were somewhat limited and expressed a willingness to add more topics to future talks if students were receptive.

According to Terhune, the talks were established as primers. "We hope to present the very basic issues or questions that need to be addressed within each of the four areas," she said. Terhune stated that the talks would ask what the specific approaches to various problems were as well as what the arguments for or against the adoption of a particular policy were. She continued that the talks would discuss how the political philosophy shapes the presidential candidates' approach to the issues. Terhune commented that the talks were meant to be objective and neutral: "The sessions are meant to be non-partisan and [try] to delve into why the parties take the positions they do."

Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies Philip Nyhus spoke about the environment in the lecture which occurred on the night of Feb. 12. He said, "We are facing unprecedented challenges with the environment" and that the next president of the United States will have to deal with such issues. Nyhus mentioned that most Americans care about the environment at least in principle and cited a survey in which 95 percent of Democrats, 85 percent of independents, and 65 percent of Republicans said they were concerned about the environment. Yet, despite this concern, Nyhus pointed out that the voting patterns of Americans regarding the environment have been negative.

Nyhus said that most Americans do not perceive the environment as a pressing issue because they tend to see the environment as a separate topic. Nyhus continued, however, that the environment was really one large issue and explained that the impact of air pollution is tied to taxes, national security, and international affairs. He showed a clip in which only three out of 2,275 media outlets in the United States mentioned the environment while other media outlets preferred to discuss the World Series and UFOs.

The United States was mentioned as having taken a huge step back, and Nyhus cited a list released by Yale University on January 2008 which ranked the United States 39th of all the countries in terms of progressive environmental initiatives. Nyhus said that the simple fact was that the United States was no longer a leader in environmental issues, and that Europe has taken that role. Nyhus said that the challenge for the next president will be whether to build a new coal plant, drill new oil, or invest in existing technologies which

help the environment. He stated the role that the next U.S. president will play in future environmental issues: "Next administration is going to determine our country's role in current and future environmental negotiations".

Gail Carson, who is a visiting assistant professor of the Environmental Studies Program, also spoke at the lecture. "All of the candidates in general are talking about climate change," she said, but continued that there was a significant difference in the depth and breadth of environmental issues discussed by the Republicans. Carson stated that Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton, and John McCain were graded by The League of Conservation Voters, with Obama attaining the score of 96 out of 100; Clinton a 90; and McCain a 26.

Carson then featured the websites of Obama, Clinton, McCain, and Mike Huckabee to show each presidential candidate's issues on the environment. Carson commented that Huckabee framed energy policy in terms of energy independence and that it was linked to security and war and terror. She continued that Huckabee did not mention global warming and that he preferred the market forces to dictate environmental policy. With regard to McCain, Carson said that he made a claim to be a leader in solving environmental issues. She explained that McCain had cosponsored a climate bill in Congress but that the bill died and was superseded by a bill which only made it out of committee. According to Carson, she said that McCain also claimed to support limits on carbon emissions but that he gave no definite numbers regarding a specific target to be reached.

The Democrats were mentioned by Carson as having both longer and even highly similar environmental policies. "Both have a plan for im-

proving energy efficiency. Both talk about reducing energy consumption in this country," Carson said. She continued that both Democratic candidates call for 25 percent of our electricity from renewable resources by 2025 and proposed a 150 billion dollar investment plan in developing alternative sources of energy. Tax breaks to oil and gas companies would be eliminated, and these industries would have to pay a windfall tax.

Carson also noted that Obama and Clinton support increasing fuel mileage standards for vehicles, with Obama calling for 40 miles per gallon by 2020 while Clinton proposed 55 miles per gallon by 2030. Carson mentioned that both Democratic presidential candidates wanted all buildings to be eventually "green," including all federal buildings in the United States. The candidates were also described by Carson as wanting to create five million new "green" jobs and that they wish to reinvigorate the United States' standing in the world through a new focus on environmental issues. Although neither Clinton nor Obama want nuclear power, Carson said that both recognized the need to find ways to safely dispose of nuclear waste.

"Whoever wins the election is going to have to face this incredible challenge that is climate change," Carson said to conclude the lecture. She reasoned that the next president will have to do something about the environment within the next two to three years, saying that if nothing is done by 2012, it will be too late to save the Earth's environment from irreversible changes. Carson said that the US environmental regulations have lost their strength due to the Bush administration and predicted that "we're likely to see major changes in US environmental policy since the 1970s."

LEGEND RETIRES



Security officer Larry Graham retired from the College last week.

SGA polls student desires

Survey e-mailed to student body

By KATHLEEN MAYNARD
NEWS STAFF

As finals approached last December, and students hopped up in their dorm rooms to study, Student Government Association Treasurer Tim Williams '08 decided to provide some productive procrastination in the form of a campus-wide survey on *What Would Improve the Colby Experience*. As it turned out, 120 students, roughly 8 percent of the student body needed a study break that day and took the time to give Williams feedback.

Based on results, students' desire for improvement runs the gamut from intense to practically nonexistent. One sophomore student wrote, "My Colby experience would be better if, the administration wasn't run by money-grubbing self-indulgent chauvinistic maniacally twisted assholes, and were instead true patrons of the furthestmost of a truly priceless education of the future of the world geared toward peace and understanding rather than the perpetual corporate machine we are made to believe we want to be rulers of." When asked to provide more specific feedback, this individual was stumped. Another student wrote, "Bring back the Crunchberries!"

Many students made constructive and practical comments. Academically, students recommended the art and photography departments be bolstered, and that minors, such as photojournalism, journalism and Arabic be added. Students also suggested that introductory classes be offered both semesters. No-

tably, the timing of the survey coincided with the completion of many mid-year graduates experience at the College (J-Grads). These individuals commented that this misnomer should be eliminated, since they in fact graduate in December. More broadly, they felt that the commencement of a J-Grad should be made more climactic.

Socially, students expressed the need for increased community building. One recommendation was that white boards be mounted in Pulver for public, informal messaging. One senior said, "I love the Colby I know, but the fact remains that we need to get out as a campus and do things TOGETHER. Support each other! Go to events we have never been to before." One student suggested that greater socio-economic diversity would improve social dynamics on campus.

Facility-wise, students asked for renovations in Miller Library, a new climbing wall, improved lighting between Roberts Union and the Athletic Center, and décor in Pulver Pavilion that would downplay its airport-terminal reputation. Furthermore, it was suggested that entry to science buildings be regulated by a card-reader all the time in order to accommodate students doing research. One person commented, "There is no scale on campus," while someone else asked for more thorough vegetarian and vegan options, and a third requested new ice cream flavors.

As it turns out, most of the improvements were fairly minor and are being addressed by SGA working groups during this semester. Williams responded to each individual who participated in the survey and will follow up on people's ideas to the greatest extent possible. Fortunately, the Colby experience is generally faring well.

Green policies promoted

From FOCUS THE NATION, Page 1

participating in the event in an Environmental Advisory Group meeting last year. Because so many other schools were participating and the College hadn't yet done any projects focusing on climate change, various people associated with the Environmental Studies department decided to run a version of the event. Tucker Gorman '10, one of the lead planners, spent much of his January working with PPD on campus sustainability projects, which paralleled organizing the event. He said that Focus was a mostly student-run exposition, where participants were encouraged to do what interested them. The most important aspect, he said, was raising awareness and getting people "to act out."

Through student-designed exhibits and informational video clips shown during dinner, the message about climate change was clearly presented to

the campus community.

Those inspired to combat climate change have many ways of participating at the College. Gorman encourages all interested to come to Environmental Coalition meetings on Tues. and Thurs. in Goddard-Hodgkins at 8:30 p.m. He cited the current clothing recycling project, with collection bins across campus, as one of the group's biggest achievements to date. Additionally, the Coalition has many other projects in planning, including hand towels in dorm bathrooms, more clotheslines on campus and a potential communal bike program, where students can rent or buy used bikes. Students can also help plan next year's Focus event, as well as the upcoming Earth Week.

Everyone can help out in their own way, Gorman believes. "Lots of little things are important," he said. "It's kind of cliché, but it's true. We try to encourage people to not just sit around and play video games but be constructive and use your time well."

Unusual courses of action taken to attend concert

From GIRL TALK, Page 1

dents who desperately wish to attend a concert but did not manage to secure a ticket."

"We did not anticipate that students would stoop so low as to scalp tickets to fellow Colby students and we would like to officially discourage such behavior," Geringer-Dunn said.

Others created counterfeit wristbands through various methods, complicating the job of SPB staffers working to keep the venue safe Friday night "We encountered a large number of fake wristbands," Geringer-Dunn said, adding that "while we appreciate the demand for the show and the lengths to which people went to get in, it makes our jobs much more difficult in terms of being able to regulate the number of people inside the concert and control the overall show. The last thing we wanted to happen was for Security to deem the concert overcrowded and unsafe and shut down the concert early." Perille said that the existence of fake wristbands spoke to the success of the concert. "It is pretty amazing what lengths people went to in order to get into the concert, and it reflects on the show's appeal."

SPB officials confiscated several fake wristbands. However, many students did gain access to the concert with fake wristbands.

Once in the concert students found capacity crowds and as promised, the "livest" show ever on Mayflower Hill.



Students crowded into Page Commons on the night of Friday, Feb. 8 to hear the "mashup" DJ Girl Talk perform.

While some students objected to certain comments made by Girl Talk (See Letter to the Editor, Page 5) SPB members considered the concert an amazing success based on the turnout and enthusiasm of students in attendance, and felt that the questionable comments did not detract from the quality of the concert.

Of the controversial statements made by Girl Talk, Geringer-Dunn said, "He is an artist and a performer and as such he is allowed to choose what he wants

to say or not say during his performance. I think a certain level of spontaneity should be expected during any live concert and it might not always be what people want to hear."

Geringer-Dunn said that changes will be made in order to avoid the issues that arose last weekend. The CLM committee's next concert in April will be held in the Wadsworth Gymnasium, which according to Geringer-Dunn can hold the 1,800 students at the College and an additional 700 guests. He de-

clined to release any details of the upcoming concert at this time.

"Every time that we put on an event, we look for what we might improve and refine in the future," Perille said.

Also, if tickets are scarce the SPB will reassess how they distribute tickets. "Perhaps in the future we will have to implement a lottery system if there are shows which are in high demand and cannot be moved into a larger venue, but I certainly hope we will not be put in that situation again."

Colby College Department of Security Incident Report Log

Nature:	Date:	Time:	Location:	Disposition:
Bias Incident	2/1/08	11:00 p.m.	Mary Low/ Coburn Hall	Deans Office
Fire Alarm	2/3/08	1:38 a.m.	Coburn Hall	WTVL Fire/ Deans Security
Auto Accident	2/8/08	8:47 p.m.	Colby Gardens	Deans Office
Alcohol Violation	2/8/08	10:47 p.m.	Cotter Union	Maine General
Medical Response	2/9/08	11:36 p.m.	Cotter Union	Maine General
Medical Response	2/9/08	12:40 a.m.	Cotter Union	Deans Office
Vandalism	2/10/08	12:05 p.m.	Cotter Union	Maine General
Medical Response	2/10/08	1:49 a.m.	Mary Low Annex	Deans Office
Vandalism	2/11/08	8:38 a.m.	Johnson Hall	Deans Office

Comments:
Racist comments written on board.
Smoke from fireplace set off alarms.
Colby shuttle backed into vehicle.
Open container, Underage Drinking.
Alcohol.
Alcohol.
Broken ceiling tiles.
Alcohol.
Graffiti burned into pillar.

BOOKS TOYS & MORE TOYS BOOKS & MORE
CHILDREN'S BOOK CELLAR
BOOKS GAMES TOYS
872-4543
kidsbookscellar@verizon.net

Both Conveniently Located At
52 Main St. & 25 East Concourse, Waterville

RE-BOOKS
USED BOOKS
BOUGHT & SOLD
877-2484
books@re-books.com
BOOKS TOYS & MORE TOYS BOOKS & MORE

Dorm damage normal

Colby Gardens surpasses Alford damage

By SUZANNE MERKELSON
MANAGING EDITOR

As students receive e-mails about the previous semester's dorm damage, the campus response is predictable. Each semester is proclaimed the "worst one ever," angry Community Digests are written and people speculate about the causes for the damage. Fall was no exception to that rule. In particular, Heights, the Colby Gardens and the Alford Apartments were perceived to have especially high fines.

The Colby Gardens had the highest total dorm damage costs per resident of \$68.03. This is surprising, said head resident Molly Biddiscombe '10, because the Gardens receives the fewest visitors. "These acts are very intentional," Biddiscombe said. "It's more than just people being drunk." While the majority of residents aren't responsible for the majority of the damage, Biddiscombe believes that damage was caused by a few individuals. "These are people who rent living [in the Gardens] and thus act out."

Contrary to this popular belief, dorm damage last fall in the Apartments was significantly lower than the fall semester a year before. This year, residents paid \$41.19 per person for the \$4322.95 total in damage and fines, compared with \$69.19 for total damage and fines of \$7404.50 from the fall 2006 semester.

Anna Barnwell '08, the Apartments' manager for this year, said her experience agreed with the aforementioned evidence. She said that dorm damage is not particularly worse in the Apart-

ments, and any damage that does occur happens because the complex is a high traffic area. "It's not the residents [of the Apartments]," she said. "They don't want to have to pay for the damage. In general, people take ownership of where they live."

Barnwell works with her residents to try to combat dorm damage in the apartments, especially by trying to find the person responsible for any specific incidents of damage. "Open communication with residents is really important," she said. "Also, Security does a good job of helping out HRs and PPD works quickly [to fix damage]."

Heights saw slightly different results. This past fall, residents paid \$40.72 per person, while the previous fall saw dorm damage costs of \$14.66 per person. Heights head resident Andy McEvoy '09 said that damage in Heights was "not particularly worse [this fall]. It's not a specific problem. The dorm has lots of quads and parties. All of this traffic leads to dorm damage."

McEvoy admits that Heights has a negative reputation but attributes this to "different atmospheres in different dorms." Heights is a dorm that is "hyped more." He agreed with much of what Barnwell had to say, especially with the idea that dorm damage is caused "almost always by non-residents" and as a result of party overflow. The Colby Gardens had the highest total.

While this year's damage costs might not be relatively high in comparison to other years, they are nonetheless significant. Aside from hiring more HRs and security, according to McEvoy change needs to come from "the culture of the students."

"People need to act like adults," said Barnwell. "A dorm may be a free living space, but people do live there. In real life, if you destroy a toilet, you have to pay for it. It's not split with others."

New faces at SGA

PC discusses fate of student escort program

By KRIS MIRANDA
COPY EDITOR

The Student Government Association's Feb. 10 meeting had a short agenda but was noteworthy for some personnel changes. Tory Starr '09, back from a semester abroad, took up her position as junior class representative alongside Sam Hoff. Starr's fall proxy, Dan Heinrich, was appointed to the recently vacated hall presidency of Heights.

As of the time of publication, there are four or five other openings to be filled, according to SGA President Nicholas Cade '08; interviews began on Feb. 11. "We just want to make sure that SGA is as representative and responsive to the needs of the student body as possible," Cade said, noting also that representatives had left for a variety of reasons. "We're constantly trying to improve ourselves."

Heinrich's appointment was the only agenda item, so SGA Secretary Joel Pitt '09, who helped the Office of Security and Students Against Sexual Assault start last semester's student escort service in the wake of two assaults that occurred within a month of each other, asked for reports on constituent responses to the program. Several representatives said that many of their constituents weren't aware of it. Those whose constituents were aware conveyed generally positive but somewhat uninterested sentiments about the program; very few received offers to volunteer.

Danielle Stillman '10 (West Quad) reported that some of her residents didn't think they would feel comfortable using student escorts. Alex Aitoro '10 (Foss) and senior class representative Cassie Jendzejec relayed suggestions that salaried positions might ensure escorts' commitment to the job, to which

Loredana Popescu '10 (Colby Gardens) expressed some surprise. Many of Popescu's residents are juniors who were abroad last semester, and conveyed sentiments that the program, if effective, would be so due to its volunteer basis, not in spite of it.

Popescu and Phoebe Cabot '10 (Drummond) had both been asked how much the program was being used; Pitt's records show 12 to 20 escorts per night. While some representatives received feedback that the service is unnecessary, Katie Todd '10 (Johnson) received an offer from a varsity lacrosse constituent who "basically volunteered the whole lacrosse team" to be escorts. Heinrich also received a football player's suggestion that in-season athletes be tapped, "as a way to give back" to the campus community.

Senior class representative Sarah Switchenko was "shocked" that many students were

apparently unaware of the program's existence. "It's our job to inform our class or dorms," she said of PC. Cabot and Starr also suggested a more vigorous publicity campaign should the service be continued, which is likely but not necessarily certain.

Jendzejec and Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Jim Terhune both noted that student escorts lighten Security's load. Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Campus Life Kelly Wharton added that especially when Security is called for rides, they can sometimes take up to an hour to get to students; escorts on foot actually have a faster response time.

Sophomore class representative Michelle Graff relayed a head resident's suggestion that any continuation of the service could benefit from being modeled after HR duty rounds, including making the escorts' mobile phone numbers available, which might speed up response time. With the current system, people requesting escorts call the Security dispatcher, who then notifies the escorts on duty.

CAUCUS 08



Constituents moved from one side of the room to another to indicate their support for either Clinton or Obama.

Maine supports Obama in record vote

From CAUCUS, Page 1

omy in detail, noting that her mother has a plan to put together a stimulus package if elected. Clinton continued on about the economy, detailing how her mother would handle the sub-prime mortgage crisis that is currently ongoing in the United States as President. As reported in the *Morning Sentinel*, Clinton said that if elected, her mother would push for a 90-day moratorium on home foreclosures, freeze adjustable rate mortgages and provide emergency assistance on property taxes.

The Clinton campaign was hopeful to take a victory in Maine because the state's demographics have had the tendency to vote in her favor elsewhere. As reported in the *New York Times Politics Blog*, "The state's demographics fit the profile of those who have voted for her elsewhere: many voters are older, blue-collar and largely high-school educated; they make less than \$50,000 and are concerned about health care and the economy. As of the spring, when the last statewide poll was done, Mrs. Clinton was 17 percentage points ahead of Mr. Obama."

Hillary Clinton herself held a town hall-type gathering at the University of Maine at Orono and later stopped in Lewiston.

