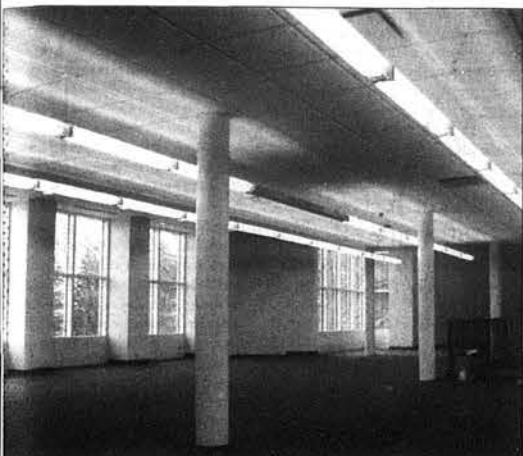


## BOOKSTORE PREVIEW



Newly constructed bookstore will open for student use in the fall.

## New bookstore set to open next fall

Two-level bookstore will re-open in Cotter Union

By SUZANNE MERKELSON  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

While students have been able to enjoy Cotter Union this year largely unimpeded by construction, the final element of the Union expansion project is yet to be complete—the new bookstore.

Additional construction has occurred throughout this school year on the east side of the building, facing the Diamond Building, on a 9,000-square-foot wing to house the College bookstore. This \$4.25 million project had been approved by trustees in January 2007 and is expected to be ready for shipping, receiving and storage of items by July. Opening festivities are anticipated when students return in the fall.

The bookstore will move from its current location in Roberts Union. Long-term plans for Roberts include a transformation into dormitory

space (after relocation of the Psychology Department and Office of Security). However, next year, the first floor of Roberts will probably be used as space for conferences and meetings.

The Echo was treated to a tour of the new bookstore with Bookstore Director Barbara Shutt. The new bookstore is approximately the same size as the current one, but will "hopefully be used more efficiently," according to Shutt. The structure, as Shutt points out, is "totally new and built into an already existing, pretty complicated space [Cotter Union]." The bookstore is two floors and makes use of natural light from large windows and doors.

The first floor, on what is now the ground floor of Cotter Union, will have an entrance next to that of Page Commons. It will hold much of what the front room in the current bookstore encompasses, such as clothing, books (excluding textbooks) and the "Colby Corner," with its "spirit" section (glassware, etc.) targeted at older alumni. This floor will also feature two reading spaces, featuring com-

See BOOKSTORE, Page 4

## PAPER CRANES FOR PEACE



4,000 paper cranes in Pulver symbolize the American lives lost in Iraq.

## SGA election prompts student outcry

Revote to decide winners of SGA election after controversial disqualification

By BEN HERBST  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

After the initial round of voting in the Student Government Association presidential election the ticket of Patrick Boland '09 and Cary Finnegan '09 and the ticket of Joel Pitt '09 and Dan Heinrich '09 faced off in a runoff election—Boland/Finnegan held a slight advantage after the first round. However, the runoff, held March 19-21, ended with no candidates elected after the SGA Judiciary Committee disqualified Boland/Finnegan for illegal campaigning and Pitt/Heinrich withdrew from the race to force another election, one with Boland/Finnegan back on the ballot.

A final third round began April 7 and will conclude April 9 (See article, Page right).

The Judiciary Committee disqualified Boland/Finnegan for an e-mail

Finnegan sent to Head Residents (Finnegan is Head Resident of Perkins-Wilson hall) after campaigning for the runoff had ceased. While the e-mail was sent before the campaigning deadline, the list server collect e-mails all day and deliver them in one e-mail shortly after midnight at the end of the day. Therefore, Finnegan's e-mail to HRs soliciting support appeared well after the 5 p.m. campaigning deadline passed.

Boland told the Echo on April 8 that he was "really disappointed in the ruling" and that afterwards he was overwhelmed by the student support that emerged on campus afterwards.

According to SGA Vice President Jeffrey Mullins '08, who oversees the

election process, he received complaints from students and administrators about the timing of the e-mail—the complaints did not come from Pitt or Heinrich. "They came first from a Head Resident and second from an administrator," Mullins said. In his capacity, Mullins takes the complaints and states the facts of the case to the Judiciary.

The Judiciary is a body modeled after the United States government and provides a checks and balances system.

In this case, the Judiciary met late Wednesday March 19 and heard the facts from Mullins as well as ques-

tioned Finnegan on the e-mail and specific aspects of the incident. Following their review of the case, they voted to disqualify Boland/Finnegan.

The Judiciary met almost nightly during elections to hear allegations of various infractions and some other students were disqualified.

Other candidates have been disqualified for similar infractions—Alex Hoder '09 was disqualified in the race for Treasurer and Athul Ravunniarath and Harry Davis were disqualified in the runoff election for Class of 2011 representatives.

SGA President Nicholas Cade '08 and Mullins both received well over 100 complaints via e-mail for their decision to disqualify Boland/Finnegan, a decision they did not personally make. The decision was made by the five-member Judiciary. "The people who actually vote to determine the outcome



Student reads SGA candidate platforms in Pulver before the re-vote.

of a Judiciary hearing are a diverse group of students from around campus who in their job description are precluded from being members of SPB, SGA or serving as a Head Resident," Mullins said.

Mullins responded to the e-mails either generally with clarifying Official Notices or responded to personal attacks with individual e-mails and invitations to discuss student frustrations in person. According to Mullins, "Frequently these students shied away from having an actual conversation and hid behind a faceless e-mail." He is still open to discussion, and will be holding a brainstorming session for future elections at some point this spring, but added: "If you have personal beef with me, please call (248) 838-0212."

Frustrations with the Judiciary's decision and a smear campaign targeting Boland boiled over hours after the decision and continued during Spring Recess on the Digest of Civil Discourse, an e-mail list server for student discussion. Students also felt that Heinrich had improperly used his position as Head i-Play Commissioner to campaign using i-Play e-mail lists.

Many students supporting Boland/Finnegan argued that Pitt/Heinrich had committed similar campaign infractions and some went as far as to say that Heinrich had personally conducted a smear campaign against Boland. Discourse proved extremely uncivil as students supporting one ticket or the other launched into attacks against the candidates and their supporters.

According to Boland, there were two different rounds of posters that personally attacked him. They focused on him

See ELECTION, Page 3

## Protocol questioned after SGA election fiasco

By SUZANNE MERKELSON  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The disqualification of Patrick Boland '09 and Cary Finnegan '09 and subsequent withdrawal of Joel Pitt '09 and Dan Heinrich '09 (see article, Page left) from the Student Government Association presidential election

There is no protocol about how to handle this. All past guidelines are very ambiguous.

Jeffrey Mullins '08  
SGA Vice President

led to a unique situation in the organization's recent history. With no tickets officially left on the runoff election ballot as Spring Recess commenced, both candidates and the student body in general left the College amidst a bitter uproar and ensuing general confusion.

According to SGA Vice President Jeffrey Mullins '08, it is the responsibility of the current Vice President to run elections. "This had never hap-

See PROTOCOL, Page 4

## Classrooms find home

Roberts renovation results in construction of new academic building for 2010

By CHARLIE EICHACKER  
NEWS STAFF

In order to reach its long-term goal of converting Roberts Union to a dormitory, the College is planning to build a new science building to replace lost classroom and office space currently located in Roberts Union. The building will be located between Olin Science Center and the Schair-Swenson-Watson Alumni Center on the Colby Green, and will house the Psychology, Mathematics, and Computer Science departments. Construction on the building will begin at the earliest during the 2009-2010 academic year.

Since early January, a project team headed by Vice President for Administration and Treasurer Doug Terp and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty Ed Yeterian has been working closely with an architect from the Boston-based firm Shepley Bulfinch. Currently the committee is in the planning stages. Shepley also helped plan Olin and the still developing Colby Green, located across Mayflower Hill Drive from the academic quad. Other members of the project committee include Associate Professor and Chair of the Computer Science department Doctor Bruce Maxwell, Associate Professor of Mathematics Leo Livshits and Professor and Chair of the Psychology Department Thane Pittman, Physical Plant Department Director Patricia Murphy and Assistant Director William Stank.

Thus far, the committee's planning has focused primarily on the building's space definitions and schematic

design. Though the building's exact physical dimensions have yet to be determined, it will be smaller than the Diamond Building and larger than Schair-Swenson-Watson. Its actual placement will depend on aesthetic factors related to the other buildings around, specifically, Olin and Schair-Swenson-Watson. More specific planning related to the interior structure and features of the building, such as the design of classrooms, labs and green considerations, will begin once these external plans are finalized. At that later stage, the respective representatives from the Psychology, Mathematics and Computer Science departments will consult more closely with the architect regarding the building's specialized features. Pursuing what, according to Doug Terp, is an "aggressive schedule," the committee will continue to work with the architect and Physical Plant Department through the summer to lay the framework for this more planning as soon as possible.