BARACK DRAWS THOUSANDS TO BANGOR

Barack Obama came to Bangor on Sunday to conduct his "Stand for Change" rally which took place in the Bangor Auditorium for a crowd of almost 6,000 people, with more than 1,000 turned away at the door.

In front of a banner declaring, "Change We Can Believe In," Obama spoke about issues like military policy, education, and the need to accept alternative lifestyles. On education he noted, "The problem is we don't have a sense of urgency [about education]... Well if there are poor children here who are not getting a good education that is a problem for all of us because they are all our children." He then went on to describe his distaste for assessing "high standards" through a standardized test—involving an allusion to the widely unpopular and criticized "No Child Left Behind" Act—and asserted the need for more funding for music and the arts in schools.

Toward the end of the speech, he reiterated his overall message for change, as he described his desire to transform the character of the system itself. "I don't like hearing cynicism passed off

as wisdom," he said. "I don't like people saying we can't do better than this so let's just settle in the status quo. I want people to believe in what they feel in their gut. I want us to do better."

Of the rally, Suzanne Merkelson '09 said, "The energy and sheer numbers of people that showed up was just as impressive as his speech."

Sunday's caucus

MAINE VOTERS SET STATE RECORDS; COLLEGE PLAYS ROLE

With 99 percent of precincts here in Maine reporting, Obama won by 20 points and came away with 15 of the state's delegates to Clinton's nine. Obama's win in Maine came just after he picked up a string of victories in Louisiana, Nebraska and Washington.

The number of constituents who turned out to vote is staggering. Democratic Party executive director Arden Manning told the *Morning Sentinel* that the previous record had been set in 2004 when 17,000 voted in the contest between Howard Dean and John Kerry. In turn, most voters described sentiments of excitement and pride in attending the caucus; yet logistical issues that came up because of the sizable turnout were frustrating to some. Voters in Waterville contended with extremely crowded corridors in the high school, long lines to register, and delays on the speeches. As one local resident who asked her name not to be printed said, "Nobody seems to know much of what's going on, I'm sorry to say."

Students from the College also felt the frustration because many who had registered on campus found themselves not on lists once arriving at Waterville High; caucus officials rectified this situation by allowing these students to forego the registration line.

Some in attendance had clearly come to the event with their minds made up, sporting Vote for Hillary pins or Obama 2008 stickers—but others remained undecided until the last moment. Nicolas Porot '10, a student from Los Angeles who attended the Maine Caucus for the first time, was one such voter. "I'm pretty much undecided right now," he said. "I went and saw Barack Obama yesterday in Bangor and he has an electrifying personality... even though his agenda is not as hard-fast as Hillary's, I think we need that kind of charisma in this country, after being jaded for eight straight years." He indicated that he was leaning toward Obama but was still uncertain upon entering Waterville High School, the site

of the local precinct's caucus.

The general trend of students from the College interviewed for the article was to be leaning in this direction, if not an ardent supporter already. Emma Gildesgame '10 said, "Obama wants to make the government more honest and more 'with the people,' instead of special interest groups. He wants to put more money into health care and alternative energy, and I just think he is a lot more charismatic."

These sentiments transformed later into votes: In the ward in which Colby students were eligible to vote (Ward 3), five delegates were designated by the voters to support Obama, with only one going to Clinton.

Looking forward

As reported by the *New York Times*, Obama acknowledged his victory in Virginia Beach later that day. He said, "We won by a sizable margin in Maine and I want to thank the people of Maine. We have now won on the Atlantic coast, we've won in the Gulf Coast, we won on the Pacific Coast and we won in between those coasts."

Obama has swept the all of the primaries and caucuses in February since Super Tuesday, including Maine, Washington State, Louisiana, and Nebraska. Furthermore, just before the time of publication, Obama has been announced as the projected winner of the Virginia, Washington D.C., and Maryland primaries—all by wide margins. These victories are especially significant because Obama showed well among groups that have previously favored Clinton, such as older voters, women, and lower-income individuals. He also won the votes of the majority of white men in these three contests.

This type of momentum is beneficial for his candidacy as he continues on into other primaries such as Ohio and Texas. Analysts of the Clinton campaign have deemed she must win to continue on toward securing the nomination.

Such a competitive political process within the Democratic party is exciting to watch unfold, but can be divisive by nature. As *New York Times* columnist Bob Herbert wrote, "The Democrats are entering a weird stage of the campaign. Some of the euphoria about the history-making aspects of the Clinton and Obama campaigns is giving way to anxiety over how long their fight for the nomination will continue, and whether that long and increasingly bitter struggle is damaging the party's chances in November."

Burst the Bubble week planned

By CHARLIE EICHACKER
NEWS STAFF

Next week from Feb. 18 to 23, the Colby Waterville Alliance (CWA) will sponsor the Burst the Bubble week. Since it first occurred in 2003, Burst the Bubble Week has sought to address the physical and social divide between students and members of the greater Waterville area.

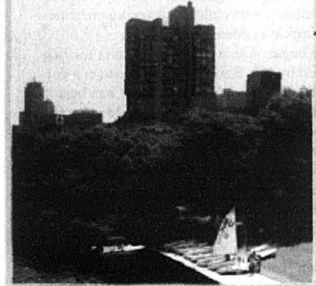
According to the group at thefacebook.com that exists for this year's Bubble week, it will attempt to "burst the proverbial bubble around Colby's campus [and] promote intermingling between Colby and Waterville residents." To bring students and Waterville community members together, the CWA has arranged a series of events, all happening either in Waterville or at the College.

The week will kick off on Monday with the second-ever Chill in the 'Ville festival, hosted by the CWA and held downtown at the REM Forum. Chill in the 'Ville will consist of refreshments and musical performances by groups like the Colby jazz band and the Megalomaniacs. Activities continue on Tuesday with a sledding competition on Runnalls Hill which is open to all members of the greater Waterville area. There will be prizes for things like best-dressed and, additionally, free hot cocoa and food. On Wednesday, the CWA, working together with the Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement, has organized a panel discussion on recent and future growth in the Waterville area. The panel, entitled "Survival to Revival: The Revitalization of Waterville," will be held at 7 p.m. in the Diamond Building's Ostrove Auditorium. According to Steve Erario '10, co-director of the CWA, the discussion is supposed to be one of the more significant events of the week, as it "will examine past, present, and future developments and their implications for our community through the perspective of state and local leaders as well as members of the Colby community."

On Thursday, the opening of the local Blue Marble Art Gallery will coincide with Get Up Downtown, an event hosted by both Waterville Maine Street and the Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement. The focus of the week will shift to local restaurants on Friday, as establishments like the new Cancun Mexican Restaurant, Mainly Brews, and Thai Bistro will be offering discounts to any students presenting Colby IDs. Finally, Burst the Bubble Week culminates on Saturday with a battle of the bands at the Waterville Opera House. The competition will feature bands from Waterville High School, the Waterville community, and the College, and its winner will perform at the second annual Hill and the 'Ville festival in fall of 2008.

The organizers of this year's event, Erario and Jake Fisher '10, have both taken up the reigns from last year's Burst the Bubble organizers. They feel confident in the success of this year's Burst the Bubble Week and encourage all members of the Colby community to participate. "It's really exciting to see where this is going to go," Erario said.

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OPINIONS

EDITORIAL

Know before you vote

Last weekend, hundreds of students turned out for the Democratic caucus here in Waterville, joining record-breaking numbers of other Maine residents. The tightness of the race for the Democratic nomination brought national attention to the 24 delegates up for grabs in last Sunday's caucus, and brought politicians and other noteworthy individuals to the campuses of Maine colleges and to cities across the state.

This spring, the Goldfarb Center is offering a series of events entitled "Know Before You Vote," featuring a different topic pertinent to the upcoming presidential general election in November 2008. The series draws upon the expertise of the College's faculty in order to introduce topics to students and make them aware of the competing interests and nuanced issues within each topic. As part of a student publication, we feel that this issue is particularly important, given the mass media's penchant for covering the campaign over the issues. While the series is a little too late to educate students on candidates in this year's primaries and caucuses, it reinforces a statement that is crucially important and universally applicable: quite simply, know before you vote!

Whether you are voting for the next president of the United States, or for the city councilor from the fifth ward, simply choosing a candidate because he or she represents your preferred party is unacceptable.

Your decision to vote in an election needs to be the result of careful consideration and a diligent amount of research. We don't usually highlight a specific event in this space, but the upcoming Goldfarb series are an important opportunity for students to find out the facts about the larger issues facing the nation, not just the upcoming presidential election. While there may be only a couple of options in that election, you will have far more decisions to make when you step into that voter booth or fill out that absentee ballot next fall. Furthermore, in order to be a responsible citizen, it is necessary to be informed about issues like the economy and the environment, even if you're an art or math major.

Learning more about the issues presented this spring gives you a solid place to start your process of deciding who you support, what you stand for, and what issues you value the most. Then, at the end of the day, you can make an informed decision that you feel good about and truly understand.

There is a certain amount of political apathy on this campus. True, the Democratic caucus brought students out of their dorms, but definitely not in the numbers that Girl Talk did. It is irrelevant whether or not you agree with the way politics in this country are run. This system is here to stay until there is action to change it, and it is our great privilege to be as involved as we choose to be. It is difficult to fully express the enormity of this gift because our American generation knows no other reality. In our lifetime, in our country, we are given a voice. We should be proud of what we have to say, and before all, we must educate ourselves as to what we are even saying.

We have to recognize the importance of voting, but, even more so, we need to understand what the issues are that we are voting for. It's not only our duty to ourselves as informed students, but also what we owe our neighbors as responsible citizens.

It's all right to talk to strangers

Praising passion and celebrating commitment

JENNIFER COX



"Whew!" a young man unzipped his jacket as he burst into the campaign office with a rush of frigid air and a gaggle of canvassers. "That was interesting," he said loudly to no one in particular. His face was still bright pink from the negative temperatures, and as he sat down on the couch he exhaled the first invisible breath he had probably sighed all night. Those of us who had been inside making phone calls turned to listen as he rattled off the standard canvassing milestones: the passionate political discussions, the loose dogs, the friendly John Edwards supporters, the endless driveways, and the scathing lectures followed by the quick slamming of the door.

At one house, a woman was more than annoyed at his visit. She was irate. "Who are you campaigning for?" she asked before he even had a chance to open his mouth. "Senator Edwards, ma'am," he replied. "Well," she snapped, "that's very unfortunate because I was going to vote for him. When I heard the doorbell ring, I said to myself, 'If this has anything to do with politics, I will absolutely not vote for whomever they are representing.' I'm sorry to say this, but you just lost a vote for Mr. Edwards." Confused and upset, the boy begged her to reconsider. "Senator Edwards has nothing to do with me being here; I'm volunteering on my own accord. I drove up from Virginia to work on his campaign, and I've been out in this weather for hours. I'm really sorry for interrupting you, but is there anything I can do to change your mind?" The answer was a hearty "No."

It's understandable that primary season in New Hampshire could leave many people jaded. From early summer through January, they are peppered with phone calls, knocks on their doors and pamphlets in their mailboxes. By January, the campaigns are at the peak of their desperation. Almost every night, each

household will receive a phone call from almost every candidate. For some people, this is heaven. They happily answer the calls, eager to discuss the candidates and the issues. Others are dead-set on a candidate and respectfully decline the interaction. Still others, an unfortunately surprising number of people, react violently to any political confrontation. These people are appalled and offended that someone would have the audacity to contact them. Hanging up the phone or shutting the door isn't enough. Instead, they have a well-rehearsed rant that they spew at anyone who tries to talk politics to them.

While I think that it would be ideal for everyone to be deeply involved with politics, our level of involvement is a personal decision. We should be able to choose the amount of time and energy we allot to a cause. This level of commitment is usually dictated by our amount of free time, our comfort zones, and our magni-

Their words sting, but I wonder if they are anything more than selfish. Perhaps they are decided, but hundreds of other people are not.

tude of motivation. It is a blessing that we have the ability to be as distant or intimate with our political process as we wish. I do not believe, however, that we should ever condemn dedication or self-sacrifice on a cause not motivated by self-interest. Passion is one of the most valuable traits a person can possess. Obviously, the Virginian canvasser didn't freeze his fingers off for fun. He was pushing for something that he believed was right, and simply asking that woman to listen. Her reaction was immature, uncalled for and rude. She should have been

praising passion. She should have been celebrating commitment. Instead, she couldn't remove herself far enough from her life to see that he had not walked for hours in the cold to harass her. He just wanted to be heard.

We have all been on the inside of the door, looking out our windows wearily as the strangers approach. Maybe talking to them will interrupt our laundry, but I think this type of passion should be respected and rewarded. Though the past few months have been dominated by political discussion, this applies to any type of belief, whether it is religious, academic, or social. It is almost natural to be annoyed and uncomfortable with someone bringing their foreign ideas to a place we feel completely safe. For some, it is the mere concept of people peddling ways of life or points of view. If they had absolute confidence in their beliefs, however, they would not feel threatened by open discussion. It is valuable, and far from a waste of time. For other people, it is simply the means of communication that perturbs them. "Do you really think a stranger at my door is going to change my mind? Do you honestly think a phone call from someone I've never met is going to influence my opinion?" Their words sting, but I wonder if they are anything more than selfish. Perhaps they are decided, but hundreds of other people are not. Hundreds of other people would revel in a conversation. Hundreds of other ears are open and waiting.

If it's not your style, I can respect that. But respect that it may be someone else's style, and at least deliver the blow with tact and politeness. Never condemn anyone for caring about something, as long as they are being respectful in their presentation. Appreciate the selfless things and the time that people give up for them, whether or not it is something you are interested in. Thank you, to whoever woke up early to put the Obama door handles on every door in my dorm. Thank you, to whoever distributed the Relay for Life flyers. Thank you to every single person who uses his or her voice for any type of greater good. Appreciate passion, support it if you can, and if nothing else make sure that you never, ever crush it.

THE COLBY ECHO

PUBLISHED BY THE STUDENTS OF COLBY COLLEGE SINCE 1877

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LETTERS

The Echo encourages letters from its readers, especially those within the immediate community. Letters should not exceed 400 words and pertain to a current topic or issue. However, the Echo reserves the right to run longer letters. Also, the Echo reserves the right to edit submissions for grammar and clarity and may choose not to run a letter. The Echo will not, under any circumstances print an unsigned letter.

Letters are due to the Echo by midnight of the Sunday preceding the publication date. They should be submitted via e-mail to echo@colby.edu and be in a text only format.

OPINIONS PAGE

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The Echo welcomes column and cartoon submissions from members of the Colby community.

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Mind over what really matters

How a few days of meditation turned into thinking about a life-long challenge

NINA GOLD



I hauled myself — body, mind, and spirit — tensored somewhere in between — to Colby the morning of Friday, Feb. 1 to participate in a workshop sponsored by the Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement called "Cultivating Mindfulness and Compassion in Relationship." Professor Tarja Raag had asked me to take part as an adjunct to psychological research we will be completing this spring. The workshop was organized by three Colby faculty members and a Colby psychological counselor: Raag, psychology; William Edelglass, philosophy; Bevin Engman, art; and Jing Ye, who works at the Health Center.

I left my house in Massachusetts at 5 a.m. in order to arrive by 9, the start of the retreat. When I arrived, I found 31 square cushions, each one dotted with a smaller circular pillow on top. Most of the participants had already seated themselves, cross-legged. The majority were adults, and strangers.

We began that morning by introducing ourselves and explaining why we were participating in the workshop. Many were counselors or therapists from the local community, looking for a way to improve their work; some were Colby professors, hoping to find a new way to connect to the academic experience; others were students, looking to enhance their personal understanding. Many of the participants work closely with children or for organizations that support children's needs.

We began with a 15 minute sitting meditation led by Zen Buddhist Brian Lesage, a college friend of Edelglass'. Lesage has been a practicing Buddhist for more than 20 years and now leads meditation retreats across the United States. He explained that the practice of mindfulness is not a technique or a strategy, but simply an awareness of the present moment. Mindful meditation does not involve visualization or even the pursuit of relaxation.

This is it: You sit in a comfortable, attentive position. You close your eyes. You feel the sensation of your abdomen rising and falling with

each breath that you take. If you sense another physical feeling, such as warmth in your chest or pins and needles in your feet, you simply acknowledge that feeling. Greet it. Take interest in how it affects your body. Then continue sitting with that awareness, harboring no intention to fix or change. As other thoughts arise, you greet them, too. Label them, using words such as "wandering" or "fantasizing." Then return to the sensation of each breath. When your mind comes back to the physical reality, you are not to berate it for drifting. Rather, you reward yourself for being present again, saying in silence: "Yeah, I'm back."

We sat several times for 15 to 30 minutes during each day of the five-day workshop. After only two or three sittings, I sensed my body and mind communicating in a new way. Some of my friends have described feeling an ethereal lightness while playing music, while others I know tap into that realm of consciousness by chopping wood with a heavy ax. Others still find it only when stoned. I found it, miraculously, by sitting entirely still. I heard my mind say things like, "I feel nervous." My body would reply with a whole host of answers: a fluttering in my chest, heat on my forehead, a tightening in my throat. My mind would listen, interested in each new feeling that arose. Then my body would allow the feeling to dissipate away, leaving my mind quiet.

This same approach was brought to walking

meditation, an exercise during which you focus on the sensation of the ground against your feet while traveling slowly forward. We also tried out "mindful movement" each day, led through a series of stretches, shakes, and snacks by counselor Jing Ye. At times I felt skeptical of the whole thing. Really, was I spending five days just sitting, walking, and listening, when I had better things to do with my time? And then I thought: I would have been doing those things anyway; I just wouldn't have been paying attention.

The most rewarding component of the workshop was the make up of "mindfulness dyads" and interaction exercises. We paired up with another participant, attempting to draw mindfulness into the new relationship. Sometimes I found my eyes staring unwaveringly into my partner's. Other times I felt my stomach heaving into giggles when we spoke. Every time, partners attempted to give each other something rare: honesty and openness. During the final sharing circle of the workshop, several of the women from the community expressed how deeply they were touched by the presence of Colby students. Their words landed gently against my throat. I felt the same deep gratitude for their company.

It is difficult to know how to carry mindfulness forth in my life as a student. I realize now that a disciplined mind is not one that ignores physical sensations, but rather one sharp enough to focus on them. The constant stimuli of student life try the patient pace of mindful communication, but I attempt to be present both while I am alone and with others. "How are you?" has become a question more worthy of asking and answering with sincerity. When I listen to the response, I am surprised by how much authenticity already lives here, a small gift for anyone willing to take a deep breath and greet it.

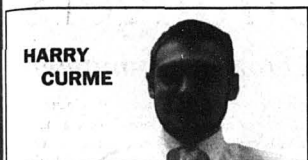
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Saying 'yes' to 'Dr. No': A look at Ron Paul



HARRY CURME

A Republican candidate of change who should be kept in the game

On Feb. 2, 2008, the city of Waterville voted for its nomination for the Republican presidential nominee. The victor of the popular vote was Rep. Ron Paul (R-TX), with a plurality of 20/50 votes. The votes did not technically count, however, because they were just a survey by the Maine GOP. What did count were the delegates who signed up at the caucus to cast their votes on the weekend of May 2, and what mattered more was that the chief of the delegates was Neal Patterson, a staff computer programmer here at Colby. He is in charge of choosing the delegates among those who signed up, and as a Paul supporter, he undoubtedly will seek to have the number of supporters in the majority for the Augusta convention. I am a fellow Paul supporter. I have signed up to be a delegate, and this is why I support him:

Paul is known in Congress as "Dr. No," because he is a doctor (OB/GYN) and because he never votes for legislation that goes against the Constitution. He is a strict constructionist and has been called "The Champion of the Constitution." He ran as a Libertarian in 1988, and his platform hasn't changed since. He is a Republican in the strictest sense of the word, believing in limited government, low taxes, low spending, personal liberty, sound money, and a humble foreign policy. He is known for consistent, principled integrity. Lobbyists don't even bother visiting his office, and he has taken no money from any special interest group.

Paul was one of the few Republican congressmen to oppose the Iraq war from the start, and has been fighting it ever since. If elected, he would bring the troops home immediately. Paul believes that a strong military is our "homeland security," and should remain in defense of America, not in the business of nation building. He also believes that if we must go to war, then the Congress should legally declare it instead of getting entangled in a long, drawn out, expensive overseas mess. He knows that our government's arrogant, unilateral foreign policy (such as bombing Iraq for the last ten years) has angered Muslims enough to cause terrorist strikes, and the notion that they "hate our freedoms" is simplistic and childish. If elected, he would bring the troops home immediately.

His second action, he often says, would be to dismantle the IRS and the Federal Reserve. Ever since George W. Bush's election, the Federal government's budget has increased by maddening levels. The income tax, what you pay when you write a 1040 form, only accounts for about a third of total federal governmental revenue. If spending levels were reduced to that of pre-Bush years, you could comfortably live without paying federal income tax. Paul also believes that the Federal Reserve is unconstitutional (it is, after all, a private bank with no governmental oversight or auditing designed to mimic the gold standard), and he would let gold and silver be traded as currency alongside paper money, as the Constitution mandates. He is the only candidate who speaks frequently about America's dire economic situation. Where many other candidates would continue to borrow from foreign nations or print money and cause even more inflation, Paul would restore fiscal responsibility and prosperity to America.

Paul has never voted to restrict American freedoms. He is against the PATRIOT Act, regulation of the Internet, the reinstating of the draft, and the war on drugs. He is a true Libertarian, one who believes that government's role is to protect life and liberty of all people, and that people are free to do as they please so long as it does not infringe on others' rights to life, liberty and property. But the government does do some good things, right? There's such a thing as regulation and laws for a reason, but Paul believes that the federal government has grown too powerful and corrupt, and that power should be returned to individual states to deal with their own matters. Roads and schools will not disappear, but wasteful and poorly executed legislation such as No Child Left Behind will. I admire Paul for being the candidate to choose for real change, instead of electing a vote panderer. Most Republicans and Democrats are really just puppets controlled by the same puppeteer. If he wasn't a threat to corporate interests, why would there be such a big media campaign to silence him? Google Paul or go to ronpaul2008.com for more information about the true voice of Liberty.

Reverse culture shock and the primaries

Looking back into the heart of the nation after months of living outside

When I was in Madagascar...I hate having to start a column like this. I hate being that girl. You know, the one who had a life-changing experience while studying abroad, and now comes home and subjects everyone to having to hear all about it. So I've been trying not to; I think it's kind of a relief for both me and whomever I'm talking with. My strategy is to tell a funny story about dropping my shoe down a latrine hole or the time I told my host mom I was aroused to meet her, and we go about our ways, both satisfied with the experience. That was the plan I developed while still in Africa, and it's been pretty successful.

I thought that explaining the utter breadth of the past five months in a sentence or two would be the most difficult part about returning from studying abroad. I was really excited to come back to America and to Colby. I didn't think "reverse culture-shock" would be a problem. It is. Readjusting to things like hot showers and grocery stores hasn't been the hard part, but lack of so-called amenities wasn't the hard part of being abroad. It was hard to be separated from the people I love, hard to be an outsider and different (and be reminded of the fact every time I walked down the street), hard to

express myself in a language not my own. And now that those things are "back to normal," I don't find myself feeling normal.

Obviously, things are the same as always. It's my reaction to them that's different. I expected things like the Girl Talk concert last Friday to be overwhelming (as it was, I'm sure, for many of the Colby community). I didn't expect a similar feeling attending the Obama rally in Bangor the next day (as a side note, to be fair, I tried to attend Clinton's rally in Orono that day as well, but wasn't able to get in).

"This is history in the making," I heard a dad tell his kids while waiting in line to see the presidential hopeful speak. I was pretty excited myself; I had been feeling uninformed and disillusioned about the primary season, having spent most of it on another continent. Everyone else seemed to be so passionate and involved; I felt kind of guilty for not doing so. With the rally, I saw my chance.

Obama was inspirational, I guess. He was an amazing speaker, and I found myself agreeing with most of what he said. Still, I was creeped out. People were chanting things in unison,

SUZANNE MERKELSON



jumping up and down and screaming. It felt more like a religious revival or the Super Bowl than part of a decision-making process. Passion like that is wonderful, but even despite lots of hard

ried research, I still don't get this election season. It still feels scary like groupthink.

When I was in Madagascar (here we go again), I was also bewildered by their campaign strategies, which consist of lots of free t-shirts, trucks that drive around town bearing the candidate's face and blaring music, and commercials in which candidates give the thumbs-up and a cheesy grin. The fledgling democracy in that country was simply a different form of democracy. I thought longingly of a campaign season where people are able to think rationally and autonomously about these oh-so-important decisions.

Now, I find myself in one of the most intellectually enlightened places in America, and there isn't even an obvious student group dedicated to Clinton, let alone any of the Republican candidates. I understand Obama has magnetic appeal for many our age, but aren't liberal arts colleges supposed to be places of independent thought?

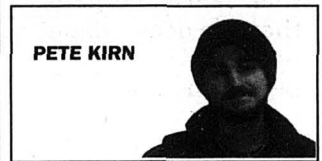
Of course, politics is all about groupthink.

I understand Obama has magnetic appeal for many our age, but aren't liberal arts colleges supposed to be places of independent thought?

Democracy is groupthink, almost by definition. How else are decisions supposed to be made by groups the size of 300 million?

I think the civic process is important, and I'm planning to vote in every election I can. Still, I don't think I can be any more involved. I don't feel comfortable trying to influence others how to vote, when I can barely figure it out myself. When Obama's organizers at the rally tried to get us to call registered Democrats and tell them to vote for him, I didn't do it. Instead, I called a friend across the room and confessed my feelings on the creepy factor. I'd rather be a spectator and an outsider in this campaign season; much like at a religious revival or the Super Bowl or even Madagascar.

Super delegates, an unfortunate stash jar



PETE KIRN

The power of the status-quo and the problem with the national primaries

the Super Delegates who apparently meet in a secret cave-type hideout.

Each of these people is a delegate exactly like the six that Kennebec County sends to elect the candidate we tell them to, except that they are, of course, super in that nobody votes for them and they, unlike any electable body of delegates in any "state," comprise almost 40 percent of the number of delegates needed to win the nomination. Newly relevant in this extremely close Democratic race.

I guess anything else that costs as much as running for political office is kept in close watch and control...certainly not left for just anybody to tinker and play with...especially such a large and untrustworthy bunch as the deaf-and-blind masses of America (but the Republicans don't have a concordant body). But some of these people...chosen partially by Party Chair Howard Dean...are actually unbelievable. Example: Jon Corzine (NJ) is a super delegate. He is a known offender of the self-explanatory New Jersey Conflicts of Interest Law, and was caught forgoing a \$470,000 loan to the head of the largest employee union in New Jersey which subsequently endorsed Corzine's campaign. Obama and Clinton, who both make the

trail in '04, becoming the first candidate in recent history to completely freak out before even taking office and literally scaring the shit out of millions of Americans, is the de facto compass on what is electable. If you're not currently taking psychedelics or drinking heavily, this is a good reason to start.

This Super Delegate structure was strategically placed to undermine the voter, reversing "government by the people for the people" to government by and for itself. So when all of these candidates are pumping your head full of this bullshit about "change," don't forget that these Old Bodies are waiting around to make sure that the Party Always Stays the Same. A Northeastern University political scientist described the reason for the Super Delegate regime, saying "the Democrats did not want candidates who were dramatically out of sync with the rest of the party." Dramatically out of sync like refining a system that keeps the increasingly irrelevant in earshot of the Almighty Ego Boost? Anyone involved in self preservation at such a high standing in Democratic Party does not want it to change, and can stop it from changing if he wants to, in a very serious way.

This is the Anti-Change. The Anti-Democracy. It reveals that in the very foundations of this government there is a fundamental framework undermining everything the system is meant to preserve. It is the incarnation of the politics of Staying Big, and Vile Self Importance trumping any purity implied in ideologies, which don't seem to carry too much weight anymore.

This, the tightest, longest, and most unbelievably expensive primary to date...officially has less to do with the voters than we ever thought.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Girl Talk disappointing

Let's be frank about this: the Girl Talk show Friday night was, well, relatively disappointing. But for a moment, let's let fall by the wayside that old-fashioned notion that a "concert" means some kind of performance, any kind of performance. Honestly, Girl Talk probably could have just mailed SPB a couple CDs worth of lightly mixed playlist and called it good. I'm not sure the writhing mass of bumping and grinding Colby would have minded that much—kids still would have been able to fling themselves around with abandon to increasingly provocative and mildly offensive songbytes.

But if Girl Talk hadn't come, he couldn't have engaged the crowd. And that was really a highlight of the performance. It was eloquent, really: "Colby! There's so much fucking pussy in this building tonight, if you don't get laid, you're fucking retarded... I need a beer! I need a fucking beer!" And people cheered. They cheered for the objectification of women, the promotion of sexual double-standards, and the denigration of the intellectually disabled.

I don't know what's worse, the fact that Colby hired and paid somebody so blatantly intolerant and misogynistic, or that more than a thousand people, almost all of them students here, were drunk enough to applaud him.

Signed,
Moxie Connelly '08, Emily Fogg '08

Have an opinion?

Write a letter to the editor.

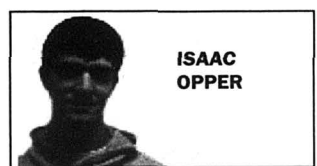
The inspiration of involvement

Why the record breaking numbers are sparking this election

Like many Colby students, I journeyed to Bangor last Saturday to hear Barack Obama speak at the Bangor Auditorium. Like many, I did not make it in time and was among the estimated 2,500 who crowded outside waiting for a glimpse of the man who might be our next president. Obama did come out and speak to us, albeit briefly. His speech, although good, was not amazing. Yet I was inspired, not by his speech, but by the turnout.

According to Wikipedia, Bangor is a town of about 31,000. The Obama website brags that 10,000 people showed up to see him. On the way, we were stuck in traffic for more than an hour because of the cars lined up waiting to hear the speech. Once we were near the Bangor Auditorium, we couldn't even find parking. One man sat outside his home and charged \$10 to those who wanted to park in his driveway; there were six cars packed in by the time we drove by. After we found a space, we walked up to the Auditorium joined by thousands in a line that stretched down a few blocks and around a corner. Once we got to the place where Obama was going to speak and settled in, I looked around at the 2,000 standing outside and for the first time in a while, was genuinely proud to be an American.

Regardless of whether you support Barack or



ISAAC OPPER

Hillary, are a Democrat or a Republican, what we have witnessed this primary season has been truly remarkable. In state after state, people have turned out in record numbers. About 350,000 came to the Iowa caucus. That's an incredible number of people who are willing to spend a couple of hours supporting their candidate. They know that their vote won't decide the election, but still they turned out. This has happened all across America. From waiting in ballot lines, to spending two or more hours in a caucus, people care.

What's more, voters have shown impressive knowledge about the candidates. One way to see this is through their votes. Nationally, John Edwards was receiving ten to fifteen percent of

the vote in all the polls. When he dropped out, his name still appeared on all of the absentee ballots and in most states, on the regular ballots as well, since printing off the ballots takes time. Yet he received almost no votes in all the Super Tuesday states. In other words, the voters were informed enough to know that he had dropped out even though their ballots did not tell them so.

Regardless of their political ideology, most Americans will agree that we have some wounds to repair after the last few years. We've been embarrassed by accusations of torture abroad, stuck in a war that has divided the country and has no easy end in sight, faced foreclosures and economic hardship. But as in our past, we have responded. We've responded by turning out to speeches and caucuses in record numbers and learning about the candidates and the issues. In doing so we have sent a message to the leaders that has changed the entire tone of the debates. The fact that we were able to do this simply by going to the ballot boxes is a pretty remarkable achievement and one that makes me proud to be an American.

Dave's Barber Shop



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Tues.-Fri.
7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sat.
7:30 a.m.-12 Noon
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FEATURES

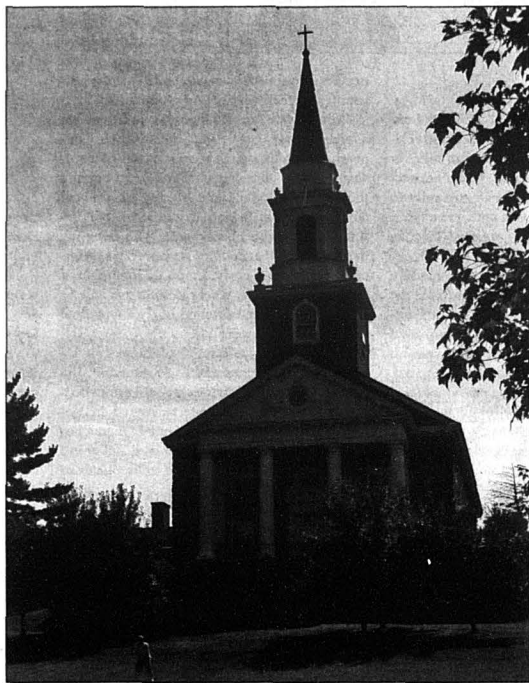
College love leads to marriage for Colby alumni

By ANNA KELEMEN
FEATURES EDITOR

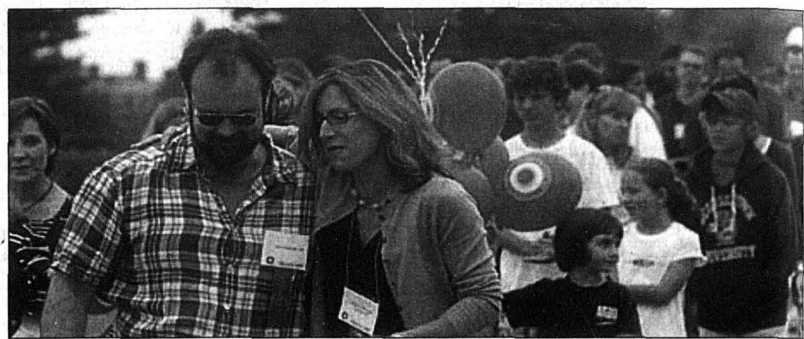
"The weather is cold." That's the way many students explain the popular Colby legend that a remarkable number of graduates end up married to another graduate. "It makes sense... there's nothing else to do," students reasoned. In fact, while a relatively high number of Colby graduates do marry one another, the number is much smaller than the 50 to 70 percent students sometimes estimate. According to Director of Alumni and Donor Relations Meg Bernier Boyd '81, 13 percent of alumni are married to one another. Currently then, of the 24,459 living alumni, 3,080 are married to a fellow graduate of the College.

While this number is less than many students have heard, it is still large. Further enhancing the number of connubial classmates are the couples that met after leaving Colby. Although most of the couples attended Colby at the same time, "it is not uncommon for Colby couples to meet after graduation at Colby events and reunions," Bernier said. An age spread larger than five years, however, is rare. A friend of Bernier's recently told her that his wife (a former Colby classmate) "wouldn't have given me the time of day in college." After meeting at a Colby event, however, the two are now happily married.

Alumni records show that the number of married couples has remained relatively steady over the last ten years. Dave and Ruth Roberts, another happily married couple, live just off the Hill. Dave and Ruth were married in Portland the summer after they graduated. In the Roberts family, not only attending Colby, but also marrying classmates seems to be the trend. Dave's grandparents were members of the classes of 1898 and 1901, his parents were members of the class of 1931, and he and his wife were both members of the class of 1955. The trend continued to the Roberts' two daughters who attended Colby and are both now married to classmates. Furthermore, although they are still quite young, the Roberts expect that at least one of their five grandchildren



Left: Weddings are held in Lorimer Chapel for people affiliated with the College. Top right: The Roberts family gathers at Dave and Ruth's wedding. Bottom right: Colby alumni gather at a reunion.



may one day attend Colby. "They always want to go up and see Colby when they come to visit," Dave said of his grandchildren.

For Dave and Ruth, their relationship was serious from the start. "I think we both knew from the beginning that we would be husband and wife...probably," Dave said. "We both grew up in the Portland area, and we knew each other down there," Dave said. "It wasn't an arranged marriage, but our parents knew each other," he continued. When they attended Colby, however, the campus was segregated by gender, and the dorms were governed by strict rules. "She worked in the dining room on the women's end, and I ran the post office and worked in the men's dining room," Dave said. Men and women dined in separate

buildings. "You washed dishes in the women's dorm," Ruth said, "and once and a while you could eat a hot dog there. Those hot dogs were terrible."

Despite the strict separation, there were plenty of opportunities to socialize. "In the fraternity house where I lived, women were not allowed upstairs," Dave said. "I spent three years in a fraternity house, and I'm not aware of any 'hoochie-coochie' upstairs. There may have been a few sneaky hugs and kisses downstairs in the recreation room though," he concluded. "Four feet on the floor," Ruth added.