The construction of the new science building will help to free up needed space across campus in several different buildings, including Mudd, Arey and Roberts. In Roberts, the freed upstairs space will eventually be converted to dormitories while the meeting spaces currently there will move down to the first floor, where the soon-to-move bookstore is presently located. Tentative plans are also under consideration to move Security into Grossman. Though the budget for this long term project has yet to be decided, it will most likely, according to Terp, rely on a combination of gifts and borrowing.

## THIS WEEK'S ECHO

www.ColbyEcho.com



BMR lights up Page, Page 14

News .....	1-5	Local Calendar .....	6
Local News .....	6-7	Editorial .....	8
Opinions .....	8-9	Who's Who .....	10
Features .....	10-11	Students on the Street .....	12
Forum .....	12-13	Weather .....	13
A&E .....	14-15	Reviews .....	15
Sports .....	16-18	NESAC standings .....	17



Year off changes lives, Page 10



Baseball starts strong, Page 18



# Talk draws attention to crisis

By ELISABETH PONSOT  
NEWS EDITOR

Due in no small part to the slow response by the international community and the U.S. government to the veritable refugee crisis in Iraq, the situation has continued to worsen since the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003. According to the UN Refugee Agency and the International Organization for Migration in 2007, one in five Iraqis have been displaced by the violence and social turmoil in Iraq since the war began.

The number of individuals who have either been displaced inside Iraq's borders or who have fled to neighboring countries is estimated to be as high as five million. While there is contention over the accuracy of the statistics, what is certain is that the individuals forced to flee have overwhelmed the resources and infrastructure of neighboring countries such as Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon.

In the 2007 fiscal budget, the Bush administration allocated \$20 million to assist Iraqi persons and families displaced or made refugees by the war. However, critics contend that the funding falls short of the resources necessary to address the humanitarian crisis. Furthermore, the Bush administration has been condemned for allocating such a small portion of its funding to address the crisis in light of the \$8 billion a month spent on military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Beyond the commitment of resources, the *Washington Post* reports that the U.S. government has permitted only 466 Iraqis to come to America under refugee status since 2003. Though 7,000 immigration slots were allotted last year for Iraqi refugees to the United States, only 202 were filled. The State Department has cited security concerns as a major obstacle which prevents Iraqis from immigrating into the United States.

However, the countries neighboring Iraq have been unable to deal with the influx of Iraqis. As Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration Ellen R. Saucerbrey told the [Washington Post], the situation has degenerated such that many refugees are "left with minimal resources and are living on the margins." Moreover, many displaced children are unable to attend school



The UN Refugee Agency has estimated one in five Iraqis are displaced.

and do not have access to adequate health care.

Concerned by a lack of awareness for the refugee crisis both at home and abroad, Assistant Professor of History and George C. Wiswell Jr. Research Fellow Jason Opal began the Iraqi Refugee Awareness Movement on campus. The group is a mix of students, professors and outside contributors committed to increasing awareness about the humanitarian crisis in a depoliticized manner.

As part of its campaign to promote awareness, the Iraqi Refugee Awareness Movement hosted an event on April 3 entitled "The Quiet Catastrophe: Iraqi Refugees and Contemporary Politics." Speaking at the event was Jennifer Kemp, a representative from the Organization for Women's Freedom in Iraq. Jason Kurtzer, a congressional advocate for the organization Refugees International and Shirmila Cooray '09, a student at the College who worked with Iraqi refugees while studying abroad in Denmark this fall.

Opal began the lecture by expressing his discontent for the political response to the Iraqi refugee crisis on "both sides of the aisle" in Congress. He said, "The tendency is to disown the displaced, to brush aside their very existence as an unfortunate side effect of a remote and confusing war." He described his fear that conversation about the refugee crisis, much like talk of the continually degenerating situation within Iraq, has "fallen to the margins of public discussion."

Cooray, who volunteered for the Danish Red Cross last fall, worked with two men who had fled Iraq after the war began. "They shared the heartache and longing for friends and family they left behind," she said. Cooray noted that the experience of working with these two individuals gave her insight into what it must feel like to be a refugee. She described the U.S. government's treatment of Iraqi refugees as "atrocious," as even Iraqis who have worked in conjunction with American forces in Iraq at great personal risk have incredible difficulty attaining refugee status and placement within the United States.

As of late, policy-makers have begun to recognize this issue and have attempted to push for better funding of refugee programs. Specifically, some congressmen have called for an expedited process to ensure placement within the U.S. for Iraqis who cannot go back to Iraq as a result of their cooperation with Coalition forces. As Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) said, "We have a special obligation to keep faith with the Iraqis who have bravely worked for us, and have often paid a terrible price for it, by providing them with safe refuge in the U.S."

Students interested in helping promote awareness about the Iraqi refugee crisis or who wish to donate money to help refugees fleeing Iraq should consult the Refugees International webpage at: <http://www.refugeesinternational.org/>

## ADMISSIONS

# Competition may decrease

By JAMES BELTRAN  
NEWS STAFF

For students currently in high school, there could be some good news concerning college applications. According to an article recently published by the *New York Times* revealed that college admissions in the United States are expected to lessen in intensity in the coming years.

The March 9 article noted that the number of high school graduates is expected to peak at 2.9 million either this year or next year after 15 years of intense competition.

It is speculated that this change in number of students graduating from high school at one time will be largely the result of changes in demographics. The decline is expected to last until 2015, and "most universities expect this to translate into fewer applications and less selectivity, with most students probably finding it easier to get into college."

The article related that the demographic changes were caused by "sharp geographic, social and economic variations," with the assumption that the number of graduating high school students from poor and working-class families will increase. "In response, colleges and universities are already increasing their recruitment of students in high-growth states and expanding their financial-aid offerings to low-income students with academic potential." Despite this decline, "some admissions deans and independent consultants say the struggle to win entry to the most prestigious universities is likely to continue."

Director of Admissions and Financial Aid at the College Steve Thomas explained that the decrease in the number of college applicants could be temporary. "[College admission rates] could change if more or fewer kids graduate," Thomas said. According to Thomas, the number of high school graduates will decline slightly at

first. The implications of less high school graduates could be significant, as fewer students in general will apply to college.

The decline of college applications will not distinguish between public and private universities: "Whether people apply to public or private has to do with the perception of that as well as the cost." Thomas related that demographics have gone up and down before, and

is what I would call gaming." He explained that many colleges don't admit students that they should because of fears that the students will not show interest in attending. He made it clear that the College does not participate in gaming, but noted that if it did, it would have an acceptance rate of 18 percent.

Thomas said that "our admit rate is an accurate reflection on how we go about the decision making process." He conceded, however, that many students admitted to the College will go on to other, more prestigious schools.

In Thomas' view, the future is uncertain, as "things are going to happen that we are not going to know." Regarding the education like that offered at the College, he said, "I don't think you'll find big difference at the top of the college food chain. There's always going to be demand for that kind of education." Furthermore, the College has weathered other demographic storms in its 200-year history, and will have to be more cognizant of demographic changes. Currently, the student population is coming more from the Southern and Western areas in the U.S. There is also a rise in international students, because, "as the dollar drops, you see a greater interest abroad for an American education."

Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Campus Life Kelly Wharton said that the decrease in college admissions would affect the current housing situation in the College. "It will return our housing system to the intent of what it should be." According to Wharton, there are currently 97 converted spaces on campus, such as the Goddard Hodgkins faculty apartment, as well as 68 spaces in the Colby Gardens.

By returning converted lounges to their original purpose, Wharton believes that there will be a revival of community. Overall, she noted that the Office of Campus Life is looking at the converted systems and examining what can be returned to its original function.

recounted that when he graduated from high school, one half of the 2.1 million high school graduates went on to college. Today, "of 3.1 million graduates, two-thirds go to college, and they will apply to the top colleges."

Along with changes in supply and demand, Thomas said that "there are other variables that affect the competitiveness of admissions." He remarked that students apply to many more schools now than they used to, due in part to the removal of application barriers. As a result, colleges are flooded with applications, which have made college admissions less predictable.

Referring to a *New York Times* article which noted that elite colleges posted record lows in admission rates for the Class of 2012, Thomas said "that [the record lows] is a reflection of two things. One, in the increase in the number of applications, and the second one

## PROJECTS FOR PEACE

# Students win peace grants

Two student projects selected for \$10,000 grant

By TAJREEN HEDAYET  
NEWS STAFF

In a competition spanning over 85 college campuses throughout the country, proposals by students at the College obtained two of the 100 grants for \$10,000 awarded by the Davis Projects for Peace initiative. The pairings of Qiamuddin Amiry '09 and John Campbell '09, and Nancy McDermott '08 and Emily Goodnow '09, will receive the grants to work on their projects during the summer of 2008.