When asked about dating, Ruth remembered movies and bowling as the most appealing options during her time at Colby. "We had winter carnivals, Homecoming in the fall, and

then we had the Sadie Hawkins dance. There was always something going on somewhere," Ruth said. According to Dave, "most of the social bit was at the fraternity buildings." Despite his strong connection to his fraternity, Dave understood the reasoning behind the dismantling of fraternities on campus. "It's a good thing to move the student center to the middle of campus," he added, "It makes both sides of the campus more equal."

Banished fraternities were not the only change on campus that Dave and Ruth spoke of when asked about the difference between their own and their daughters' respective experiences at Colby. "This is Daddy speaking, but I think that their experience was a little less chained, a little less hammered by the Men's and Women's Deans," Dave said. "Not quite so much babysitting," Ruth added. Finally, Dave concluded, "I'm attuned to what's going on at Colby, even though I'm an old fart." Ruth added, "I mean, back then you had to go home at 9:30 p.m. every night."

Not all Colby romances, however, begin on campus. Hung Bui '94 recently married Amie Mallett '00 after being reunited at a finance meeting in New York City. Bui, who graduated before Mallett began at Colby, remained on campus working in the admissions office as a recruiter. He met Mallett then, when he traveled to Lee, Maine to recruit her for the school. According to Special Assistant to the President for External Affairs Janice Kassman, when Mallett arrived on campus, she

thanked Bui, but it was not until reuniting in NYC that they got to know each other well.

"It's a progression," Kassman said. "Some Colby couples met and dated at Colby, some dated after, and some had different stations in the school." Regardless of how Colby couples meet, according to Kassman, most take some time after graduating before marrying. Whenever Colby couples do marry, many take advantage of Lorimer Chapel, which the College

One of my ex-students called me up one day and said 'Bassett, will you marry me?' And I said, 'Don't you think I'm a little old for you?'

Charles Bassett
Professor

makes available to people who are affiliated, in any capacity, with the school. "The Chapel is a beautiful place to marry," Kassman said. "It's gorgeous in the summer."

Professor Emeritus Charles Bassett

has not only attended but also performed a fair number of Colby weddings in the chapel and surrounding areas in Maine. "One of my ex-students called me up one day and said, 'Bassett, will you marry me?' And I said, 'Don't you think I'm a little old for you?'" Bassett said. To which the student responded, "No, no, no, you idiot," Bassett continued. In Maine, notary publics are able to perform marriage ceremonies. With the guidance of this student, Bassett filled out the forms, and took a test "which was really silly because it was open book, and they send the rules and the test at the same time," Bassett said.

Bassett has gotten to know a large number of students. "Now they call me up and say, Bassett I want to get married...and I say why not." The official Maine ceremony is very simple. "It doesn't take long at all," Bassett said. "If you want more of a traditional wedding I will read some poetry or I'll introduce a singer, but if we just do the regular procedure, it doesn't take ten minutes. A lot of people like being married in ten minutes though."

One marriage ceremony that Bassett performed included a dog as the ring bearer. "The groom's dog had a little thing around his neck with the rings in it, and when it was time the dog stepped up," Bassett said. More often, however, Bassett will "spice things up" with the poetry of Ann Bradstreet, or a sonnet by William Shakespeare. "It's fun to see your old students, and it's fun to see them at a moment in their lives that is so emotional and enthusiastic," Bassett said.



Linda Roberts Pagnano '88 and Mark Pagnano '87 were married August 1st '92 after meeting at Colby.

The *Echo* is hiring
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for us.**

Assistant Business Manager
Assistant News Editor
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News Staff
...and writers for all sections

INFORMATIONAL MEETING:
Wednesday, Feb. 13; 7 p.m.
MILLER 014 - **TONIGHT!**

JanPlan 2008

Students head off the Hill for JanPlan adventures

By KATHLEEN MAYNARD
NEWS STAFF

This year, students dispersed across the globe and across a vast spectrum of interests in quest of their JanPlan objectives. Several of them told their stories, which may serve to guide and inspire future Jan Planning efforts.

Kim Cohen '09 did research on humpback whales in Maui for the month. Last fall, Cohen logged on to the e-recruiting website and, after exploring the website that advertised the program, submitted an application to the coordinator. She later found out that she had been accepted to the program, through the Albright College of Reading, Penn.

The research she worked on was carried out in coordination with the Ocean Mammal Institute. For students, the goal was to study the interaction between humpback whales and boats. January is the month when humpback whales give birth, and it is important that calves maintain normal interaction with their mothers during this time. Using theodolites, which are optical instruments consisting of small mounted telescopes that rotate in horizontal and vertical planes, the students, who were stationed on several cliffs overlooking the ocean, tracked the whale pods. Cohen was in Maui for 18 days, and found her experience to be very rewarding.

Whereas Cohen's independent study was self-orchestrated, there were many students who participated in independent studies associated with a college

program. One such student, Terri Bello '10, participated in the ED351 teaching practicum under Professor and Education Department Chair Mark Tappan. Instead of remaining in Waterville, however, she did so in Tacoma, Washington. Bello worked with 4th through 6th graders at an elementary school for gifted students. In addition to her time in the classroom, she completed readings and kept a journal for the class. Despite the busy teaching schedule, Bello found time to do some snowshoeing on Mt. Rainier, and visit various cultural venues in Seattle and Vancouver. "I wanted to have a new adventure, and do an internship at the same time, so doing the practicum in Tacoma was great!" Bello commented

with a huge smile when asked about her experience.

Although many students had solo adventures this JanPlan, there were several groups of Colby students that ventured out for more collaborative travel and work. I. Warren Merrill Associate Professor of Biology Professor Andrea Tilden offered an advanced

research techniques experience, which took place at the Mt. Desert Island Biological Laboratories in Bar Harbor. Students lived together in small cottages, and spent their days working with brain cells from lobsters and crabs in the laboratory which overlooks Frenchman's Bay.

"My students and I are studying the ways that melatonin affects brain cells to enhance their ability to form new connections and to prevent oxidative damage," Tilden said. Melatonin is



Kim Cohen '09 traveled to Maui to study the interaction between humpback whales and boats during JanPlan this year.

COURTESY OF KIM COHEN

believed to be involved in "rewiring" processes of the brain that make memory-formation possible. Melatonin, as an antioxidant, can help prevent the oxidative stress that leads to neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease.

All members of Tilden's class who were available for commentary were extremely enthusiastic, reflecting that the experience was very rewarding and the facilities and landscape were beautiful. Despite the amount of time in lab, Kelly Foss '09 noted that "Andrea kept it fun and relaxed, and there was plenty of time to hang out with classmates at the end of the day."

Another Colby program strayed a bit

farther from the Hill, when it took off for three weeks to the city of Kalimpong which is in the foothills of the Himalayas on the Northeast border of India. This group was led by Associate Professor of Music Steven Nuss and Associate Professor of English Anindyo Roy. Their time was spent working at Gandhi Ashram, a private school run by the Jesuits for grades 1-8 that provides a free education for very poor students. All 23 Colby students boarded at the school, sleeping in one giant bunk room. Weekends were spent traveling to several destinations, including Sikim, the Lolegon Heritage Forrest and Delhi, where they visited the Taj Mahal for a day.

Megan Browning '10, one of the

Colby students in Kalimpong, shared some of her memories and thoughts from the trip. Browning highlighted the time spent interacting with students as the most memorable and rewarding. One project, done with the 6th graders, was to create a musical play of the Roald Dahl book, *Fantastic Mr. Fox*. "They were so incredibly excited to be part of a production, and get to perform it in front of their peers. In their music class they even set a tune to a song in the book, and choreographed a dance to do between each scene. It was great to help them prepare for the experience and watch them perform and have so much fun," Browning said.

When asked about what struck her most in terms of cultural differences,

Browning explained that "the whole experience was so completely culturally different from anything I've ever experienced. One of the things I found fascinating was that even though the children were so poor, they were so happy, and seemed content with their lives. Although some of this may have come from the fact that they were part of the supportive Gandhi Ashram community, when we were invited to their homes, their families were so welcoming and hospitable. They would make us tea and cook for us. It was so different from poverty in America, where the poor seem so unhappy and always want what they don't have. The people there live such a simple life and seem so happy with it."

WHO'S WHO: ADAM LOWENSTEIN '09

Mix master tears up slopes

Computer science major shreds gnar

By ALEXANDER RICHARDS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When applying to colleges from his hometown of Denver, Colorado, Adam Lowenstein '09 had only two criteria for potential schools: it had to be small, and there had to be skiing nearby. It no surprise then, that Lowenstein ended up on Mayflower Hill, just a stone's throw away from Maine's premier ski areas.

Since arriving on campus in the fall of 2005, Lowenstein has sustained his love of skiing, which began on the slopes of Colorado's Copper Mountain when he was just three years old. As a member of the Colby Free Ride Club, a "non-exclusive organization of skiers, snowboarders, and snowbladers dedicated to 'shredding the gnar' and doing jumps in the snowboard park," Lowenstein has dedicated himself to "pushing the boundaries" of freestyle skiing. Though the organization does not have official club status, Lowenstein predicts that Colby Free Ride is "about to blow up huge."

As a computer science major, Lowenstein has gained valuable experience in programming and video editing. These academic pursuits collided head on with his passion for skiing in the summer of 2006, when Lowenstein won the Red Bull ski video editing contest. His reward was an all-expense paid vacation to Whistler with a friend to see the premier of Matchstick Production's film *Push*, and spend time alongside some of the world's top skiers. Lowenstein's video edit was also premiered during the trip.

When he's not skiing or studying, Lowenstein spends much of his time in the Roberts Union basement working as the co-manager, program director, and urban music director for the College's radio station, FM 89.7 WMHB. Lowenstein has recently been involved in the renovation of the station's facilities and equipment, such as the installation of a new sound processor

and auto-DJ system, and a production studio that can accommodate a full band for live broadcasts.

Lowenstein highlights the recent installation of the auto-DJ system as

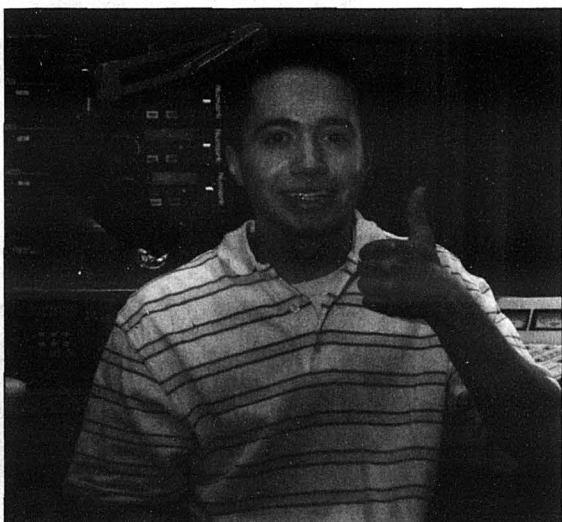
Lowenstein has dedicated himself to "pushing the boundaries" of freestyle skiing.

one of the most rewarding experiences he has had at WMHB. The system, which plays new music automatically when there is no DJ in the studio, replaced the station's 50-disc pre-recorded CD changer, whose programming Lowenstein felt was getting "old" and "repetitive." After a

late night of getting the system set up, Lowenstein and his fellow WMHB staffers made a late night food run as a reward for their efforts. Once in the car, they switched on the radio, and found the auto-DJ to be operating perfectly. This was a particularly proud moment for Lowenstein, as it was the first renovation that had not "failed or been delayed."

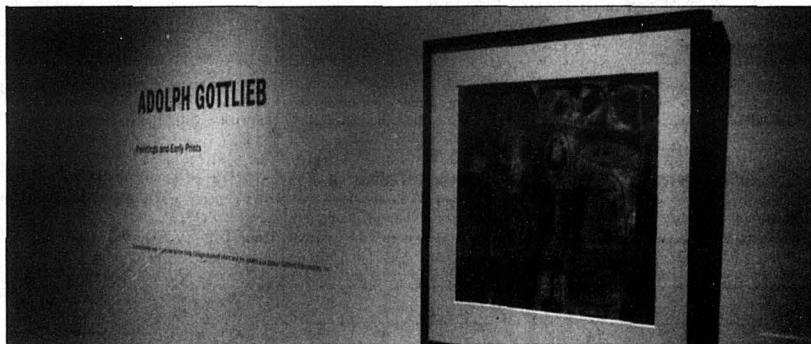
Working at the radio station provides Lowenstein with the opportunity to "get outside the academic atmosphere," and has ultimately inspired him to pursue a career in the music industry. Looking toward life after college, Lowenstein hopes to relocate to New York or Los Angeles to work as a DJ or promoter, or in a marketing role for hip-hop artists and record labels.

For now, however, Lowenstein is enjoying his junior year. Though barely recovered from an "epic" 33 consecutive days of skiing over January, and a slew of summer internship applications ahead of him, Lowenstein has not been able to resist the call of the slopes, and spent much of his Loudness enjoying his favorite winter pastime.



Adam Lowenstein '09

THOMAS BOLLIER/THE COLBY ECHO



CAROLINE DICKSON/THE COLBY ECHO

The Colby College Museum recently welcomed an exhibit featuring abstract expressionism by Adolph Gottlieb to campus.

New art exhibits open

Museum brings new art to campus

By AMANDA MELLO
A&E EDITOR

The Colby Museum of Art welcomed two new exhibitions to its walls last week.

Feb. 3 brought in the work of Adolph Gottlieb. The display represents a small example of Gottlieb's contributions to the abstract expressionism movement. The Colby Museum brochure for the exhibit reveals that Gottlieb "was concerned with both appearance and subject matter, and he strove to develop a visual form that would convey his emotional and intellectual concerns." Walking around the room showcasing his work, viewers can see this concern as well as Gottlieb's attempt to convey his own emotional and intellectual thoughts.

Much of the exhibit focuses on his early work, such as the 1933 print, which contain portraits of three pairings of artists (each did a portrait of one of the others). This piece, despite its first appearance of simplicity, upon a deeper look shows a complex understanding between artist and subject. In Gottlieb's portrait of Dorothy Dehner, he conveys the way in which he puts his personal feelings in his work, creating a piece that represents more than a subject, but a web of views and feelings about a subject. What he tried to convey is what he termed "a totality

of vision." Looking at this painting, which represents the earliest work in the collection shown, and moving around the room, viewers can see the ways in which Gottlieb's work develops and changes but remains true to his ideals for capturing more than just a subject.

Also on display is the photograph and video collection of Gary Green, which opened on Feb. 7. This exhibit, called "The History of Nature," fills the walls with a unique look at the world outside. Green is currently a professor of photography at the College for this year and will speak on his art on Thurs. Feb. 21 at 12:30 p.m. Green presents a look at a variety of things in nature, decaying homes, cleared lots, dirt piles and a close examination of the bark of a tree. His work truly represents the history of nature, and the ways in which forces, both natural and unnatural create a unique history.

A view on nature is often seen in totality in long sprawling landscapes, but Green's photographs of tree bark provide a new close-up view of what surrounds us daily, and shows us the simplistic beauty in aged and weathered bark. Human carved names in the bark add a dimension that demonstrates the collision of humans and nature, an interesting facet of beauty itself. Green's photos also show much more in a truly spell bounding collection of photographs.

These two exhibits add more to the already great collection found in the Colby Museum of Art. The

museum is open Tuesday through Sat. from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sun. from noon to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free and there is much more to see aside from the new exhibits.

Railroad Square Cinema
Waterville 873-6526

Here's What's Playing Fri., Feb. 15 through Thurs., Feb. 21

THE SAVAGES

R Nightly at 4:45, 7:00; Matinees daily starting Sat. at 12:10 and 2:30

THE DIVING BELL AND THE BUTTERFLY

PG-13 Nightly at 4:50 and 7:10; Matinees daily at 12:10 and 2:30

THERE WILL BE BLOOD

R Nightly at 5:00 and 7:55; Matinees daily starting Sat. at 1:30

FORUM

WEDNESDAY

Echo Informational Meeting

Miller 014
7:00 p.m.

Come meet the Echo staff and learn about how to write for your favorite section

French Club Movie Night

Lovejoy 215
7:00 p.m.

"Les Chansons d'Amour"

BRIDGE Meeting

Mary Low Coffeehouse
8:00 p.m.

The Colby LGBTQI club's first meeting of the year.

WINTER WONDERLAND



Students found themselves battling both homework and the elements during the first week of classes.

THOMAS BOLLIER/THE COLBY ECHO

Women's Ice Hockey vs. Bowdoin

Alford Rink
7:00 p.m.

Math: Statistics

Mudd 405
4:00 p.m.

Candidate's Talk

SPB Concert- Pete Kilpatrick

Mary Low Coffeehouse
7:00 p.m.

Pete Kilpatrick comes out of Portland with an acoustic rock sound

THURSDAY

The Extreme Graduation 2008
Cap and Gown Edition

Roberts 1st Floor Lobby
11:00 a.m.

CCF Meeting

Mary Low Coffeehouse
7:00 p.m.

Come down and get to know Colby Christian Fellowship.

Alpine Skiing @ Williams Carnival

Jiminy Peak
9:00 a.m.

Museum of Art Noon Time Art Talks

Art Museum Lobby
12:00 p.m.
Director's Tour

Kenya Calling : Waterville Edition Africa-21

Pulver Pavilion and the Pub
7:00 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Raising awareness and getting people involved with the recent political violence in Kenya

Nordic Skiing @ Williams Carnival

Prospect
9:00 a.m.

Martin Collins STS Seminar

Miller 014
2:30 p.m.

Martin Collins, a curator and historian at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, comes to Colby to lead an informal discussion about post WWII economics, politics, and culture

Born to be Wild?

Temperamental "Sensation Seeking" in Infants and Young Children

Roberts 312
3:00 p.m.

Colloquium Series

Sponsored by the Psychology Department

Men's Basketball vs. Bates

Wadsworth Gymnasium
7:00 p.m.

Bring your Colby spirit before the game and SPB will be there to meet you with face painting, posters, t-shirts, half-time games, and more. If you're interested in helping to create an awesome student section contact mnfitzge@colby.edu

Women's Basketball vs. Bates

@ Bates
7:00 p.m.

Creating the World in the Jewish Tradition

Miller 014
4:00 p.m.

Lecture given by Daniel Stein Kokin, who is a Professor of Judaic Studies at Yale University

JanPlan African Drumming

Bixler- Given Auditorium
7:00 p.m.