The Davis Projects for Peace is a program which allows students in schools affiliated with the Davis United World College Scholars Program to design their own grassroots projects for peace that can be implemented anywhere in the world. The project began last year as an effort by lifelong philanthropist Kathryn Wasserman Davis to motivate students to actively take part in promoting peace in the 21st century. The program is now in its second year, with a hundred new projects taking place throughout the world. "I want to use my 100 birthday to help young people launch some immediate initiatives—things that they can do during the summer of 2007—that will bring new thinking to the prospects of peace in the world," Davis said last year, when she celebrated her centennial by committing \$1 million for 100 Projects for Peace. Two proposals sent by two groups at the College received grants from the program at the time, also.

The initiative encourages creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship in the applicants, who submitted their final proposals for this summer on Dec. 17,

2007. This year, a committee comprising six faculty members, including professors in a variety of fields and a Dean, selected which proposals would be submitted.

Amiry, a former student of Li Po Chun United World College, explained in his proposal that he recognized the importance of education and tolerance years ago. "At UWC, I got to know people from Israel to Malawi with whom I discussed sensitive issues from religion to politics and war."

I feel the responsibility to spread the message of peace and tolerance to the world.

Qiamuddin Amiry  
Class of '09

Those two years transformed me into a more tolerant person; I feel the responsibility to spread the message of peace and tolerance to the world." He believes his home country is filled with youth who "starve from lack of education and understanding."

"I wanted to pass this opportunity that the UWC gave me to underprivileged students from Afghanistan: a chance for understanding those who are different." He began on his own, writing to boarding schools in New England, persuading them to bring students from Afghanistan to their campuses. Last summer, two scholars from Kabul were chosen through a rigorous selection process to attend

Maine's Gould Academy this coming fall. Now, along with classmate Campbell and the help of contacts in various schools and corporations, he seeks to expand the scholarship program, launch a non-profit organization and embark upon a North American campaign visiting schools, raising funding, and building relationships in an effort to bring top Afghan scholars to private U.S. boarding schools. Amiry and Campbell seek to provide students with "an opportunity to pursue an education they could not receive in Afghanistan," which has been ravaged by war for the past thirty years. Amiry quoted the UWC mission statement to show what education can be—"a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future."

McDermott, a senior international studies major, and Goodnow, a junior concentrating in religious studies, seek to achieve the same kind of clarity that is brought about by education. Their project for peace will be centered in Bamako, Mali, a West African country with one of the lowest human development indexes in the world. Goodnow went abroad to Mali in 2007, where female literacy rates are low and infant mortality rates are high. This summer, McDermott and Goodnow will work to promote gender equality and empower girls in Mali with the funding provided through Projects for Peace.

The winning projects demonstrate rousing and practical ways to promote peace in the modern world. There is no doubt that these endeavors will leave an indelible mark on those involved. In the words of Martha Berry, Professor of Psychology and member of the selection committee, "It was inspiring to see how Colby students came forward with really creative projects devoted to promoting peace. The hardest part was not being able to fund all of them."

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SBI '07, COMMUNICATIONS '09

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# Memoir chronicles hidden heritage

German professor speaks about life during Holocaust

By SUZANNE MERKELSON  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Professor emeritus of German Hubert C. Kueter will read from his recently released memoir, *My Tainted Blood* on April 14 at 7 p.m. in the Robinson room of Miller Library. The event is co-sponsored by the Department of German and Russian and the Jewish Studies Program and will be followed by a reception and book signing. *My Tainted Blood* discusses Kueter's childhood in Nazi Germany and departure from Germany in the years following World War II.

Kueter, whose mother was Jewish, was instructed to never reveal the fact that he was half-Jewish. She was only able to survive due to his existence; the Nazi administration believed Jewish mothers should be kept alive while their non-Jewish children were growing up. While this fact, along with the overall gravity of the situation in Nazi Germany overshadows the book, Kueter is able to reflect on the events of his life with the humor and light-heartedness of the adolescent narrator, who has a penchant for both food and mischief.

While the reader does hear about the atrocities of Nazi policy toward Jews

and the racism in the war's aftermath, what makes this book stand out is Kueter's unique viewpoint. Kueter utilizes his own memories, which he says he achieved through "putting [himself] into that place and really reliving those years," in conjunction with entries from his mother's diary. His mother is both a central figure in the book, itself, as well as in Kueter's decision to write it. "We were a family, just the two of us, very isolated by the circumstances," Kueter said in an interview with the [Echo]. His mother would be "upset" to have learned that Kueter wrote this memoir. "It was always dangerous to have our background known," he said. However, as Kueter said of this first book, "I needed to get this fact of my Jewish blood out of the closet."

Kueter sprinkles in recipes for German delicacies throughout the book. Food (or perhaps the scarcity of it) figured tremendously in his childhood,

It was always dangerous to have our background known... I needed to get this fact of my Jewish blood out of the closet.

Hubert C. Kueter  
Author of *My Tainted Blood*

Germany, Kueter and his mother arrived in New York and became "absorbed in the American way of life." Because many of his relatives had left



Professor Kueter, shown here as a child, survived perils of Nazi Germany.

Germany before the war, Kueter was able to integrate and go on to college, spend time in the Armed Forces and graduate school, eventually becoming a professor of German at the College. He has returned to Germany many times since leaving, including through leading several JanPlans abroad, starting in 1967. He said that many of the connections fostered through these experiences have been "lasting."

*My Tainted Blood* veers from the typical (and reasonably so) "doom and gloom" aspect of most works about the Holocaust. Through Kueter, we are able to understand how a German Jew can still love Germany. Through a love of the language and literature (as well as the food), Kueter "can keep Nazi Germany separate from the concept of Germany as the Fatherland." He expressed his love for teaching the German lan-

guage, and languages in general. Some of the most memorable anecdotes in the book include interactions with Russian and African-American soldiers, with whom Kueter conducts cultural exchanges unique to the post-war era.

But perhaps the best example of Kueter's style (as both writer and rambunctious *cuisinier*) is an anecdote in which he steals a Christmas goose from the porch of his richer Nazi neighbors. While Kueter's actions could have placed his family in grave danger, what the reader is left remembering is the appreciation for the goose and general enjoyment of the occasion by Kueter's family.

This is Kueter's story, but it is one that encompasses the realities of life in Nazi Germany, as well as the remarkable ability to recover and reflect after the horrors of the Holocaust.

## SGA run-off to be decided in another round of voting

From ELECTION, Page 1

being a resident of a substance free residence hall, East Quad. The second round contained the text: "Patrick Boland = Chem Free," and "Do you really want this man representing you?" These signs were posted on his door, in the East Quad lounge and on the Miller Street on Wednesday March 19. While some were quick to blame Pitt/Heinrich, Boland said, "At this point I really just don't care. It may have been one really disgruntled person who I pissed off in the past, I don't know. I've talked to Joel a lot about this and he unequivocally denied it," Boland said, adding that if Pitt gave him his word that he and Heinrich were not involved, he believed them.

Pitt said that he gets questions about the posters and maintains that they were not involved. "At this point the fact that we denied it so many times and that people who know us do know that we would never do something like that speaks for itself," Pitt said.

Junior Clifford Vickrey caused a stir on campus with his words on the Digest when he held Heinrich responsible for the smear campaign and launched into a smear campaign against Heinrich as well as Cade, accusing the president of favoritism for his role in disqualifying Boland/Finnegan. Vickrey prefaced his attack on Heinrich saying: "I don't know you. I don't care to know you. But let me say this: you strike me as the embodiment of everything that's wrong

with Colby."

Other responses to the disqualification urged civil discussion and a more careful look at the facts. Fritz Freudenberger '09 questioned the Judiciary taking exception to Finnegan's use of the HR list server while not punishing Heinrich for using the i-Play e-mail list in his March 21 post on the Digest. He also cautioned that there was not enough evidence to indict any candidate for a smear campaign: "As for the smear posters. Unless a party admits to them or we have enough reason to believe that Pitt's campaign was responsible for them I say that we can't go around pointing fingers."

Kate Vasconi '09 responded to Vickrey on March 21 saying: "No one likes to see a disqualification, but that does not warrant attacks on the other candidates and on the SGA exec board. You're angry about smear ads. Well, what did you just do?"

Others just asked that the election be decided by a general vote—not just by the Judiciary. "...I'm not plugging Boland/Finnegan or bashing Pitt/Heinrich," Andrew Bolduc '10 wrote on March 21, continuing, "I'm not suggesting at all that Pitt and Heinrich had

anything to do with the Judiciary Committee's decision. Support whoever you want, but the election should be decided by our votes."