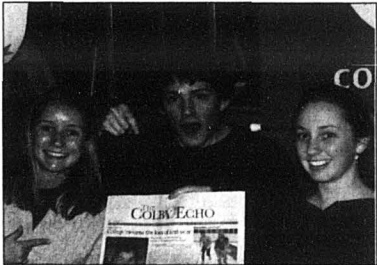
The African Drumming class kept to the beat all of JanPlan so trek down to Bixler to see it perform

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Trinity

@ Trinity
7:00 p.m.

ENTHUSIASTS AT THE EXPO

What activity are you going to sign up for tonight?



"The Echo, because all the other clubs were full."
— Phoebe Cabot '10, Nick Cunkelman '11, and Anna Kolomon '10



"Surf club, cause we love to shred the nectar, dude. Chhhhyyyeeeeeaaaaahhhhhhh."
— Nolan Collins '09 and Dan Herrick '08



"If I were 'cool,' I would join the Enviro. Co., the Outing Club, and the Colby Organic Garden."
— Tucker Coeman '10

Men's Squash @ Intercollegiate Team Championships
@ Harvard University
TBA

SATURDAY

Men's and Women's Indoor Track @ Tufts Invitational
@ Tufts
TBA

Men's Basketball vs. Tufts
Wadsworth Gymnasium
3:00 p.m.

Women's Basketball vs. Tufts
@ Tufts
4:00 p.m.

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Wesleyan
@ Wesleyan
3:00 p.m.

Music at Colby: Colby Chorale
Lorimer Chapel
7:30 p.m.
Listening to the Colby Chorale in concert will start your night off on the right note

SUNDAY

Protestant Service
Lorimer Chapel
2:00 p.m.

Salsa and Waltz Ballroom Dance Lessons
REM Forum, Downtown Waterville
6:30 p.m.
If you're interested in taking dance lessons in downtown Waterville, call (207) 465-2088

MONDAY

Burst the Bubble: Human Bowling
Runnals
2:30 p.m.
Open to the whole community and there will be food, hot drinks, and prizes

Jewish Prayers for Local Governments
Miller 014
4:00 p.m.
David M. Freidenreich from the Department of Religious Studies at Franklin and Marshall College will be speaking

Tuning with Triangles
Mudd 405
4:00 p.m.
Lecture

GRAB YOUR BOOTS



Footprints prove students managed to brave the snow to get around campus.

TUESDAY

SASA Meeting
Foss Private Dining Room
6:00 p.m.

Belly of the Basin Film and Discussion
Diamond 142
7:00 p.m.

Roxanne Walker-Canton, independent film-maker and visiting professor in Gender and Women's Studies at Connecticut College, will be leading the discussion

Burst the Bubble: Chill in the 'Ville
REM Forum, Downtown Waterville
7:00 p.m.
Socialize over hot chocolate and watch the Megs perform

Know Before You Vote: The Economy
Diamond 122
7:00 p.m.
Lecture given by Colby Economics Professor Michael Donihue

This week online
www.colbyecho.com

EXPANDED CONTENT



More photos from last week's swim meet against Bowdoin

Two additional Opinions columns, including C.W. Bassett's "I'm never going to retire"

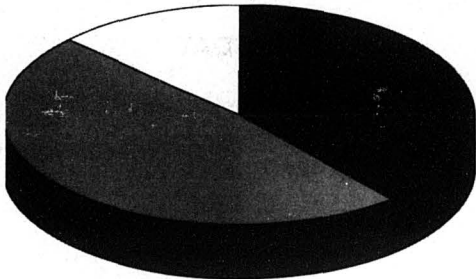


THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION

do you think you'll marry someone from Colby?

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

What does Colby need to do about housing?



- Admit less people (39%)
- Build more dorms (48%)
- Tell students to deal with it (13%)

JOKAS' SPECIALS

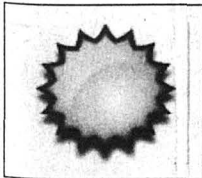


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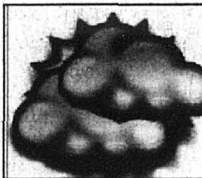
www.weather.com

THIS WEEK'S FORECAST



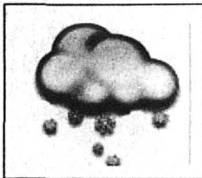
Sunny
HIGH 32 LOW 9

THURSDAY



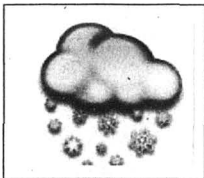
Cloudy
HIGH 33 LOW 17

FRIDAY



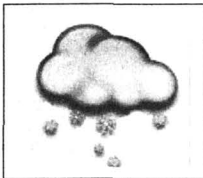
Few Snow Showers
HIGH 27 LOW 13

SATURDAY



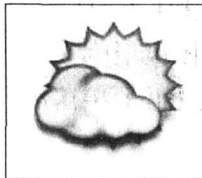
Snow Showers
HIGH 31 LOW 17

SUNDAY



Few Snow Showers
HIGH 33 LOW 18

MONDAY



Partly Cloudy
HIGH 35 LOW 17

TUESDAY

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Girl Talk's dirty mouth leaves bad taste on campus



Students dance in Page Commons during Girl Talk, a performance that evoked mixed emotions on campus.

By ERIC FITCH
STAFF WRITER

For this spring's Loudness, the SPB Concert and Live Music Committee brought the popular new recording artist Girl Talk to campus to perform in a sold out Page Commons. The student body was alive with controversy after the wristbands required for entrance were exhausted in a matter of hours (See article, page 1). Numerous sources have agreed that this uproar was mainly owing to a general sense of entitlement on the part of Colby students, and the complaints were mostly ignored. I, personally, was lucky enough to be granted an interview with the enigmatic laptop genius, and I braved the vindictive Maine winter to arrive early and ask Gregg "with two g's" Gillis a few pointed questions. Unfortunately, my cheaply manufactured recording device failed to immortalize the interview, so what follows is merely a summary of my scattered recollection of the conversation and a strongly worded review of his ensuing performance.

My assistant and I began the interview with a few basic questions regarding Gillis's influences and musical background. He credited a long history with experimental "noise" artists as his main inspiration, and also attributed much of his success to the laptop he acquired at the end of the last millennium as he prepared for college. We were eager to ask about the origin of his notably bizarre on-stage antics, and he explained them as necessary to encourage the appropriate concert atmosphere. Since his performance doesn't involve the actual use of instruments, he felt he needed to some-

how be active while his computer was providing the crowd with entertainment. At the risk of offending our guest, I subtly inquired as to the mixture of legal substances he preferred to imbibe before his concerts, but thankfully he informed us that he normally performed in a sober state. However, his commentary on the microphone during the show seriously contradicted this claim, and that issue will be addressed later in this article.

We concluded the interview with a number of random questions regarding his plans for the end of the Mayan calendar in the year 2012 and other miscellaneous topics, but the responses were uneventful and will not be included herein. On to the show.

Before these Loudness concerts begin, I always find myself more excited for the opening act than the headliner. In this case, my expectations were rewarded with a bizarre, frenetic rap show performed by two apparently homeless men. Grand Buffet brought Colby smooth flow, smart rhymes, good delivery, and an unbearable image. In an effort to avoid superficial judgment, I will say they were good. But they looked like bike messengers, and I suspect they are sponsored by Carhartt. By the time they had finished, Page Commons was overflowing and the mood of the crowd was steadily climbing toward its violent acme.

The one mistake that was made in planning this event was the time. When there is a concert at Colby which begins between 10:30 and 11:30, you can expect more than half of the student body to have no memory of ever having attended. For this event a rebellious group of students had taken the time and energy to man-

ufacture counterfeit wristbands, in logical response to popular demand, and the result was a sea of drunk lunatics being fed free booze. Girl Talk delivered this horde the energized dance music they all desired, and I think we should all be grateful. Though the excitement of the live performance was absent, the party immediately reached fever pitch and lasted long beyond quiet hours. Now let's get the hating, because there is sure to be some coming.

The number one question we were all left pondering after the concert was this: "Who thought to give that scumbag a microphone?" For those of you who don't already know, Mr. Gillis decided to use Colby as the most recent outlet for his sexual perversions. I am not easily offended, but the thing that Girl Talk was shouting over the speakers were just delusional. At the risk of sounding like a prude, no one wants to hear a haggard thirty-year-old man talking about getting laid and other lewd subjects. If you were particularly appalled at his behavior, don't worry, I have conducted extensive research which indicates that you were not alone.

In conclusion, on Saturday morning the campus found itself divided. One would be a fool to deny the positive energy which Girl Talk brought to Colby, but many have expressed the resentment at his outlandish behavior. I will end this article with my recommended cure for this sort of ambivalence. Approach your personal computer and download DJ Dangermouse's "The Grey Album," which you haven't already. This is the only mash-up creation you will ever need, and Girl Talk will become just the specter of another Colby Friday.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS: DORI SMITH '08

Senior eyes future in opera

By SAMMY GRADWOHL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

For Dori Smith '08, music isn't just a hobby — it's a lifelong interest. Her extensive background includes everything from studying at L'accademia Internazionale della Musica in Milan, Italy to Disney songfests with friends as a little girl. No matter what the capacity, though, she believes that the most important part is communicating the story behind the song.

Smith didn't necessarily come from a musical family, but nonetheless, she was exposed to music from an early age. Smith explains that her parents fed her a "pretty steady diet of oldies," and she spent countless hours exploring her family's extensive record collections. Concerts in the park and summer music camps helped foster Smith's love for music, and in the third grade, she made her musical theater debut as Glinda the Good Witch in her elementary school's production of *The Wizard of Oz*. She continued with musical theater throughout middle school, and she added Maine All-State chorus and jazz choirs, her first real introductions to classical singing, to her resume in high school. However, it was private voice lessons, which she started in her junior year of high school, that sparked her interest in her current passion: opera.

As with all of her previous musical endeavors, Smith dove right in. She eventually began working on Mimi's aria from Puccini's *La Bohème*, which

she had first discovered during her record collection perusals. Even though she didn't understand the words, Smith wanted to dig deeper than the surface and really understand Mimi's perspective and experiences. She still uses this first aria to judge her operatic voice growth — "it's really exciting to see how far I've come in such a short time" — and her dream is to someday play the role.

She may be a music major now, but that wasn't always the case — in fact, up until her junior year of high school, Smith wanted to be a cardiac surgeon. She even initially came to Colby as a biology-music double major. However, she soon changed her mind, decided that performing was what she really wanted to do, and dropped the biology major entirely. Winning the Concerto Competition in 2006, which gave her a chance to perform her solo with the orchestra, further convinced Smith that she was on the right track. Now, she is a seasoned member of Chorale and Collegium Musicum, takes voice and piano lessons, works as a research assistant, and is busily preparing her senior recital and senior thesis. In addition, she finds time to skate with the Maineliners, serve on the Senior Pledge Committee, study multiple languages, and answer questions of all sorts at the Pulver information desk.

When asked about her favorite aspect of music at Colby, Smith immediately mentions the faculty. "The department may be small, but the environment is incredible — it's like an extended family. The faculty is so accessible," she says. "Elizabeth, Eva, Paul, Steve...they're all wonderful. I wish I could take them all with me when I go to grad school."

Smith's post-Colby plans include graduate school and, with hope, a career in opera. It's an incredibly competitive field, but she feels prepared. She gives a large amount of credit to Elizabeth Patches, her voice teacher, stating, "I'm convinced that she can do anything." Smith also recognizes that opera is rather inaccessible to the average listener, so a large part of her goal is to bridge that gap and pinpoint the universal messages that anyone can understand, no matter what the language.



Dori Smith '08

CHORALE PREVIEW

An upcoming night of Renewal

By KRIS MIRANDA
COPY EDITOR

One was a conscientious objector and gay man living in World War II England—a painful time and place to be either. The other, almost two centuries before, was a brilliant orchestrator whose genius was stifled by the demands of the overbearing churchman who employed him. Both found ways to channel their oppressed but steadfast convictions into two very different—but both rejuvenative—pieces of music bookending Feb. 16's Chorale concert, which Paul Machlin, Arnold Bernhard Professor of Arts and Humanities, has named *Music of Renewal*.

Benjamin Britten, the first aforementioned composer, moved to the States during the war but "found, obviously, it was no easier for him in America," Machlin said. In 1943, missing home, he flew back. En route, "he apparently came to terms with both these parts of his psyche," pacifist and gay in the 1940s West, "and decided to forge ahead." The result was *Rejoice in the Lamb*, based on an eighteenth century poem of the same name (but in Latin).

Britten felt he had found a kindred spirit in long dead Christopher Smart, the original poet, who for being "something of a religious mystic" was thrown into the asylum at Bedlam,

England. "The poem resonated with Britten because it's about being oppressed, and about being thought different from everybody else, and of suffering brutality at the hands of [Smart's] guards," Machlin said. Britten having suffered psychic brutality for who he was. "The watchman smites me with his staff is one of the lines, and at that moment the music coalesces around a brilliant but very difficult chord."

Four soloists feature with their own mini-movements. Becky Thorburn '09 sings of Smart's cat, Jenn Mizen '08 of a cat-and-mouse confrontation in Smart's cell, Bobby Underwood-Halpern '08 contemplates flowers, and as for what Kevin Baier '11 sings: "I'm not exactly sure what it means," Machlin confessed. "I'm not sure anyone knows what it means." Smart assigns each letter of the alphabet a characteristic representing some facet of God, but in ways frequently unclear.

At any rate, "it's ultimately a positive piece; it ultimately ends with an affirmation ... of [Britten's] sense of newfound purpose."

Rejoice in the Lamb will start the night off; the other bookend, the *Solemn Confessor Vespers*, was the last piece Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart wrote for the Archbishop of Salzburg.

"He really detested the archbishop," Machlin said. "The archbishop was conservative both politically and musically.... he insisted on very tight control over the music in the cathedral, and Mozart chafed under this, because Mozart was a genius."

Headed for Munich's opera scene, Mozart was already planning "brilliant orchestral effects" he could never use in church music, but even the *Vespers* pushed the envelope. "It's not a sacred piece, and how he got away with it I don't know, but he did, probably because it's so beautiful. But clearly," in a lengthy fourth movement solo, "he was writing for an operatic soprano, not for a church soprano—a boy, essentially. This is a piece that

really needs to be sung by a woman."

That woman will be the incomparable Dori Smith '08 (See *Spotlight on the Arts*, page left), accompanied by other parts of the piece by Stella Kir '08, Steve Tatko '10 and Steve Olzerowicz '10. As with Smith's solo, the quartet parts are written as if for opera, but at least one movement conforms to what would have typically been demanded of Mozart, "showing essentially that he can write music of sacred counterpoint as well as anybody else, including Bach, just to stick it to the archbishop."

In between Britten and Mozart, the Chorale will sing a sometimes "bizarre" version of the Lord's Prayer composed just last year, as well as a gospel number and two versions of the spiritual "Deep River."

"Spirituals are just wonderfully flexible," Machlin said, "and these are two very different settings but it's the same piece underneath, almost as if it had kind of regenerated itself." The second will feature Amy Makowicz '08, Claire Collins '08, Menya Hinga '08 and Zack Ezor '10 in "a kind of counterpoint ... their voices kind of float over what the rest of the chorus does in that piece."

That makes a staggering dozen soloists in what promises to be quite the concert on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. As always, admission is free, so get to Lorimer Chapel early.



Colby Chorale (shown here in Italy, where they performed last March) will perform a new program, *Music of Renewal*, in Lorimer Chapel this Saturday.

Circus on Stage

Slapped shows a tremendous array of talented students

By KRIS MIRANDA
COPY EDITOR

"Sometimes a man jokes, and then out pops the truth!"

Thus spoke That (John Bergeron '08), the brilliant and poetic "society man" turned circus fool at the center of Leonid Andreyev's *The One That Gets Slapped*, a beautiful extravaganza of a play directed (and translated from Russian) by Irving D. Suss. Guest Artist Kathryn Mederos Syssoyeva. *Slapped* tells two main stories: one of That seeking solace from one kind of humiliation in another, and one of the three-pronged courtship of enchanting but guileless (and tactless) acrobat Consolation (Aynara Chavez-Muñoz '08).

"No one loves her, everyone wants her," Chavez-Muñoz said of Consolation. Even when some don't want her romantically, they plan uses for her. For instance, the cheerfully selfish Count Mancini (a charismatic Jackson Ridd '11, also a real-life magician) acts the father figure even while skimming from her circus income, and arranges a marriage to the wealthy but depraved Baron Auguste (professor emeritus Richard Sewell).

Bergeron spoke of That being in a sense bound by his own intellect and academic background. "You talk about an actor's 'motivation,' and what's the emotion pushing him to say whatever he's saying," but with That, "it's often not emotion, it's his intellect." Both blessing and curse, his almost over-active mind does intertwine with his heart, leading him inexorably into tragedy.

This alone would make interesting drama, but *Slapped* also matched its considerable substance with fabulous style. Syssoyeva called *Slapped* a "collective creation." Taking the pedagogical part of its production very seriously, she gave her huge cast and crew a vision that, while clear, had plenty of room for everyone to do what they did best, to incorporate their real extracurricular lives into their onstage personas. Most obvious were the gymnastics, choreographed by Chavez-Muñoz and Joe Kim '10 (the laconic acrobat Benazo), and the live music composed by Jack Davidson '08 and co-arranged with Claire Collins '08.

For much of the play a fully-costumed band—Davidson switching between glockenspiel (it's like a xylophone), guitar, mandolin and drums; Kerry Whitaker '08 on toy piano and sometimes flute; and Harry Curme '10 on clarinet—provided rhythmic, Eastern-Europe-flavored background music that was often catchy and sometimes haunting (when Davidson first used the glockenspiel I thought it was a recorded

sound effect). Bergeron, Collins and Esther Boyd '09 also performed cabaret-influenced songs bookending acts, with lyrics based on dramatic and poetic works by Andreyev's contemporaries.

Sometimes providing string music, and weaving all about the stage throughout the play, were the clowns Tilli (Collins), Polli (Karen Pedersen '10) and Molli (Molly Bennett '11, written into the script when Syssoyeva saw her audition). Their antics won the house over from the start, but became especially welcome as the web closed around an increasingly distressed Consolation.