In a plea for a revote, Colin Cummings '09 wrote on March 21, "The bottom line is that if this election is going to be decided by the elimination of viable candidates on the grounds of a technicality, our voices will not be heard, and we will not get the ability [to] choose. If this is the way in which this election is to be decided, I feel disenfranchised, disenchanted and am just short of disgusted with this year's election. I hope you feel the same way. I applaud Patrick, Cary, Joel and Dan for their

Kate Vasconi  
Class of '09

campaigning efforts, as well as their commitments to a better Colby, but this is a terrible way to decide an election for everyone involved, losers and winners alike."

A Facebook.com group, "PUT BOLAND/FINNEGAN BACK ON THE BALLOT" was launched and at its peak boasted around 200 members.

After the initial reaction on the Digest most of the comments aligned on a "Chem-Free" versus "Chem-Full" divide with Boland/Finnegan being labeled as the Chem-Free ticket because

Boland lives in Substance Free Housing and Pitt does not. However, for personal reasons, Pitt does not drink alcohol.

Boland told the *Echo* that he was "really disturbed" by reactions on the Digest after the disqualification and that some people took it too far. Mullins said, "In a strange sense I was glad to see such heated discourse because it reflects student interest."

"I'm still a little undecided about [the comments on the Digest], because I'm glad that students are talking about issues that are pertinent to them but at the same time I'm frustrated that so many accusations are made without finding out more about the issues or candidates," Pitt said. "I liked that these issues are being talked about but I didn't like the way in which they were being addressed."

Sensing campus frustration with the decision and noting the desire to be elected by vote rather than technicality, Pitt/Heinrich withdrew Friday to force a new election following Spring Recess.

"Because the student body did not have a chance to voice their opinion...because on the ballot there was just our names, we wanted to give the student body a fair chance to vote and have their opinion be heard," Pitt said.

"Kudos to Joel and Dan for doing the right thing. After all of the slander, false accusations, and all around bullshit over the last few days, it is very heartening to know that the candidates in this campaign are still committed to the betterment of Colby College," Scott Wentzell '11 wrote on the Digest on March 21.

No one likes to see a disqualification, but that does not warrant attacks on the other candidates.

## Colby College Department of Security Incident Report Log

Nature:	Date:	Time:	Location:	Disposition:	Comments:
Drug Violation	3/14/08	10:06 p.m.	The Heights	Deans Office	Smoking marijuana, paraphernalia.
Vandalism	3/15/08	12:30 p.m.	The Heights	Deans Office	Broke into vending machine.
Alcohol Violation	3/15/08	5:32 a.m.	Dana Hall	Deans Office	Underage Drinking. False ID.
Vandalism	3/15/08	5:47 a.m.	Alford Apartments	Deans Office	Discharged Fire Extinguisher.
Safety Violation	3/15/08	3:15 a.m.	Alford Apartments	Deans Office	Failure to Leave to Fire Alarm.
Vandalism	3/15/08	10:57 p.m.	Sturtevant Hall	Deans Office	Broken lounge window.
Alcohol Violation	3/16/08	12:20 a.m.	Pugh Center	Deans Office	Open Container, Underage Drinking.
Vandalism	3/16/08	3:28 a.m.	Taylor Hall	Deans Office	Damage to 3rd floor Mens Room.
Vandalism	3/16/08	4:34 a.m.	AMS Hall	Deans Office	Hole in the Wall 1st floor Mitchell.
Vandalism	3/16/08	10:34 a.m.	The Heights	Deans Office	Broken window and light.
Harassment	3/16/08	2:47 p.m.	East Quad	WTVL Police	Problem between two roommates.
Larceny	4/1/08	6:57 p.m.	Athletic Center	WTVL Police	Wallet stolen from jacket.
Auto Accident	4/4/08	4:21 p.m.	Mary Low Lot	Deans Office	Vehicle damaged in parking lot.
Medical Response	4/4/08	12:30 p.m.	Blue Light Pub	Health Center	Illness.
Indecent Conduct	4/5/08	1:13 a.m.	Alford Apartments	Health Center	Urinating in Hallway.

## echo news briefs

### Judge receives College's Brody award

Leonie Brinkema, a federal judge who serves in the Eastern District of Virginia, responsible for sentencing 9/11 conspirator Zacarias Moussaoui to life in prison, received the Morton A. Brody Distinguished Judicial Service Award at the College on Sunday.

The award, named after former Professor Morton A. Brody, was described in a Colby statement published by the *Morning Sentinel* as an award that "honors an outstanding federal or state judge who embodies the same qualities of integrity, compassion, humanity and judicial craftsmanship as Brody exhibited throughout his life." Brinkema recounted her work as a trial judge at the speech during the presentation of the award. According to the [Morning Sentinel], Brinkema said, "What trial judges have to do is try to balance the equities of the case, try to make sure that the parties get a fair trial, make sure that the process remains rational, that there is decorum, so respect for the court is not lost." Brinkema continued, "Those are the kinds of things I was concerned about in the Moussaoui case and I am in all of my cases...that's what trial judges do."

The Moussaoui case was the central focus of Brinkema's speech. The *Morning Sentinel* reported that when Brinkema sentenced Moussaoui to life in prison, she told him that "you came here to be a martyr and die in a great big bang of glory, but to paraphrase the poet T.S. Eliot, instead you will die with a whimper." Although Moussaoui attempted to disrupt the trial, Brinkema managed to keep order in the courtroom throughout the proceedings. The *Morning Sentinel* reported that Brinkema "worked as a team with the U.S. Marshals Service, the lawyers and the court staff to make sure there was no disruption."

Brinkema, who was nominated to her current post in 1993 by former President Bill Clinton, reiterated these efforts to maintain decorum throughout the Moussaoui trial. She noted that she was surprised at how the prosecution (led by the United States government) misled her by providing inaccurate information. Brinkema also had to convince the prosecution to make much of the evidence accessible after it became clear that much of it had been classified for no apparent reason.

For Brinkema's security, no photography was permitted during the presentation and speech.

—James Beltran, News Staff

### April Fools on campus

Just after midnight on April 1, a mass e-mail arrived in the inboxes of most students at the College. The e-mail, whose sender claimed to be an "Assistant to the President," jokingly announced that the Presidents' Council's "decision" to make Colby a dry campus as of the fall of 2008.

Some students, such as Tim Regele '08, immediately recognized the e-mail as "obviously fake." Regele and others pointed to the fact the supposedly "official" announcement had been sent to only a handful of students from a G-Mail account, and the prankster had made no effort to suppress the recipient list on the e-mail. Others had to dig deeper before uncovering the truth, going so far as to type the comical pseudonym "Clint Torres" into the College's on-line directory.

The e-mail went so far as to outline specifics of the fake dry-campus policy. Under the plan, students over 21 found to be in possession of alcohol would be fined \$500 and two points would be added to their record. Underage students would suffer a similar fate, with the additional stipulation of the College "[delegating] the proceeding to Waterville police." Party hosts faced disciplinary probation and police involvement, and multiple offenses could lead to suspension or expulsion.

However, according to "Torres," the President's Office and the Student Government Association planned to "triple the budget for Student Programming Board" in an effort to provide would-be imbibers with substance-free alternatives.

Elsewhere in the e-mail, the prankster mentioned that other schools who had "made similar decisions" saw the "amount of alcohol related emergencies [fall] dramatically" with a concurrent "22% jump in student GPA." According to the author, "alcohol-related incidents...have increased ten-fold since 2001."

While these statistics were likely fabricated without any quantitative evidence, the person or persons behind this prank did touch on an important issue the campus is currently coping with. Alcohol related incidents are in fact at incredibly high levels, and committees of students, alumni, and overseers have been meeting throughout the year to brainstorm solutions to this ever-growing problem. Whether or not the prankster intended to spark discourse about this issue is unknown, but the inclusion of it in a prank does shed some light on just how widespread this issue has become.

Other April Fool's pranks included the theft of hallway light bulbs from the hallways in Leonard (which consequently posed a safety and security threat to the building), and other spurious e-mails sent out to various campus organizations, such as WHMB.

—Alexander Richards, Assistant News Editor

### Senatorial candidate speaks

This Monday, Congressman Tom Allen (D-Maine) spoke at the College about his current campaign for the Senate seat that is currently occupied by the incumbent Republican, Susan Collins. Allen, who defeated then-incumbent Republican James Longley, Jr. in 1996 for his seat in the House, began the informal session by stressing that a Democratic win in Maine was essential for securing a Democratic majority in Congress. According to Allen, if such a majority is achieved, the United States can enter a new era of progressivism and prosperity.

To support this argument, Allen harkened back to 1964-1965, which he cited as a pivotal time in American history in which "the federal government [got] it right and [responded] in a pragmatic yet substantial way" to the social crises of the time. Specifically, the grassroots energy in Congress that backed President Lyndon Johnson's administration allowed for the passage of critical legislative acts, like the Voting Rights Act of 1965, that have become cornerstones of American society.