I mistakenly titled last week's *Slapped* Spotlight "Director and principals"; this was a mistake not because those I labeled principals were less important than I'd thought, but because everyone else was more so. "The stars of the show," Kim told me two weeks ago, "are everyone." Indeed.

Francis Gassett '11 as senior clown Jackson was possibly the smallest cast member physically, but in his few scenes, his voice and posture—Syssoyeva has very successfully sharpened her actors' abilities to be as expressive physically as vocally—exuded a crackling energy that made me believe unquestioningly in Jackson's authority.

And though Sewell as Auguste and Peter Buttraro '11 as "the Prince" (a pseudo-intellectual revealed to have ruined That) had late, small parts, they had some of

the best chemistry with Bergeron. In his main scene the Prince—representing That's old world, the "real" world which gruff circus manager Daddy Flint (Sean Senior '10) calls "out there"—is bullied in a series of stumbles and falls, punctuated by unsettling cackles from That, who has found a twisted happiness in playing the fool. I was reminded, oddly, of Batman's Joker, who becomes terrifying in the rare moments when he stops laughing. And Bergeron and Sewell, veteran drama student and venerable drama professor, share a great moment exchanging looks of disdain, Auguste's patronizing and That's amused.

Next to Bergeron himself with his voice of elemental power and his ability to change faces and moods as if flicking a switch, the most commanding presence was probably the ever-singular Boyd as lion tamer Zinida, who wants love but reaps fear—except from her husband Flint, portrayed by Senior as the troupe's unflagging heart as Consolation is its dancing soul. Zinida's movements are deliberately slow, as if she can't be bothered to act otherwise, except in one frazzled scene made the more powerful by its contrast to her usual, aristocratic languor. And of course, there was *The Scream*. I don't exaggerate when I say I felt chills.

Look forward to more from Theater & Dance this season; with this circus, the show's just begun.

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WESLEYAN

REVIEWS

For great Waterville pizza, look beyond delivery

By Keane Ng, staff writer

Like most students, I like to indulge myself from time to time by calling WHOP and ordering a buffalo chicken calzone. The combination of the rich dough, melted cheese, processed chicken meat, and tangy kick of that magic buffalo sauce all dipped in a little container of Ken's bleu cheese dressing is a vice I find myself unable to live without for more than a month at a time. I won't even lie—leaving behind the buff chick 'zone when I graduate this May will be harder than saying goodbye to most of my friends.

But as central as the buffalo chicken calzone is to any Waterville pizza experience, the Grand Central Cafe, located at Railroad Square, deserves just as prominent a position in any pizza lover's heart.

If anything, any self-respecting Waterville foodie should make a visit to the restaurant only to have a complete picture of the variety of the Waterville pizza scene. It isn't just Papa John's vs. WHOP, and it's not always delivery. The brick-oven pizzas they fire up at Grand Central are sophisticated and creative, and the hippie forest lodge décor and indie film posters on the walls give off the same homey but free-spirited Central Maine bohemian vibe as the theater right next door.

Though Grand Central's menu provides a large variety of specialty pizzas and sandwiches, I always find myself gravitating toward the dinner buffet. For \$11.99 you get as much pizza as you want, soup, fresh made salad and pasta salad. I feel obliged to make special mention of

the pasta salad. I don't know what goes into it, but it's fantastic—light, cooked perfectly, with just enough seasoning and dressing. There are pre-made buffet pizzas on racks near the oven where you can help yourself, but here's a tip: If you get there early enough, they won't have any pizzas out for the buffet, and they'll let you choose what kind you want. Last time I lucked out like this, and my friend and I settled on a half pesto, mushroom and artichoke heart, half "Pepperoni Express" pizza. The pesto tasted like it was ground the minute before, thick and basil—though it needed some more garlic. The pepperoni pizza was absolutely decadent, with as many pepperoni slices as you'd get on an average WHOP pizza, topped with thin strips of Gouda cheese, all sitting on top of a bed of tangy and sweet sauce. As always, the crust was one of the highlights. Crunchy and smoky from the brick-oven fire, but soft to the bite, with cornmeal spread on the bottom to add some rich texture.

These are pizzas that treat your gut and your tongue with a little more subtlety than WHOP's dough, ten-plus pounds of meat, cheese and sauce, twenty-plus pounds of grease formula, though they're certainly no less tasty or lacking in the visceral flavor high that comes with any good pizza. Because after all, good pizza is good pizza, whether it's got pesto on it or buffalo sauce, whether accompanied by classy beers or Miller High Life. In Waterville, we're lucky to have it both ways.

A film of no small power and an American epic

By Katie Peterson, contributing writer

The epic film has always been a distinctly American art form. Hollywood has always revolved around the business of making epic pictures. Films like D.W. Griffith's *Birth of a Nation*, Fred Niblo's *Ben Hur*, David Selznick's *Gone with the Wind* defined the limits of excess for their production studios, constantly threatening to implode in the reckless lavishness and arrogance of their design. The epic film has always been American because, in the deepest sense, they have always embodied America's titanic, nationalistic political and cultural domination—a power that was born right alongside Hollywood's epic pictures and, not coincidentally, Southern California's oil industry.

Paul Thomas Anderson's masterpiece *There Will Be Blood* is about the monstrosity that became California's oil industry and, more profoundly, it's about America. The director's interests as a filmmaker are firmly rooted in American, and especially Southern Californian history: *Boogie Nights* (1997) follows the birth of Southern California's pornography industry while *Magnolia* (1999) was described by the director as "the epic, the all-time great San Fernando Valley movie." *There Will Be Blood* represents the devastatingly powerful culmination of Anderson's cinematic education and on a grander scale, the first modern American epic.

There Will Be Blood, while drawing inspiration from Upton Sinclair's 1927 novel and denouncement of the oil industry, *Oil!*, owes more to Homer's epics than anything else. The film follows the fortunes of one man, Daniel Plainview (Daniel Day Lewis). He relies on divine blessing, like Odysseus, for he is an Oil Man. When we're introduced to Daniel, he's not yet a baron; in fact, he's a miserably lonely pioneer—hacking away at the depths of the earth for silver, and lost in California's deserts. The film's great romance begins when Daniel haphazardly strikes oil. Advance several years and he has come to rein over the smallest of empires in the backwaters of Los Angeles—operating a "family business" with his young son, H.W. (Dillon Freasier). Plainview's business seems to be meeting difficulty until a boy named Paul Sunday (Paul Dano) arrives with news of oil at his family's farm. The film's drama unfolds in Paul's town, Little Boston, where Paul's twin Eli Sunday (also Paul Dano), a self-described prophet, tells Plainview that if he wants to drill for oil in their town, money must go to building his Church of the Third Revelation. Plainview agrees, and what

ensues in Little Boston is not immediate disaster, but the delayed, passive and mostly silent decay of human decency.

The actors deserve mention, as they are always given. It's extremely difficult to deny Daniel Day Lewis his second Oscar after a viewing of *There Will Be Blood*. The film owes its vivid memorability most clearly to Lewis's uncommon ability—Plainview's nearly demonic countenance, histrionic speeches and spindly, mechanical figure would become elements of a laughable caricature in the hands of any other actor. Paul Dano and child actor Dillon Freasier occupy Lewis's shadow with impressive and convincing performances.

However, Daniel Day Lewis and the rest of the cast's human contribution to the production is often overshadowed itself by the utter mastery of this film's direction, writing, cinematography and soundtrack. Anderson's film and screenplay may meet criticism for the overtness of some of their themes in today's political and social climate—the elemental evil of oil production, the corruption of humanity by avarice and the fraudulence of religion form his underlying theses. As an artistic achievement, however, there is nothing to dispute about *There Will Be Blood*. The cinematographer, Robert Elswit, started out in Hollywood by filming miniatures of George Lucas's AT-AT robots in the *Star Wars* films and his work here proves that he has an uncanny ability to transform the vacant machinations of wooden oil rigs into similarly majestic and terrifying colossi. Finally, Jonny Greenwood, rock band Radiohead's visionary lead guitarist and songwriter, provides a supremely blunt, unsettling and anxious soundtrack characterized by a trio of distressed, quivering violins, a mournful cello and one very sinister piano.

There Will Be Blood is our epic. While it didn't exactly cost a monumental amount to make in dollars and cents, it extracts a mighty sum in emotional capital from its perhaps unfortunate audiences. It's a film of no small power, and no little importance in both cinematic history and in ours. Oil—how it makes our dreams possible, makes our films possible, Hollywood possible, America possible, war possible—and the toll it exacts on our world and on ordinary people all makes a little bit more sense after I watched Daniel Plainview toil, lie, abandon, steal, act, trick and finally kill his way into a stone castle in the Hollywood hills. I began to feel, deep in my gut, how all this mess started.

The music of summer drives and slow Sundays

By Brent Daly, contributing writer

Jack Johnson's new album *Sleep Through the Static* gives us the same brand of music we have come to expect from the 32-year-old Hawaiian over the past seven years. The songs soothe the listener as Johnson's light and predictable rise-fall vocals complement guitar scratches and high plucks.

Most of the lyrics deal with his observations about and feelings for another person or general incident. Collectively, his words implant the reas-

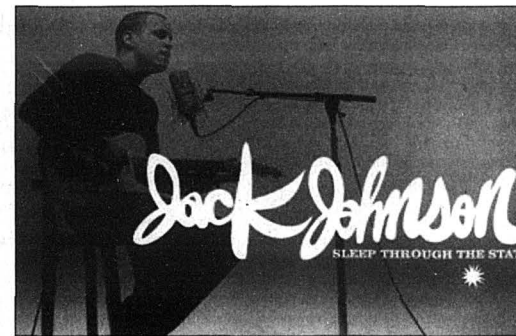
suring ideology that the human experience is anything but set in stone. The lyrics subtly let us know that occurrences, personalities and feelings mix together to make life similar to the periodic ups and downs of the waves Johnson knows too well.

My favorite song from the album is "If I Had Eyes." More up-tempo than usual, there is a constant beat maintained by drums and piano. On this track, we get more of a vocal performance allowing Johnson's attraction to the subject of the song to be clearly felt. "Same Girl" also stands out from other tracks. Although it's short, his audience can finally hear the singer's voice solidly above his customary background clamor. In the title track "Sleep Through the Static," he places the best guitar solo of the album and some possibly politically charged lyrics (I'll let you guys interpret them for yourselves).

Although I think it would be interesting to see Johnson take a few steps in a new musical direction, he has produced yet another pleasurable album by sticking with what works. I believe his career of producing a mix of blues and surf-rock would be profitably enhanced by a fast-rhythm jazz album, but we may have to wait a few more years for any such possibility.

In the end, sales for this work will undoubtedly be strong (already being number one on iTunes' top ten albums list for the past several days). Interestingly, this feat is even more deserved because the album was recorded at the Solar Powered Plastic Plant in L.A.

Analysis aside, I think it is safe to say we can all appreciate this new material from Jack Johnson for summer drives and slow Sunday afternoons.



Jack Johnson's album brings the soothing vocals expected from the artist.

Alpine skiing team finding its edge



The Colby alpine skiing teams are peaking at the right time of the season.

The Mules perform well at Dartmouth

By NICK CUNKELMAN
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

The Colby men's and women's alpine ski teams put together solid races at the annual Dartmouth College Ski Carnival held on Feb. 8 and Feb. 9 at the Dartmouth Skiway, an event that featured giant slalom races on Friday and slalom on Saturday.

On the course, Colby skiers competed against familiar NESCAC opponents Williams College, Middlebury College and Bates College as well as skiers from the University of Vermont, University of New Hampshire, St. Lawrence University, Saint Michael's College, Harvard University, and of course, racers from hosting Dartmouth University.

On the men's side, Vincent Lebrun-Fortin '11 led the Mules in Friday's giant slalom with a combined two-run time of 1:55.71, good enough for 11th overall. Not far behind were Josh Kernan '10 with a time of 1:56.16, Jody Centauro '08 (1:56.19) and Matt Clunan '10 (1:58.93). In the overall team scores, the Colby men placed sixth in the giant slalom, edging out Bates by 14 points.

With a slalom course set up for Saturday on the Skiway, the team had its strongest showing of the weekend,

amassing 88 points and placing third overall with three skiers in the top 14. The finish was the best for the Mules in the past two years, and again it was Lebrun-Fortin out ahead, taking third overall with a two-run total time of 1:34.58. Centauro was eighth overall (1:35.71) and Kernan placed 14th (1:37.10).

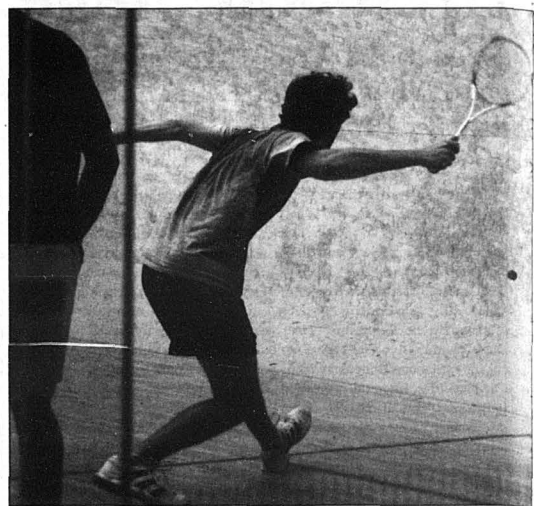
Unlike the men, the women's best performance of the Carnival weekend came on Friday in the giant slalom, where the team placed sixth overall. Emily Colin '10 was the Mules' best finisher, coming in 20th overall with a two-run time of 2:02.33. Following her lead were Dana Breakstone '10 (2:03.03), Brett Wagenheim '08 (2:07.11), Julia Coffin Peck '09 (2:07.23), Ali Brandeis '10 (2:08.47) and Alissa Consenstein '08 (2:09.70).

On Saturday, the Colby women placed seventh overall on the slalom course, with Breakstone leading the team with a two-run total of 1:49.51, placing eighteenth overall. Colin took 23rd with a time of 1:51.63. The next finishers for Colby were Wagenheim (1:52.60), Consenstein (1:55.59) and Brandeis (2:00.15).

Both the men's and women's teams look to improve on the best performances of their season at the Williams Carnival, to be held at Jiminy Peak on Feb. 15 and Feb. 16.

...the women's best performance of the Carnival weekend came on Friday in the giant slalom, where the team placed sixth overall.

SQUASH



Men's squash will have the first seed in the D-draw of the national tournament.

Both men and women in national top 25

By SARAH KIRKER
STAFF WRITER

In the last tournament before national competition—the Howe Cup in Princeton for the women and the Intercollegiate Team Championships at Harvard University for the men—the Colby squash teams traveled to Massachusetts to finalize their national rankings going into the end of the season. After a long season and a lot of hard work, both teams are looking forward to competing in the end of the year tournaments and hope to finish on a positive note.

It was a very successful trip for the women, who went undefeated for the weekend and secured their #14 national ranking. They easily dispatched Northeastern University and Wellesley College, winning with impressive scores of 8-1 in each match. On Saturday, in a slightly tougher match, the women were able to pull off their third win of the weekend by beating Tufts University 6-3. Head Coach Sakhi Khan was especially proud of the team for their last win, saying, "The women really pulled themselves together to beat Tufts." With these results, it was no surprise to see excellent performances across the board. Samantha Smith '10, Stacey Petro '08, Nina Delano '08, Maddie Dufour '10 and Sophie Newbury '08 all managed to go through the entire weekend without dropping a single match.

These results also give the team a boost of confidence going into the crucial end of the season matches. With its rank secured, the team looks to build off of its commanding wins and improve its rank even further during the national tournament. When asked how he was planning to have the team pre-

pare for its final competitions, Khan expressed his confidence in his team. "The women always get up for challenges like this. We'll train hard, do a final set of challenge matches for our final roster, and try to stay focused going into the most important squash event of the season."

The men also headed south to compete this weekend. The weekend started off rough for the team when it lost a very close match to Northeastern 5-4. On Saturday it was able to bounce back, handily defeating the Massachusetts Institute of Technology 9-0 but unfortunately ending the weekend with an 8-1 loss to Tufts. The standout performance of the weekend belonged to Brett Willis '08, playing in the number six spot, who went undefeated over the weekend and dropped only one game in the three matches he played. Khan speaks glowingly of his senior player. "Brett has been playing some of his best squash ever. He stays focused no matter what the situation and always plays to win. This year his physical and mental toughness have reached new levels. It's great to see him going into the nationals at his best."

The men also solidified their ranking going into the national tournament, earning the #25 national ranking which translates into first seed in the D draw of the national tournament. Khan expressed his optimism in the men's chances in the tournament, saying, "We hope to win the event and bring home some silver."

With hopes and emotions running high the championship tournaments promise to be very eventful. Whether going in hoping to win "some silver" or just improve on their ranking and reputation, rest assured that both teams will be playing their hearts out in coming weekends.

Women skate to two wins

From WOMEN'S HOCKEY, Page 13

that Hamilton had tied the game with five minutes left in the game, but it was ruled that the officials had called the play before the puck slid past Brown '09. Then, with 2:45 minutes left, Anning slid another shot past Hamilton's goalie to insure the win for the Mules. Collette Finley '09 assisted her on this goal. Anning has now reached 90 career points with 49 goals and 41 assists in her third year. For Colby, Brown was stellar in goal, earning her second shutout of the season with 23 saves.

Colby has now risen to 6-4-3 in the NESCAC, and 11-7-3 overall. Due to a loss of Connecticut College this weekend to Trinity College, the Mules have advanced to fourth in the NESCAC as they head towards the end of their season. "We are treating every game from here on out as a playoff game and are trying to put ourselves in the best possible position for post season success," said captain Genevieve Triganne '08. They will take this intensity with them into their next game against Bowdoin College this Wednesday, Feb. 13.

Men's hockey clinches

From MEN'S HOCKEY, Page 13

nities to give Colby the victory. Cody McKinney '11 played well in the game, holding the high powered Amherst offense to one goal on 24 shots.

Unfortunately, Josh Reber '08 sustained a shoulder injury and did not play a majority of the third period. Thankfully, Marino came back from the hit he received and played well.

Middlebury remains one point ahead of Colby with Bowdoin and Amherst remaining one point behind.

On Saturday, Feb. 9 Colby dropped a disappointing game to Hamilton 2-1; however, Middlebury and Bowdoin both lost on the same afternoon. Captain Ryan Chrenek '08 scored the only Colby goal of the game on the power-play with the assists going to Mike White '10 and Strickland in the third

period. Colby had a flurry of shots and power-play opportunities at the end of the game but the puck would not go in the net for the team.