In Allen's eyes, "the challenges we face today will shape [our] future," and it is essential that Americans work together to address them. Such challenges include the healthcare issue, impending economic recession, climate change, the rising cost of higher education, and the swelling prison population.

As a Maine native and Bowdoin graduate, Allen was also savvy of concerns pertaining specifically to Mainers, such as the higher per capita costs of goods and services. Though Maine has a population similar to New Hampshire, its land mass is many times larger. The resulting diffusion of people across the state increases the cost of services like education. In smaller, denser states, like Connecticut and Rhode Island, education is cheaper since more students concentrate at fewer schools. In Maine, however, small student bodies attend numerous localized schools, thus distorting the price of education.

Throughout his speech and the following question and answer session, Allen reiterated the need for young people to get involved to generate grassroots support for his campaign and other Democratic initiatives. America is at a crossroads, and Allen believes he and the Democratic Party are capable of fixing the problems that our generation may otherwise inherit.

—Alexander Richards, Assistant News Editor



## SGA protocol scrutinized

From PROTOCOL, Page 1

pened before," Mullins said. "There is no protocol about how to handle this. All past guidelines are very ambiguous. I didn't want the decision [of how to proceed] to be mine alone." Thus, he organized a meeting of involved parties, including SGA President Nicholas Cade '08, all five members of the SGA Judiciary Committee (responsible for the decision to disqualify Boland/Finnegan) and every original presidential ticket (not only Boland/Finnegan and Pitt/Heinrich, but also already eliminated candidates Byron Meinerth '09, Lokesh Todi '09 and Dan Roboff '09). Participants held an informal discussion, sharing and debating ideas until a unanimous agreement was reached. The run-off between Boland/Finnegan and Pitt/Heinrich was to be held again. Meinerth, whose running mate Ben Green '09 is currently abroad, and Todi/Roboff were both invited to re-join the race, but decided against doing so. Furthermore, the run-off for the representatives for the Class of 2011 was also to be decided by re-vote.

Mullins sent an Official Notice to the student body on Thursday, April 3, explaining the proceedings for the election re-vote. In this notice, he also

**We'd like to turn some of this blatant criticism into something more productive.**

Jeffrey Mullins '08  
SGA Vice President

made a request to students for input and participation in a future "election brainstorming session."

For this second round of run-offs, traditional campaigning was not to occur. Instead, each ticket submitted a written statement of no word limit to Mullins. On Sunday, April 6 these statements were sent through webmail to the entire student body, accompanied by an explanation from Mullins. The statements were also posted in Pulver Pavilion. Both sets of statements expressed gratitude for the interest and participation in the election and regret for the uproar and complaints caused by the disqualification of Boland/Finnegan. Each ticket also took the chance to restate certain aspects of their platforms, remind the student body why they believed they were most qualified and encourage students to vote.

On Monday, April 7 polls opened again. Voting was to occur through Wednesday, April 9, at noon (past Echo deadline). The winner is expected to be declared on Wednesday.

According to Mullins, the Office of Campus Life has played a key advisory role throughout the debacle, especially Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Campus Life Kelly Wharton and Assistant Director of Campus Life Dan Melega. Furthermore, he stressed that all candidates have been cooperative and understanding throughout the process. "We'd like to turn some of this blatant criticism into something more productive," Mullins said. "I want SGA to effectively speak for students."

The two presidential tickets echoed Mullins' sentiments. "I was really disturbed by some of the reactions after our disqualification," said Boland. "Joel and Dan did the right thing. If [Pitt/Heinrich] had just accepted the position, SGA would not have been legitimate. After this, I hope students still think that SGA is important and can do a lot of good."

"The disqualification of Patrick and Cary was unfortunate, and with the outcry that the campus had, Daniel and I needed to act," said Pitt. "But the voice of the campus is what I'm most impressed with. I don't like the amount of accusations that were made, but what I did appreciate was that people were talking about the issues and talking about SGA."

## Two-level bookstore slated for opening next fall in Cotter Union

From BOOKSTORE, Page 1

portable seating near large windows overlooking the Dana lawn. Furthermore, students will be able to purchase snacks and make use of a computer station to look up textbooks for classes. Shutt anticipates that the bookstore's location near the Spa and Freshens Café will not impact food sales. "We'll adjust to whatever students are looking for," she said.

The downstairs floor will be used similarly to the back room of the current bookstore. Students will be able to find school supplies and textbooks there, and it will also feature an additional reading space. This floor is especially equipped to handle the book "rush" at the beginning of each semester. Shutt said that the bookstore will be able to use more registers placed

temporarily downstairs to accommodate rush, as well as open a set of downstairs doors, normally to be kept closed, to ease traffic. Furthermore, the textbook shelving system will be able to expand during rush periods. The downstairs floor will also have storage space and offices for bookstore employees.

Shutt said that the College hired a designer specifically experienced with bookstore design for the store's interior. Staff were able to provide input to the design.

The bookstore will make its move to this more central location over the summer, using help from a crew hired using a temporary budget. While opening festivities are still being kept secret, Shutt promises that they will be big. "It's going to be beautiful," Shutt said. "We're going to have a lot of great new products and great new stuff for the fall."



Bookstore Director Barbara Shutt conducts tour of the newly constructed bookstore in Cotter Union.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## LOCAL EVENTS

### Jesus Christ Superstar

Friday, April 11 and Saturday, April 12 at 7:30 PM  
Sunday, April 13 at 2:00 PM

The Waterville Opera House

Watch the first rock opera, which was created in the 1960s and documents Jesus' rise in renown and eventual downfall. It makes us ask the question, what would have happened today? Tickets: \$18. Visit the Opera House website for more information.

### Book Launch and Hospice Volunteer Celebration

Friday, April 11, 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Hospice Community Center, 304 Main Street

Come help the Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area launch its new book *A Healing Touch: True Stories of Life, Death, and Hospice*. The book is based on interviews done with people who have been helped by Hospice. The event is free and books will be on sale.

### Second Annual Gelatin Printmaking Marathon

Saturday, April 12, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Freshwater Arts, 33 East Concourse (2nd Floor)

Learn how to make low-tech, non-toxin gelatin prints. Cost: \$35. Advance registration required. Call 680-2055 for more information.

### Winter Farmers' Market

Thursday, March 20, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

The Concourse in Downtown Waterville

Come buy cheese, bison, beef, pork, jams, bread, and much more from local residents.

### "Seize the Mic" Karaoke Competition Finals

Saturday, April 26, 7:30 PM

The Waterville Opera House

Listen to the "creme de la creme of local talent" as various contestants vie to win cash prizes and are judged on their performances by local celebrities.

### Maine Women's Balkan Choir

Sunday, April 27, 3:00 PM

First Congregational Church, Corner of Eustis Parkway and Main Street

Hear the Bar Harbor-based group of costumed ladies perform a cappella and bring the spirit and culture of the Balkans right here to Waterville, Maine. Free.

## WEEKLY EVENTS

### Sunday:

10 AM - 2 PM, Jazz Brunch at **Soup to Nuts Coffee**  
11 AM - 1 PM, Jazz Brunch at **The Speakeasy**

### Monday:

4 PM - 10 PM, Open Mic with John Hodgdon at **Mainely Brews Tavern and Restaurant**

### Tuesday:

4 PM - 10 PM, Blues Jam with Dave Mello at **Mainely Brews Tavern and Restaurant**

### Wednesday:

6 PM - 8 PM, Live Jazz at **The Speakeasy**

### Thursday:

7 PM Trivia Night at **Mainely Brews Tavern and Restaurant**  
6 PM - 8 PM, Live Jazz at **The Speakeasy**

### Friday:

6 PM - 9 PM, Live Jazz at **The Speakeasy**

### Saturday:

6 PM - 9 PM, Live Jazz at **The Speakeasy**

## SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION

# Maine wrestles with school consolidation

## Consolidation plans proving controversial

By ISAAC OPPER  
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

### PASSING SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION IN MAINE

Reorganizing schools first became an issue when Democratic Governor John Baldacci made it a priority in his first term. His goal was unsuccessful, however, as the Senate refused to pass the bill because of the perceived threat to small school districts. After this attempt in 2004, three independent studies reported that the combination of Maine's low per capita income and dislike of high taxes meant that the per-pupil cost of education in Maine, which at the time was the eighth highest in the nation, must drop.

All signs pointed to one particular area where costs could be cut: school administration. Decreasing enrollment caused many to ask whether the state really needed the 290 public school administrative districts it then had. For many, the answer was no; there were simply more school administrators than need be: one for every eleven teachers, a number that was ninth highest in the nation. This clearly leads to high administrative costs. If Maine could bring administrative costs down to the national average (in 2006) of \$195 per pupil, it would save about \$25 million per year. This could help reduce some of the pressure on Maine's education system or be used to increase teacher salaries, which were 35 in the nation.

Yet even if every school superintendent job were eliminated, Maine would only save about \$12 million in salaries. School consolidation is about more than just reducing the number of superintendent jobs. It includes things like reducing lower level administrative jobs, buying more supplies in bulk to reduce the cost, and in extreme cases, shutting down small schools. This last part of school consolidation is one reason why consolidation is such a controversial issue.

Baldacci's original plan called for pulling together the 152 school administrative districts into 26 megadistricts. This was part of his attempt to reduce the administrative costs from \$396 per pupil to \$186. This would save an estimated \$250 million over the three-year period starting in 2009. It would also eliminate around 1,255 jobs, over 100 of which would be superintendents, and lump rural areas, with low property values, with urban areas, and their high property values. This is a potential problem since much of the school budget is financed through property taxes.

"This [the Governor's original plan] truly is an urban formula for a rural state," state Sen. John Nutting (D-Leeds) said during a meeting of school administrators in Orono over a year ago. Despite these concerns, on June 11, 2007 Gov. Baldacci signed Public Law 2007, Chapter 240, Part XXXX and by doing so passed into law the school consolidation bill he had so long worked on. It varied a lot from the first bill he had proposed, but the fact remained that in it:

"All school units, of whatever form and whatever size — SADS [School Administrative Districts], CSDs [Central School Districts] and municipal school units, small and large — must:

1. Work with other units to reorganize into larger, more efficient units; or
2. Where expansion of the unit would be impractical or inconsistent with state policy, reorganize their own administrative structures to reduce costs."

Far from being over, however, the difficulty had just begun for the



Local school administrators are having difficulty deciding how to adhere to the law requiring consolidation.

Governor and other supporters of school consolidation.

### THE DIFFICULTIES IN IMPLEMENTING SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION

The law set August 31, 2007 as the deadline for school districts to "file a notice of intent," declaring which other school districts they want to merge with. By the end of the day 267 of the 290 districts had done so. Many of these chose more than one option. Waterville was not one of the 267 to submit a letter. The fact that 33 districts had not turned in a

letter did not present a big problem to the proponents of school consolidation. Education Commissioner Susan Gendron said that "I think it's part of the process that folks are being deliberate." But the lack of complete compliance was a sign of things to come.

The law passing school consolidation also attempted to bring more transparency to the school budgets. The budget would "go to the voters first at an RSU [Regional School Union] budget meeting at which any voter may attend and propose changes to the budget and then to a budget validation referendum." If the budget is rejected by voters, the process must start over until one is accepted. The problem is that the law had very little specifics on how this would happen.

Running city elections is not free. Portland City Clerk Linda Cohen is planning to open all 17 polling places during the first budget vote on May 13 because of the uncertainties about turnout. This will cost around \$50,000, equivalent to the yearly salary of a lower level administrative job eliminated by the new law. Another problem is that there is much uncertainty about what would happen if the voters failed to approve a budget by July 1, the day the old budget would end.

"There's got to be a budget we can look into if the voters don't approve one by June 30," said Gary Wood to the *Portland Press Herald*. He's working on an amendment to be considered that would specify more clearly what this budget would be.

This is a common theme among those who are trying to figure out how school consolidation can work.

"The law had a lot of unforeseen holes," according to Steven Tatko '10, a Colby student who looked at the issue during his internship with the Maine Municipal Association over JanPlan. "When the bill was passed few of the legislators realized this, but

now that people are trying to implement it, nobody knows exactly what they're supposed to do."

By October 2007, only four months after the bill was passed, a growing group of people were pushing for its repeal. The main contention is not simply the ambiguity of the details, but the dollars and cents. Different school districts have different costs, which depend on their sizes, the amount citizens have historically been willing to pay their schools, and property values in the area. Since it is quite likely that two of the merging districts have different costs, the question becomes: how are these costs split? Augusta, for example, could lose over \$400,000 a year because of the cost-sharing problems.

"There are a lot of questions," said Augusta Superintendent of Schools Cornelia Brown. "The Legislature needs to look at the issue of cost-sharing and maybe slow things down. That's a big piece of legislation. You can't do that quickly."

Another issue is that the law is not being applied even-handedly. The law mandates that the new districts have at least 2,500 students, but, in the words of former legislator Skip Greenlaw, "there are some plans that have only 1,900 or 1,500, and they're being approved."

### WATERVILLE'S SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION PLANS

Waterville is one school district that stands "to lose money" if school consolidation does not get changed.

"When you run the numbers on cost-sharing, if you were to become an RSU, there isn't one scenario where Waterville isn't going to end up paying more money," said Waterville Public Schools Superintendent Eric Haley to the *Morning Sentinel*.

He recommended that because of the losses, which he estimated to be between \$144,000 and \$571,000 per year, Waterville withdraw from the proposed SU 52, which would have also included Winslow, China, Vassalboro, and Messalonskee. Vassalboro also stood to lose nearly \$400,000 a year.

Uncertainty, however, remains. The state sent a letter back to Haley saying

that Waterville must justify why it withdrew from the talks and that the decision to allow them to withdraw rests solely with the state and not the local school district.

### CURRENT LEGISLATIVE SESSION CAUSING MORE UNCERTAINTY

In the latest development, Monday saw Gov. Baldacci veto L.D. 1932, a bill that would have amended parts of the school consolidation law. It would have allowed individual districts to create their own cost-sharing formulas, created a single budget format for all school districts and allowed a "school administration union" structure.

In his statement, Baldacci said that this structure would "encourage more bureaucracy and allow for the expansion of an inefficient means of school governance. Maine would likely end up with more school districts, not fewer."

Rep. Peter Edgcomb (R-Caribou), the representative who first introduced the bill, is now introducing another bill to repeal the school consolidation law. "This school union concept would have been helpful to a lot of areas," Rep. Edgcomb told the *Sentinel*.

"There are a lot of areas where the school consolidation law is not working well."

Gov. Baldacci, for his part, is trying to file legislation of his own that would include the "noncontroversial elements" of the bill he has vetoed.

For Waterville and other communities trying to figure out the next step in this latest development just means more uncertainty. While some are "going to keep plugging away," in the words of Lester Sheaffer the chairman of a consolidation committee, others like Dale Glidden, Winthrop, are taking a different approach.

"We decided again today that we're not going to have any more meetings until the Legislature comes out with a final bill approved by the Governor," he told the *Sentinel*. "We don't feel there's any sense to meet until we know what the final law is going to look like."

The only thing certain about school consolidation at this point is that it will continue to make headlines.

**The law had a lot of unforeseen holes. When the bill passed few realized this, but now that people are trying to implement it, nobody knows exactly what they're supposed to do.**

Steven Tatko '10

Intern  
Maine Municipal Association



# It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood

Students' interactions with neighbors rare

By KATHLEEN MAYNARD  
NEWS STAFF

An important aspect of life in any neighborhood includes relationships with neighbors — or so one would believe. When looking into relationships between students living off-campus and their neighbors, it appears that most of these relationships don't exist. A relationship would warrant a connection, association or involvement, and as it turns out, most students living off-campus have not had this type of interaction with neighbors. Is off-campus living simply an extension of the Colby bubble, or is there potential to foster relationships with locals? Students often speak of the disconnect between students and Waterville residents, and the lack of feedback we received on the topic of neighbors reinforces this notion. Conversely, the students who did provide feedback expressed regret for having not fostered better relations from day one. The take-home message is that many wish they had knocked on doors before it became too late.

"I wish we had introduced ourselves to them at the beginning of the year, but we were all busy with moving in and with sports and school, and by the time we thought of it, we were too awkward to actually take the plunge and let them know who we were," Laurel Duggan '08 said. Duggan lives in a house on Winter Street with several other female students. She explained her theory that possibly because the house has been rented to students for six or seven years, neighbors have assumed the same indifferent attitude toward relationship-building, since students only reside in the neighborhood for nine months. Duggan classified their interaction with the neighbors as "pretty neutral, I guess, because we have literally never spoken to them."

Not all off-campus housing is in Waterville; there are also various groups of Colby students living in China and Oakland, taking advantage of the rural setting Maine has to offer. Eva Gougian '08 commented that "all



Although a number of Colby students live off-campus, the majority of those report that their interactions with their neighbors are rare. Many wish they had tried harder to get to know their neighbors at the beginning of the year.

the guys live out in the woods, and all the girls live in the residential areas. We have six houses of Colby students within two blocks, and girls live in all of them!" David Helfand '08, one of those male backwoods residents shared his experience with neighbors. "I have had very limited interactions with my neighbors. There is really only one house close to mine. Other than our first conversation at the beginning of the year, our interactions have mostly consisted of waving to each other in our drive-ways." Despite limited interaction, Helfand commented that the neighbors are very friendly. In fact, he said, "One of them, who I would guess is in his mid-seventies told us to feel free to come

over and yell at him if his music was too loud."