Credit goes to Hamilton goalie Scott Hefferman, who made 33 saves in the victory. McKinney made 22 saves for Colby in the loss. The Mules played very short-handed with Reber, Mike Butler '08 and Jeffrey Jarnot '10, all out with injuries. Their status is unknown for the upcoming weekend trip to Trinity College on Friday night and Wesleyan University on Saturday afternoon.

With the result, Middlebury remains one point ahead of Colby with Bowdoin and Amherst remaining one point behind. This weekend, Middlebury travels to take on a red hot UMASS-Boston team and a nationally ranked Babson College team.

B-Base falls to Bowdoin

From MEN'S BASKETBALL, Page 13

back from an early deficit. This loss comes after a nail biting one-point home loss to Bowdoin earlier in the season; a game surely on the team's mind as it prepared for the rivalry showdown.

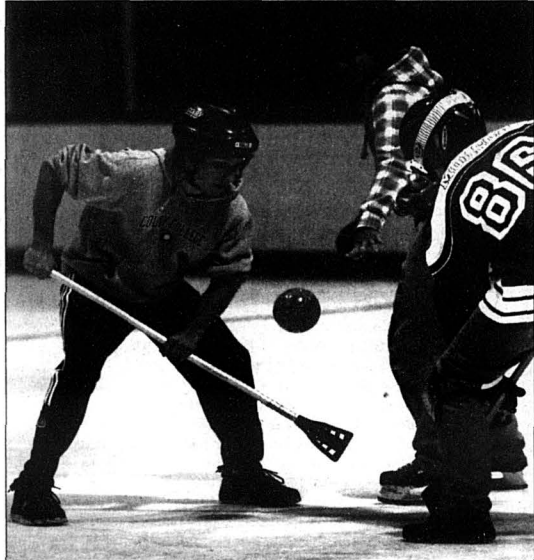
Heading into the final weekend of play, Colby sits in a three-way tie for the eighth and final playoff spot in the NESCAC with Tufts University and Wesleyan University. They will take on Bates College Friday night at 7:00 p.m.,

and play a crucial game against the Jumbos Saturday at 3:00 p.m., which could likely decide the fate of this year's team.

If it advances, Colby would likely play its quarterfinal round game at defending national champion Amherst, who has put together an impressive 8-0 campaign in the conference thus far.

If the team hopes to advance to the postseason, it can take some positives in the balanced effort against Bowdoin (3rd place in NESCAC), but it will have to stay away from an early deficit and hope to regain its shooting form.

BROOMBALL FOR CHARITY

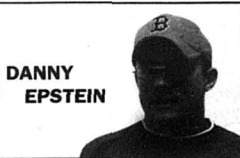


LuziCare sponsored a tournament to raise money for bicycles in Africa.

THE FOCUS ON FANTASY

What to look out for in college hoops

With March Madness fast approaching, 3 teams to watch



DANNY EPSTEIN

Now that we have entered the month of February, it is time to start seriously looking at college basketball and specifically the NCAA tournament. This technically would not be considered a fantasy sports topic but since it's relevant and most people start paying attention to college basketball around now, I'll try to sift out the pretenders from the real contenders as we approach March. For people new to this type of formatting, the first record represents the teams' overall record, the second their conference record and the third number their RPI rankings.

Memphis (23-0, 9-0, #4 RPI): Playing in a ridiculous Conference USA riddled with bad teams; Memphis is the question mark of the season. To the credit of Coach John Calipari, the number one Memphis Tigers in both the Coaches and AP polls have compiled a ton of talent with freshman Derrick

Rose, guard Chris Douglas-Roberts and an impact big man in Joey Dorsey. The question with this team is not ability but the schedule it plays as a result of playing in a dismal conference (apologies to Houston, but they're not very good). Calipari scheduled Gonzaga, UConn, Georgetown, and Arizona and still needs to play Tennessee in their out-of-conference schedule

to his credit. My recommendation would be to tune in on Feb. 23 and watch Memphis take on a terrific and exciting Tennessee squad (9:00 p.m. on ESPN). If it still looks good, maybe this team can make a run at a national title but my guess is that it'll look confused against Tennessee and eventually lose in the regional finals to a less talented but better organized team.

Duke (21-1, 9-0, #2 RPI): Duke is an interesting team because nobody expected it to be ranked in the top two teams in the nation at this point. After

winning a close game at home against my Boston College Eagles young squad, Duke certainly has some weaknesses. Duke is a team that, if it shoots poorly from 3-point range, they'll lose to almost anyone due to their reliance on the shot. It is a penetrate-and-kick offense team but also present odd match-up problems because all their

players can handle the ball. Freshman Kyle Singler presents a difficult match-up in that sense. Duke's win against North Carolina becomes slightly less impressive because of the absence of Ty Lawson, but it has beaten other quality NCAA Tournament bound teams. Since the first and second round is being played in Greensboro and the regional is being played in Charlotte, either Duke or North Carolina will not have to travel much giving one team the inside path to the Final Four. Watch the Blue Devils for the rest of the year but this

writer's estimate sees them flaming out just like Memphis when they play a team with a good inside presence (see Georgetown or UCLA).

Kansas (22-1, 8-1, #5 RPI): Now we present the Kansas Jayhawks, the team who perennially ruins my bracket when I pick it to win the National Championship and it screws up. This year will probably be no different because the Jayhawks are loaded again this year with guards and big men. Darrell Arthur, Brandon Rush, Mario Chalmers and Darnell Jackson are all prolific scorers, phenomenal defenders and athletic players. They've pounded some good teams and have been cruising through the Big 12. As I am writing this article, Kansas will soon square off against number twelve ranked Texas in Austin. If the Jayhawks can pull out this game, it will even further enhance my love affair with Kansas and coach Bill Self. As of right now, my pick for the NCAA National Champions is the Kansas Jayhawks, assuming they can avoid UCLA until the Final Four. I believe that is the only team who could knock them off the path to a championship.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Mules earn ticket to NESCAC tourney

Despite loss to Bowdoin, Colby looks to playoffs

By LIZZI FORT
STAFF WRITER

Despite a loss 62-48 to Bowdoin in conference play last Saturday night, Colby's women's basketball grabbed a New England Small College Athletic Conference playoff bid. The Mules, who are as of Saturday 13 overall and 2-5 in NESCAC play, clinched their playoff seed after Trinity College beat Connecticut College 69-61, bringing the Bantams' record to 1-1 and the Camels record to 0-7 in the NESCAC. While Colby and Connecticut College still have two games left in league play, Trinity only has one. Even in the Mules' worst case sce-

nario, and the Camels' and Bantams' best case scenarios, the three teams would end up in a three-way tie. However Colby wins the tie-breaker as the Mules have defeated both Trinity and Conn College in league play, 62-57 and 66-63, respectively.

Against the Polar Bears, the Mules put up a good fight. The squad was only down 31-25 at halftime and even took a 38-37 lead with 14:08 to go in the game when first-year guard Karlyn Adler, who led the Mules in scoring with 12 points, hit a jump shot. Unfortunately for the Mules, Bowdoin went on an uncontested ten point run, which enabled it to maintain the lead for the remainder of the game.

Against Bowdoin, senior captain Katie McCabe continued her strong play on the court, scoring seven points, grabbing eight rebounds, and blocking three shots. Her play against Bowdoin, along with her outstanding play in her last home game, on Feb. 5 against Hus-

son College, earned McCabe the Maine Women's Basketball Coaches Association Player of the Week honor for the third time this season.

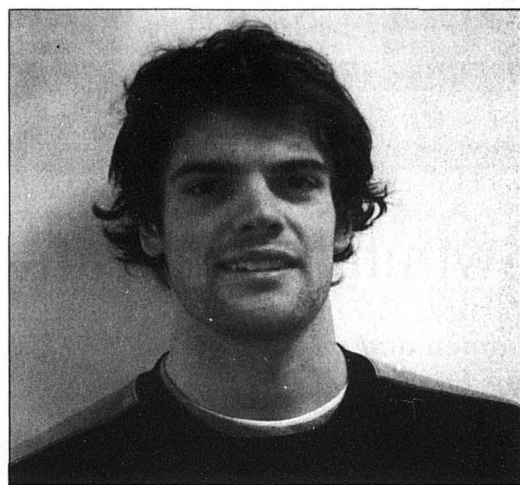
In the Mules' 87-77 win over Husson, McCabe scored an incredible 28 points, had 19 rebounds and seven assists, and had three blocked shots. McCabe leads her team in scoring, rebounding, field goal percentage, and minutes played. She ranks second in the NESCAC in rebounding and fourth in scoring. McCabe, before even heading into the Mules' game against Thomas College this past Tuesday, has a total of 1,167 points and 676 rebounds in her career at Colby College, which now moves her into fifth place all-time in scoring and she still has a guaranteed five more games left to play.

In the McCabe-led victory over Husson, her fellow captain, sophomore forward Alison Cappelloni also dominated. Cappelloni accumulated 25

points, 11 rebounds and two block shots. And even though the two captains together scored 53 points, they were not without help from their teammates, specifically a cast of three freshmen. First-year forward Abby Harris added on seven points, four rebounds, and four blocked shots for the Mules, while first-year Meredith Aronson also had seven points, and first-year Julianne Kowalski finished the game with six points and five rebounds.

As Colby approaches the playoffs, they will play Bates College Friday night in Lewiston at 7:00 p.m., while men's basketball will also be playing the Bobcats at 7:00 p.m. at home. Saturday, the squad will be traveling down to Medford, Massachusetts to face Tufts University in its last regular season NESCAC game. The first round of NESCAC playoffs begins the following Saturday, Feb. 23, with place and time yet to be announced.

DEVASTATOR OF THE WEEK



ROB KIEVIT/THE COLBY ECHO

Vincent Lebrun-Fortin '11

SPORT:
Alpine skiing
HOMETOWN:
Montreal, Quebec
KEY STAT:
Led the Mules in points at Dartmouth Carnival

243
FIS Slalom Ranking

WHY:
At the Dartmouth Ski Carnival on Feb. 8 and Feb. 9, Lebrun-Fortin placed 11th for the giant slalom and third in the slalom. His slalom times of 47.36 and 47.22 earned him a spot among the top 250 world skiing rankings.

NESCAC ROUND-UP

In men's basketball news, Amherst secured the number one seed in the NESCAC tournament for the fourth-year in a row after the Lord Jeffs went 3-0 last week. They now improve their record to 8-0 in the conference and 21-2 overall...Tufts, Williams and Wesleyan remain in a three way tie for the third seed of the women's basketball conference tournament. Williams trampled Tufts, 63-46 on Sat. Feb. 9, yet loss to an inferiorly ranked Bobcat squad the day before 72-60. Although The Ephs downed Tufts, the Jumbos slaughtered Wesleyan the previous weekend...Middlebury, who has won the last four NESCAC men's hockey titles, hangs on to a slim lead over the Mules in the conference this season. Hamilton upset Colby 2-1 this weekend at the Alford Arena, yet still remains in last place in the conference...Middlebury, with only one loss this season, holds the top stop in the women's hockey league. The Panthers slammed Williams 7-1 on their home court last Wednesday, Feb. 6...Bowdoin men's and women's swimming and diving teams dropped the last regular season meets to the Mules on Saturday Feb. 9. The women lost by a score of 162-126, while the men were bested by a score of 163-99...The Bowdoin women's squash team defeated Bates for the first time since 2003, when it took a 6-3 victory over the Bobcats last weekend. The Polar Bears clinched the match by winning the top five positions. With their loss, the Bobcats fall to 10-9 on the season, while the Polar Bears improved to 11-9...The host school was victorious at the Dartmouth Ski Carnival. Middlebury's skiing team took the second place position by earning a pair of wins on day one and then placing several skiers in the top five positions on day two.

—Molly Biddiscombe, Sports Editor

STANDINGS

	NESCAC				OVERALL			
	W	L	T		W	L	T	
Middlebury	10	3	2	14	4	2		
COLBY	10	4	1	11	7	1		
Amherst	9	4	2	11	6	3		
Bowdoin	10	5	0	14	5	0		
Wesleyan	6	6	3	8	8	3		
Williams	6	6	3	8	9	3		
Conn.	6	7	2	6	11	3		
Trinity	6	7	2	10	8	2		
Tufts	4	10	1	6	13	1		
Hamilton	3	11	1	4	15	1		

	NESCAC				OVERALL			
	W	L	T		W	L	T	
Middlebury	10	0	2	16	1	2		
Amherst	9	0	3	14	3	3		
Trinity	8	2	15	3	2			
COLBY	6	4	3	11	7	3		
Conn.	4	5	3	6	10	4		
Bowdoin	2	6	5	5	8	5		
Hamilton	2	6	4	4	11	4		
Wesleyan	1	10	1	5	12	1		
Williams	1	10	1	3	15	2		

	NESCAC				OVERALL			
	W	L	T		W	L	T	
Amherst	8	0	21	2				
Trinity	6	2	18	5				
Bowdoin	5	2	18	4				
Middlebury	5	2	17	5				
Bates	4	3	15	6				
Conn.	3	4	16	6				
Williams	2	5	15	7				
COLBY	1	6	11	11				
Tufts	1	6	11	11				
Wesleyan	1	6	8	14				

	NESCAC				OVERALL			
	W	L	T		W	L	T	
Bowdoin	6	1	17	5				
Amherst	6	2	21	2				
Tufts	5	2	19	2				
Wesleyan	5	2	15	7				
Williams	5	2	16	6				
Bates	3	4	13	9				
Middlebury	3	4	12	10				
COLBY	2	5	7	13				
Trinity	1	7	10	11				
Conn.	0	7	10	12				

LEADERS

Points leaders, NESCAC			
Player	Team	GP	Pts
KELLEY, T.J.	COLBY	17	17
REBER, Josh	COLBY	9	23
WESTERMAN, Mike	Bowdoin	12	16
COVELLI, Joel	Amherst	9	24
JACKMUFF, Brandon	Williams	12	21
CORBELLE, Mike	Bowdoin	8	14
BLOSSOM, Ryan	Bowdoin	7	15
LEARY, Ryan	Bowdoin	16	5
McKENNA, Jamie	Middlebury	7	14
MALDONADO, Tom	Middlebury	5	16

Goal leaders, NESCAC			
Player	Team	GP	Pts
JULIAN, Rebecca	COLBY	17	18
ANNING, Laura	COLBY	9	16
MCNALLY, Anna	Middlebury	14	15
KAREGA, Tarasai	Amherst	13	14
WEISS, Kim	Trinity	12	12
TOMFORD, Lauren	Hamilton	10	11
CELLINO, Annmarie	Middlebury	9	11
NAKAMURA, Erika	Middlebury	10	11
HANLON, Courtney	Amherst	8	10
MALLOY, Molly	Amherst	10	9

Steals leaders, NESCAC			
Player	Team	GP	Pts
CUTRONE, Artie	COLBY	22	46
BLACK, Jeremy	Tufts	22	44
WHOLEY, Bryan	Bates	21	39
EDWARDS, Tim	Middlebury	22	40
BERNIER, Shavar	Conn.	22	39
WINTERS, Eric	Wesleyan	22	37
RUDIN, Ben	Middlebury	22	37
JACKSON, Kyle	Bowdoin	22	35
HAUSER, Mike	Bowdoin	22	33
WALTERS, Fletcher	Amherst	23	34

Scoring leaders, NESCAC			
Player	Team	GP	Pts
FOURNEY, Ali	Wesleyan	22	363
SPRUNG, Lucy	Wesleyan	22	347
PETERMAN, Mika	Williams	22	344
McCABE, Katie	COLBY	20	309
SERAFIN, Katy	Conn.	22	335
BECKWITH, Val	Bates	22	331
ANELASAKAS, Jill	Bowdoin	22	298
ARNSTEIN, Claire	Trinity	20	286
JACKSON, Chessie	Williams	22	282
CAPPELLONI, Alison	COLBY	19	232

Best season in Colby men's nordic history unfolds

From NORDIC, Page 13

Briggs summarized, "but we beat Middlebury and everyone else that year. Not too exciting overall."

According to Briggs, the next day's classic race, a mass start 20K, made him for any excitement that the skate race lacked. Briggs said that the "ridiculously hard" Oak Hill course begins with a seemingly endless uphill that eventually drops skiers down wild downhill that you'd want to see if you could have them on classic skis."

The race began with five of the Mules in the lead pack. At three kilometers, Kline and Briggs were well positioned at 5th and 6th, with teammates Gill in 7th and John Swain '08 and Fereday in hot pursuit. "Then," Briggs recalled, "on a tight corner, a German from UVM—eventual race winner Jürgen Uhl—comes in on my track, sending me crashing down on some Middlebury kids and my ski pole. I snapped my pole."

Half a kilometer later, a spectator handed Briggs another ski pole, but the race landed him in 30th or 40th place. With the new pole, Briggs launched a heroic come back effort and secured 8th place, but he was unable to recover to top-ten position. Fortunately, Fereday, the freshman phenom, had a breakthrough in his classic skiing and captured 8th place. Veterans Kline and Gill finished 7th and 9th, respectively. The performance of the day," according to Briggs, "was Wyatt's. He had a huge finish today when we needed it."

So far, the men's team is having the best season in the history of the program, and the women are on the upswing. According to Head Coach Tracy Cote, the men are having their day: "This type of team comes along once in a great while. Their results are a testament to what can happen when a team focuses and works really hard together."

They make a lot of sacrifices during the year, but they are all paying off now."

Looking back to the TAMC/TD Banknorth Eastern Cup Opener in Presque Isle, Maine, Briggs opened the floodgates to the successful season. Racing during an early December snow storm, Briggs blitzed a field of 96 skiers, winning the race by over 30 seconds; his time of 29:23 was the only sub-30 minute effort during the 10 kilometer (6.2 miles) race. Kline was the next in the chute, placing 5th. Mathes and Peter Rummel '11 took 19th and 25th place, respectively.

In other recent Nordic news, Colby won its first Carnival in the history of the program on Jan. 11. At the Bates College Winter Carnival, first-year phenomenon Wyatt Fereday dominated competition against the big-dogs at Rumford, Maine's Black Mountain. Wyatt, a skate-skiing specialist, captured 3rd place during the 10K skate. Six seconds behind Fereday, was Briggs, who took 4th place. Mathes and Gill provided a one-two punch finishing within one second of each other, taking 6th and 7th place, respectively. Kline rounded out the score with a 15th place finish. As a team, the Mules scored 89 points, besting runner up Dartmouth College (82 points) and 3rd place Middlebury College (69 points). "We won that race by a mile," remembers Briggs. "That was our goal coming into the year, and we did it on the very first race. Awesome." In the classic race, held the subsequent day, the men earned fourth place. During that race Gill earned time in the lime-light, leading teammates with a 5th place finish.