Although Duggan and Helfand's description of the neighbor situation is consistent with most others, there has been a more legitimate "connection" between some off-campus residents and the people next door.

I wish we had introduced ourselves to them at the beginning of the year. By the time we thought of it, we were too awkward to take the plunge.

Laurel Duggan '08  
Off-campus resident

They know our backgrounds, know what we study, and are really supportive." Most of the people on their street

are working professionals — doctors, lawyers, teachers — as well as a few elderly people. "It was much easier to get to know people in the fall when the weather was nice, and people were out walking and spending time in their yards," Coleman explained that they really enjoy living off campus, which facilitates easy access by foot to everything downtown, while campus is only a five minute bike ride away. Although she added that, "it can be complicated, especially in the winter."

"It's very hard to make a general statement about student-neighbor relations since the experience is so different depending on where you live," Coleman said. "Living next to a lake in Oakland is completely different from living in a boarding house on Main Street." Regardless of where you live, you will have neighbors, and the opportunity for neighbor relations. So, for all those thinking about going off campus next year, heed seniors' advice. As Duggan pointed out, "If I had to do it again, I would definitely introduce myself on day one."

# Town in Maine bans growing GMO crops

Montville becomes the first to do so on the east coast

By EMMA GILDESGAME  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Montville, Maine, a town about 25 miles east of Waterville, has just become the first town outside of California to ban the cultivation of genetically engineered crops. Genetically modified organisms (GMO) are plants that have been engineered in a lab to include certain qualities that benefit the farmer, the consumer, or the seed company. Common modifications include resistance to pests, drought, and extreme temperatures. These modifications are often made by "splicing" genes between organisms to integrate certain traits in species that previously did not have them. For example, "anti-freeze" genes from fish that live in cold water are inserted into tomato genes to make the tomato plants frost-resistant, and certain varieties of corn are implanted with genes that have given them traits helping plants resist to weeds or pests.

According to an article in the *Pland Press Herald* last year, the first common GMO crop in Maine is Monsanto's Roundup Ready corn,

which is resistant to Roundup, the powerful agricultural herbicide also sold by Monsanto. A farmer growing Roundup Ready corn can spray this herbicide on a cornfield and kill everything living there but the corn. Many conventional farmers support the use of GMO crops, citing higher crop yields and the ability to reduce herbicide use as significant benefits.

While opponents claim the altered genes carried by these crops promote the development of "super pests," cross-contamination with natural domesticated and wild crops, antibiotic resistance and other human health risks, among others, supporters deny the risks or believe that they are not significant enough to support a ban. In an interview with the *Morning Sentinel*, Vernon Delong, executive director of the Maine Agriculture Bargaining Council, said that "growers struggling to make a living need all the tools available to them," including GMO crops.

However, nearby organic farmers are concerned about the spread of modified crops into their own fields. When seeds from GMO crops end up on farms using naturally-occurring seeds and organic farming techniques, which prohibit the use of GMO crops, organic farmers are at risk of losing their certification, and heirloom crops, which have been cultivated for years to achieve the best possible natural produce, can be ruined.

Another problem that owners of



Montville, Maine became the first on the east coast to ban GMO crops.

fields neighboring GMO crops have often faced has to do with the control of these patented seeds. The vast majority of genetically modified crops are patented, which makes growing many varieties of GMO crop on your land without having bought it from the seed company a patent violation. In the case of GMO crops, this includes plants that have migrated from "official" GMO fields using natural dispersion methods without the knowledge of landowners. These plants are usually descended from seeds bought from companies like Monsanto, but the patent still applies, and small farmers have been sued by the large companies for this unintentional and often uncontrollable violation.

Montville's decision comes two years after residents passed a resolution calling for the town to explore the

possibility of banning GMO crops. The ordinance was easily passed by a town vote last weekend, according to the *Morning Sentinel*. It makes it illegal to use genetically modified crops for the next ten years and requires that farmers currently using GMO crops register with the town and begin to phase out all of their GMO crops. All GMO crops must be gone within two years. In ten years, the town will revisit the moratorium and decide whether to extend, alter or discontinue it.

In the meantime, the ban will be reviewed by the Maine Department of Agriculture, who looks at all city ordinances that have some impact on farming.

While supporters hope that the ban will be the beginning of a trend, most concede that most farming communities are unlikely to follow the same path.

## LOCAL ELECTION

# Students, alumnus vie for House seat

Three candidates for local Maine State House seat have Colby ties

By SUZANNE MERKELSON  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The College is poised to be well-represented in the upcoming Maine State House of Representatives District 76 race; all three registered candidates are either current students or recent alumni. In the Democratic primary, Henry Beck '09 will face Antone "T.J." Tavares '99. Andrew Kabatznick '08 is running unopposed in the Republican primary. This district covers about 8000 constituents, consisting mostly of Waterville, as well as part of neighboring Oakland.

The seat is currently occupied by Rep. Marilyn Canavan (D-Waterville). Canavan is termed out and plans to retire. Voting in the Democratic primary will begin the first week of May, to be followed by the general election next November.

All candidates have gained political experience and knowledge through the College and other outlets. Beck currently serves as Waterville city councilor, representing Ward 2, and was formerly president of the Maine College Democrats. Tavares, a Government major while attending the College, also served on the City Council, as Council Chairman, in the years following his graduation from the College. He stepped down from this position and chose not to seek reelection after accusations of theft from a local bar where he was an employee. Tavares pled no contest. According to the *Morning Sentinel*, this sentence has been removed from his record.

Kabatznick is treasurer for the Colby College Republicans and helped Rep. H. David Cotta (R-China) in his campaign to win the House District 55 seat in 2006. While Kabatznick is originally from Connecticut, he thinks he can

bring fresh ideas to the capitol. When asked why he chose to run for this office, he said, "I think that the Democrats aren't doing a good job. There needs to be more balance in Augusta."

Beck grew up in Waterville, while Tavares comes from Fairfield. Beck believes that while his affiliation with the College is important, he is also eager to represent the people of his hometown.

"I'm looking forward to the primary," he said. "We have a unique situation with another Colby student on the Republican side, but I think it's important to focus on issues involving both Waterville and Colby."

While the College's involvement in the race is unique, it represents a larger trend of young people's interest in politics. Students at the College have played important roles in the presidential and other campaigns this season (See article "Students head to New Hampshire for primary" from the Feb. 6, 2008 edition of the *Echo*). Kabatznick said that it was important for him to see young people being politically active and involved, citing the fact that six different members of the Maine College Republicans are running for office across the state.

Tavares believes that the College has had a huge impact on his political career. "My professors were doers," he said. "It isn't just strictly about the academics."

All three candidates are excited about the College's representation in this race in particular. "I think that the all-Colby aspect is fantastic," Tavares said. "It really helps bridge the gap between the student body and the general community. [Students] really do care about the community and understand the importance of civic participation."

Henry Beck '09  
State House Candidate

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# OPINIONS

## EDITORIAL

### On SGA campaign rules

After the mess that was this year's SGA presidential/vice presidential election, it is clear that reform is necessary for future SGA elections. Any election that sees multiple disqualifications of candidates for similar infractions deserves more than just "a closer look." It demands scrutiny from all involved parties.

We need rules. An election has to be run by a set of rules to make it fair, and must oversee by an impartial committee to make sure these guidelines are enforced and candidates are on equal footing from the get-go. However, the current restrictions overstep what is necessary. Some rules are necessary to legitimize the campaign, prevent unfair practices and provide an infrastructure for the election. Indeed, many of the current SGA regulations should be left in place to limit how much money can be spent, how many large advertisements can be used and when students can start campaigning. All of these rules level the playing field so that a student with more resources is not favored and students do not start campaigning far before the election, which would be unfair to candidates who join the race at the last minute.

While rules like these are useful and can help resolve problems in the campaign, it is unnecessary to require candidates to end the campaign at the moment when voting begins. It is unrealistic to think that a campaign can just stop at a prescribed date and time. The momentum of a campaign really only ends when the election results are final. If our student government is intended to emulate the real world, so should our election practices.

In order to get elected, candidates reach out to a wide range of students and employ various tools available to them and resources within their reach to spread their influence. It is unnatural to say that this must stop when voting starts, and ignores the realities of students' multi-faceted lives. This type of diverse and enthusiastic participation in campus life should be encouraged, not criticized or punished.

Also, while some disqualifying infractions are easy to prove (such as illegal e-mails), others are harder to verify and do not necessarily result in a Judiciary hearing (such as rumors of soliciting votes after the deadline). And even "obvious" infractions can be honest mistakes.