During the next weekend, Kline had his best performance to date, leading the Mules to a 3rd place finish at the St. Lawrence University Ski Carnival held in Lake Placid, NY. Kline skated over the 10K course in a blazing 24 minutes and 43 seconds to earn third place individually. Fereday took 7th, Briggs was

10th, the "incredibly consistent" Mathes placed 14th, and Austin "Toast" Ross '08 cracked the team's top-5 with a 17th place finish. The next day, during a 20K classic, the Mules earned 75 points for a second place finish. Briggs and Kline lead the Mules, placing 5th and 6th, respectively. Gill also finished in the top-ten by securing 8th place. After an impressive fall cross-country season, Swain found his skiing legs and placed 11th.

In the last weekend of January, the men dominated the Chummy Brookhall/TD Banknorth Rumford Eastern Cup at Black Mountain. The team's win was particularly poignant because Maine schools use the Chummy Brookhall as a State Championship. Individually, Briggs was the runner up in the race, bested only by Justin Freeman—a living legend of the US ski team.

The Mules ushered in February by taking third place at the University of Vermont Classic Carnival with 79 points. Runner up Middlebury College (80) edged out Colby by a single point. Gill, deadly on classic skis, carried his team with a 4th place finish. He covered the 10K course in 29 minutes and 38 seconds. Briggs placed 10th (30:06) and Kline took 11th (30:08). Swain and Mathes rounded out the score with 15th and 18th place finishes.

One might question if the men are just having a few good days, but not Briggs and his teammates.

"We're here to stay, which is probably a little strange for the historically dominant teams. More than that though, we're hoping to pile on some more wins, and take a whole weekend. That isn't easy, but that's the next step."

On the women's side, the season has been an uphill battle. Their roster is severely limited and the team is very young. Nevertheless, captain Maynard has tirelessly led her squad and has consistently placed in the top-20 at major carnivals. Despite heroic efforts, the women were stuck in a rut, placing 8th place at seemingly every carnival—until UVM. There the women showed improvement and took 7th place overall. "In a few years," Cote said, "I can see this team be equally as competitive as the men."

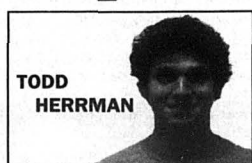


Silas Gill '09 leaves a UVM skier in his wake at a recent meet.

PLAYIN' THE FIELD

The best of sports announcer follies

From Madden to Digger, words bring disbelief



TODD HERRMAN

It has been a long time since I have written this column for the Echo, what with winter break and January and all that fun stuff, during which the paper does not publish. A lot has happened in the world of sports since my last column—there is a plethora of stories I could write about. I choose to write about one small thing that has really been bothering me. National TV sports commentators. They all suck.

I have thought that for a while (and yes, I do think I could do a better job), if it really stood out to me during one of the Super Bowl. It's the most watched sporting event in the country, and yet the Fox network's supposed announcing team spent most of the game cold and emotionless.

Joe Buck, the lead commentator, managed to talk about one of the most incredible and improbable plays in foot-

rating the game for everyone else seem so distant from the real fans?

So with that, I looked into other commenting gaffes, the stupidest things ever said by the likes of Joe Buck and John Madden. They are wacky, they are dumb, and they certainly are a lot of fun. And they definitely make the average person feel better about his or her intelligence.

"Nobody in football should be called a genius. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein."

—NFL commentator Joe Theismann (the worst commentator ever, by the way)

"Well, either side could win it. Or, it could be a draw."

—British soccer pundit Ron Atkinson "Hector Torres, how can you communicate with Enzo Hernandez, when he speaks Spanish and you speak Mexican?"

—San Diego Padres announcer Jerry Coleman

"That was Benes' fifth strikeout on the day. He came in with 94, so now he has 104 strikeouts on the year."

—New York Mets broadcaster Jerry

Coleman

"I don't like this new law, because your first instinct when you see a man on the ground is to go down on him."

—British rugby commentator Murray Mexted

"Hey, the offensive lineman are the biggest guys on the field, they're bigger than everybody else, and that's what makes them the biggest guys on the field."

—NFL commentator John Madden "Julian Dicks is everywhere. Its like they have 11 dicks on the field."

—Random soccer commentator

"We have to remember that whoever scores the most points by the end, wins."

—NCAA basketball commentator Digger Phelps

Well, I hope you guys enjoyed these gems. There are far more quotation out there, and they all make me laugh, so that will be a new feature of my column, the dumb sports quote of the week. Commentators, coaches, players, they frequently are not the most eloquent folks, and we can all laugh at their bumbling misfortunes.



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February 13, 2008

Swimming repeats as CBB champions Nordic reigns

Records fall as women and men top Bowdoin

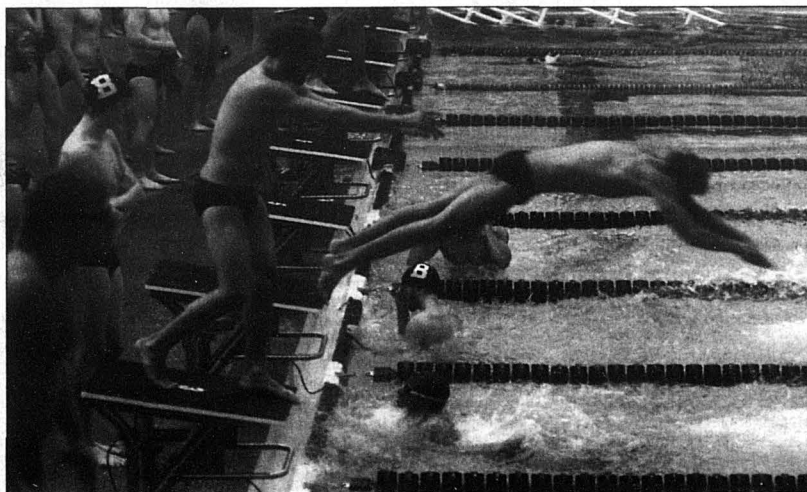
By DAVID LOWE
STAFF WRITER

The Colby swimming and diving teams have created dynasties: a five-peat for the women and a four-peat for the men. Seniors Kristi Boman, Jocelyn Burke, Maddie Given, Kelly Norsworthy and Samantha Rose for the women, and Joel Alex, Evan Mullin, Mike Finnerty, Andrew Peterson and Patrick Sanders for the men have won the Colby-Bowdoin-Bates Championship every year. Both teams improved to 5-4 records with victories this weekend.

The women's team came into the meet against Bowdoin with a tall task in front of it; The Bowdoin team was undefeated thus far this season. As co-captain Given put it, "We came into the meet hoping to tie Bowdoin at best. Last week, we watched their women's team easily beat Wesleyan while we lost to Wesleyan." However, the team worked hard all week and the results were evident.

The women's team started off with a new pool record in the 200 medley relay, crushing not only Bowdoin's relay but also the record by a second and a half. That relay comprised Kelsey Potdevin '09 (who swam a pool record in the 50 back in the relay, along with being named NESCAC player of the week), Norsworthy, Given and Courtney Chilcote '09. Chelsea Heneghan '11 then won both the 1000 and 200 yard freestyle in "back-to-back events to help keep the women in position to win," said Given. The next event continued the trend of personal bests for the whole team, with Potdevin setting another pool record in her victory in the 100 yard backstroke.

The Mules welcomed the return of diver Margot Apothaker '11, who took second in the one and three meter dives, and records then continued to drop. Potdevin set her third school record of the day in the 200 backstroke. This was followed by a new pool record in the 200 breaststroke by Norsworthy, prompting Given to proclaim, "The highlights of this meet were not merely the wins in each race, but the incredible time drops by almost every member of the women's team, and the drive and heart shown by each member as they became that one point that we needed." Given also took first herself in the 100 yard butterfly. With a victory in the 400 freestyle relay, made up of Heneghan, Chilcote, Danielle Carlson '10 and Potdevin, the Mules closed out a victory that once seemed out of reach, 162-126.



The men's team bested the Polar Bears 163-99 and captured the CBB in the the Mules' final regular season meet.

The men, extending the Mule dominance, won handily over the Polar Bears, 163-99. Colby opened the meet with a victory in the 200 medley. Mullin (also NESCAC player of the week) led off, followed by Peterson, Peter Williams '11 and Sam Wampler '09 finishing

nearly a second in front. In the next event, the 1000 yard freestyle, sophomores Kevin Smith and David Hirsch took first and second. Smith also won the 500 yard freestyle in 4:54.39. Williams and Mullin made appearances again in the 200 yard freestyle, taking first and second. Mullin cruised to victory by six seconds and set a new pool record of 1:44.58, beating his old mark of 1:45.99 he set last year. In the 100 yard backstroke, Finnerty claimed second, with Travis Townsend '09 and Nate Eberly '11 rounding out the top six.

Taking first and second place was a common occurrence for the Mules, considering that Colby swimmers won the top two spots in six different events. Anderson and Craig Zevin '11 did so in the 100 yard breaststroke. Wampler and Ben Gross '10 followed suit in the 50 yard freestyle. Similarly, in the 100 yard freestyle, Mullin and Wampler claimed gold and silver with

Alex and Peterson doing the same in the 200 yard breaststroke.

Other individuals, including Williams, swam well, winning the 200 yard IM and taking second in the 100 yard butterfly. Finnerty won the 200 yard backstroke by three seconds. The last event of the day was the 400 yard freestyle. The team of Mullin, Ben Gross '10, Smith and Wampler finished on top easily with six seconds to spare, sealing the victory for the Mules.

Next up for the men's team are NESCACs on Feb. 29 at Middlebury College. Co-captain Mullin has great expectations after the victory over Bowdoin. "This weekend put us in great shape for NESCACs. We're swimming really well right now and looking to have some major time drops at NESCACs." For the women, NESCACs are on the Feb. 22 at Wesleyan. With plenty of talent behind them, these dynasties look to be in good hands for the rest of the decade.

Men enjoying best season ever with big things to come

By PAT BAGLEY
STAFF WRITER

Boisterous crowds of spectators, super steep uphill and downhill, and ski-pole snapping mayhem were all part of last weekend for the Colby Nordic team. The team traveled to Hanover, NH to compete at the Dartmouth College Ski Carnival on Feb. 8-9, a grueling two-day event that comprised a skate ski event on Saturday and a mass-start classic ski on Sunday.

The women took 8th place at both contests, handily beating Bowdoin College, whose team placed 10th and 11th out of 11 teams. Captain Kathleen Maynard '09 was the Mules' top female. She earned 13th place at both events, covering the 5K skate in 14:57 and the 15K classic in 55:26.

But it was Jennie Brentup '10 who had the most dramatic performance. While Brentup battled through a crowd of 60 skiers in the mass start 15K, a nearby competitor snapped a pole in half. One of the pieces of the competitor's pole flew up and lacerated Brentup's cheek just below the eye.

Brentup showed incredible tenacity. According to Maynard, "She bounced back from the injury and pulled Meghan Cornwall '11 along with her." Brentup and Cornwall finished within 5 seconds of each other, placing 36th and 37th respectively. "It was really exciting to see them working together," Maynard said after the race, "It's some-

thing that I know we'll see more of next year as the women's team grows."

Adding to the list of podium finishes in a Cinderella Story year, the men's team earned second place in both the skate and the classic races. It fended off 3rd place Middlebury in both races.

Dartmouth College won both races but it was no blow-out. "Dartmouth was rumored to have an extreme home course advantage at Oak Hill," captain Nick Kline '08 said about the intimidating ski course, "but they didn't take advantage." True, or perhaps Kline & Co. did not let the Big Green capitalize at home.

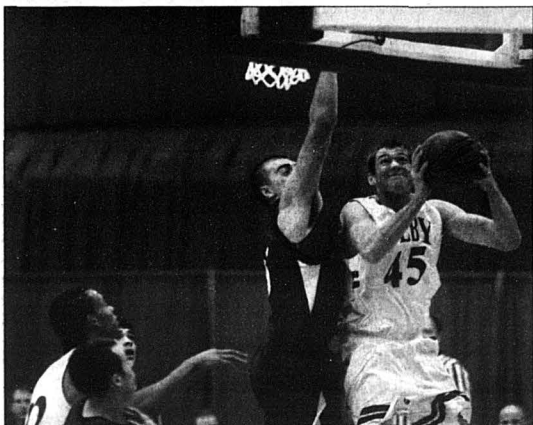
Kline and Silas Gill '09 placed 4th and 5th respectively in the skate race, earning NCAA qualifying points. Matt Briggs '09 (9th place), Wyatt Fereday '11 (12th) and Sam Mathes (16th) rounded out the team score. "We barely got beat by Dartmouth on their home

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Wyatt Fereday '11 placed 12th at Dartmouth.

MEN'S BASKETBALL



Michael Russell '11 and the Mules are fighting for a playoff spot this weekend.

Mules on the bubble after Bowdoin loss

By CHRIS GORUD
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday Feb. 9, the Colby men's basketball team took the court against traditional rival Bowdoin College in New England Small College Athletic Conference play. Although the Mules had strong contributions from their starters, they were handed a tough 60-70 loss that puts them in a vulnerable spot for postseason play with only one weekend of conference play remaining.

Artie Cutrone '09 led Colby scorers with 13 points. Captain Mark Gaudet '08, junior guard Mac Simpson, and sophomore forward Adam Choice each contributed 10 points. While these starters all contributed, Colby scored

less than 10 points off the bench and was unable to stop the potent Polar Bear offense led by Andrew Hippert (18 points).

Bowdoin jumped out to an early lead and sustained it with solid rebounding (32 to Colby's 26) defense. Head Coach Dick Whitmore commented that the Mules "played well for a long period, but never managed to make it all the way back." After falling behind, Whitmore and the team tried to rely on its strong perimeter offense. However, the team went a disappointing 10 for 23 from behind the arc and was not able to find the hot hand it needed to climb

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Women's hockey grabs pair of wins

By SARAH BRUCE
STAFF WRITER

After a weekend on the road, the women's hockey team puts two more wins under its belt. The Mules beat Wesleyan University on Friday night, 5-1, and then carried their momentum into their game on Saturday to beat Hamilton College 2-0. Senior captain Melissa Mullane called the weekend "a step in the right direction."

Against Wesleyan, junior Becky Julian put three pucks in the back of the net in the first period alone. She scored the first at 6:58 minutes, and then capitalized on power plays for the next two goals at 9:46 and 14:38 minutes. This puts Julian at 18 goals for the season. Both Colette Finley '09 and Stephanie Scarpato '11 assisted Julian on all goals. With five seconds left in the second period, Amanda Comeau '09 scored short-handed to give Colby the 4-0 lead. Wesleyan came back with one goal 3:38 minutes into the third, but Laura Anning '09 answered with her 14th goal of the season at 10:24 minutes. Lacey Brown '09 made 24 saves for the Mules.

On Saturday against Hamilton, the competition was a little tighter, but the Colby women still pulled out the win. The first two periods ended in a scoreless tie. It was junior forward Anning who charged ahead in the third and scored at 6:46 minutes assisted by Heather Nickerson '09 to put a point on the board. It appeared

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MEN'S HOCKEY

Mules clinch home playoff

Win over Amherst brings elimination game to Colby

By DANNY EPSTEIN
STAFF WRITER

On Friday Feb. 8, Colby notched a 2-1 victory over Amherst College at Alfred Arena to clinch a home quarterfinal game in the New England Small College Athletic Conference tournament. In a game that had a playoff feel to it, Arthur Fritch '08 went top-shelf for the game-winning goal off of a beautiful pass from first-year Brendan Shea in the middle of the second period.

Behind the net, Shea threaded a pass to Fritch on the doorstep of the goal for the game winner. Shea played phenomenally in the game, receiving many shifts from Head Coach John Tortorella and will most likely see increased minutes the rest of the season. With Middlebury College and Bowdoin College winning their Friday night affairs convincingly (Middlebury beat St. Michaels College and Bowdoin beat Hamilton College), Colby still remained one point behind Middlebury and one point ahead of Bowdoin.

The first period

against Amherst began strangely with a barrage of penalties and broken sticks. On one Colby power-play, there were three shattered sticks on the ice creating havoc for both teams. After an offensively challenged start, Matt Ahern '09 made a great pass to a cutting Matt Strickland '10 who scored the first goal to put Colby ahead 1-0 at the end of the period. Both teams had fewer than ten shots and despite numerous power-plays there were not an abundance of offensive chances. The physical nature of the game was set early with some big hits and quick skating.

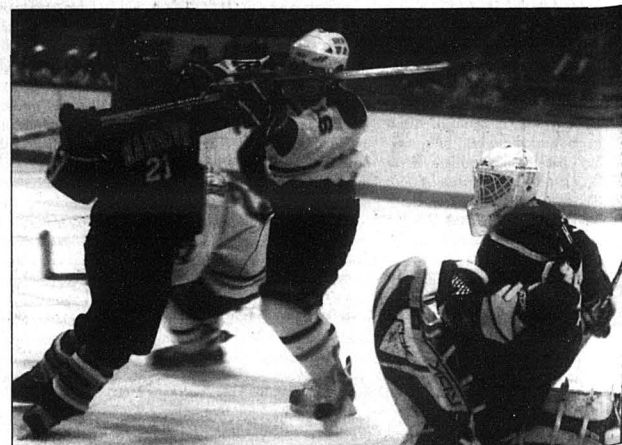
In the second period, Amherst's Michael McIntosh banged home a goal from Joe Covelli on the power-play to tie the game at 1-1. Covelli, in his first

trip back to Colby after transferring had a quiet offensive game. Soon after McIntosh's goal, Fritch scored to make the score 2-1 and ended the scoring for the game.

The third period was marred by a vicious hit by Amherst's Jack Baer on Adam Marino from behind that got him ejected from the game along with five-minute major for hitting from behind. Along with the hit, the officiating also was questionable throughout the period, drawing criticism from both coaches.

Amherst pulled its goalie with one minute left in the third period but was unable to score in a flurry of opportunities.

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Wil Hartigan '11 gets physical in front of the net against Hamilton on Saturday, Feb. 9.