## Coming out to play as an ally

### A letter to the athletics department and the college community

The enormous, muscular arms of Esera Tuaoi know what it means to be strong—they crushed some of the biggest, most athletic men in the nation and survived almost a decade in the bone-crunching world of the NFL. They also know what it means to be patient, having raised two children, comforted hundreds of strangers, and learned how to love another person and in turn to love himself. A few weeks ago, Esera stood on the floor of Page Commons and opened these arms wide to us. It was impossible to miss the strength of his arms, but it was even harder to miss the strength of his heart. He sang for us. He prayed for us. And he spoke of his years in the NFL, the years he spent guarding the goal line with his power and athleticism. At the same time, he was guarding the secret of being gay in a world that told him not only that he shouldn't be, but that he couldn't be. It was the darkest Eden he could have found himself in. To reach for the apple, for true acceptance of the person that he is, would have meant expulsion from his team and from a sport and life that he loved.

This secret burned in every crevice of his body, stinging his mind, wrenching his stomach and paralyzing his core until after he had retired and come out to the public. He somehow managed to survive decades of being an intimate member of a world laced with homophobia and rejection. Esera told us about his deepest scars, his darkest days and the tremendous wave of courage and beauty he had found in the wake of his fear. He reached out to us, reached into us, and I have no doubt that he touched every person inside of the room.

The thing that stung, however, was that the people who should have been touched weren't

JENNIFER COX



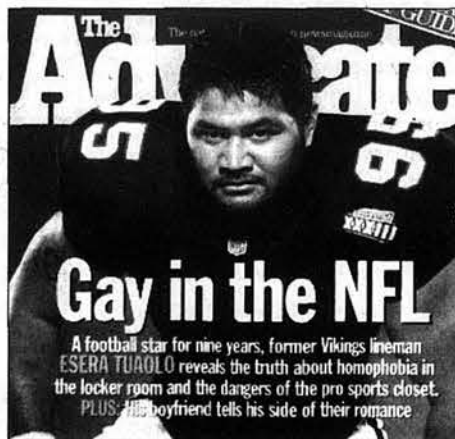
sitting there. The people who should have been hearing the words weren't even there to listen. Before driving the endless road to Colby, Esera e-mailed coaches and members of the athletics department to personally invite them and their teams to come see him speak. He urged them to make it mandatory so that all athletes would feel comfortable attending regardless of their sexualities. He did not receive even one single e-mail in response, and needless to say, there were

only appalling but embarrassing. I was angry and hurt, not for myself, but as a member of the Colby community.

There are two undeniable truths that we cannot ignore as a college of acceptance, diversity and commitment to equality. The first is that there are thousands of gay and lesbian athletes in high schools, colleges, and professional sports teams who feel uncomfortable to be themselves with their teammates and with the leagues. There are gay athletes at Colby, but out publicly and still hiding their identity as a result of fear. This causes pain deeper and more serious than almost anyone else can imagine. It forces tremendous athletes and human beings to pit their passion against their hearts. Though they're challenging their bodies and minds every day on the field, ice, court, or track, those battles are nothing compared to the ones they fight with themselves every single day.

The second truth is that this pain can only be eradicated through the cooperation of the athletic community. It is the responsibility of those in power—members of the athletics department, coaches, captains, and public figures—to encourage tolerance and acceptance. Some may say that sexuality has no place in sports to begin with, but that mindset is idealist and denies the realities of our society and today's world. Locker rooms across the nation are teeming with homophobia and oppression, both obvious and latent. It is crucial for individual athletes, entire teams, and for the future of sports that this issue is addressed regularly within teams. It's not going away, and it shouldn't.

Though we did not jump into the open arms, Esera has offered to turn if we ask him to. Talk to your coaches and your teammates about how you can encourage tolerance and awareness within your team. This will show respect. This will show compassion. And it will show that we are complete human beings, with arms strong, patient and loving as Esera's.



## Limiting our false democracy

### Condemning a political system based on irrationality, intangibles and ignorance

JACOB ROUNDTREE



People by the thousands flock to see him when he comes to town; some faint when he speaks; others scream and applaud even when he blows his nose—all are enamored with Barack Obama.

Obama has made many people interested in politics who previously were not; because of this, pundits are falling over themselves to explain how wonderful it is that so many people are getting involved in our democratic process. Sadly I am not as sanguine, and for that I ask the priests from the church of democracy for forgiveness. I am instead quite dismayed by this new found interest in politics that is on display by those who tend not to vote.

If these individuals who are so captivated with Obama were choosing to support him because they calculated that his agenda would greatly benefit this country, then I might feel a slight bit excited. However, when you ask the typical Obama devotee why he is supporting Obama, you will get one of or a combination of the following responses: "He's inspirational; he can unite our country;" or my favorite, "he offers hope for change." Responses like these, both from first time voters and traditional voters, lead me to believe that the two biggest cracks in America's foundation are the ignorance and the irrationality of much of the electorate.

Public choice economists have long held that voters choose to remain ignorant about policy because they calculate that the cost of obtaining relevant information far outweighs the benefit since they know their "one vote is unlikely to change the outcome." And Bryan Caplan, in his masterful and insightful book, *The Myth of the Rational Voter*, has done serious statistical research that proves voters' views, particularly on economic issues, are irrational.

This ignorance and irrationality of much of

the electorate impose heavy costs on society. Ignorance allows politicians to make false claims appear as truths and then convince the public to support their agendas.

An example is President Bush hoodwinking the American public into believing that Saddam Hussein was partially responsible for 9/11 and that he was either in possession of or was building nuclear weapons. Intelligence reports as well as intelligence experts at the time maintained that the former claim was completely bogus and that the latter was probably not true. Because the public was unaware of this contradictory evidence, it responded by overwhelmingly supporting an invasion of Iraq. Now we have to suffer with \$3 trillion in war costs, with the loss of life of our fellow citizens and with the heightened animosity in the Muslim world directed at the USA.

Irrational ideas, in some ways, are more costly to society than ignorance is because they

Consequently, Americans, when feeling the pressure of high prices, have often called for the state to impose price ceilings.

This country's experiment with rent control provides an apt illustration of the devastating consequences of mandated price ceilings. Over the past sixty years, rent-control has been adopted by dozens of cities across the country by popular demand. However, those same cities have seen a large reduction in the supply of rental housing in the quality of rentable housing units.

These effects logically follow because when you artificially limit the price landlords can charge, there is less of an incentive for them to build rentable housing units or to maintain those they already own.

The reduction of supply has made finding an apartment in many urban areas a very difficult task, thus consuming people's time and energy; it has also resulted in higher prices for rents throughout the rest of the consumer real estate market.

The reduction in quality maintenance has led to many people living in rat infested, poorly lit and/or unsafe apartment buildings because they are effectively disallowed from paying higher rents for improved living conditions.

There are no significant costs associated with being ignorant or with holding irrational ideas in the realm of politics; however, as the fallout from the invasion of Iraq and the enactment of rent control laws demonstrate, ignorance and irrationality yield sizable costs for society. Consequently, in order to make our democracy work as a means for checking the power of the state, while ensuring the safety of the people, there must be a cost associated with being ignorant and holding irrational biases.

One logical option is to mandate that citizens pass an exam to obtain the right to vote. The exam would test individuals' basic knowledge of economics, American history, and foreign affairs. Unfortunately such a proposal is doomed to fail not because of its radical nature but because of irrational and uninformed belief voters have that they are somehow rational and informed and thus entitled to vote.



## 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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#### THE ECHO NEEDS:

Students interested in working on the 2007-08 editorial staff, business staff or support staff should contact Suzanne Merkelson '09 at smmerk@colby.edu

Applications and interviews will be come up soon.



# A prelude to pride



JESS  
OSBORNE

## Personal experience with fighting fear and campus homophobia

Hello, my fellow Colby students. In the midst of this relatively warm month of April, we have SASA Week, Cotillion Common, just to name a few things going on. I've had the opportunity to help out a bit in the planning of Pride Week, which is also something everyone should check out (but hey, a bit biased). Anyway, all the rainbows and stuff got me thinking about the atmosphere at Colby, and my own personal experiences being gay.

Yes, we'll get that out of the way first. For those who don't know me, you may have seen me around campus using the usual stereotypes. I "look" gay. For any event, that's not the point of this community, but Colby's environment has a lot to do with how comfortable I am being me, and part of my identity is being gay. Let's first go back in time to freshman year. Oh freshman year, when everything was so new, for most of us, we did if we desired, reinvented ourselves since high school was far behind us. College comes with its beginnings, right? Well, yes in many ways, and there certainly were for me. To make potentially long story short, I will say this: I'm more comfortable here on the Colby campus than I ever had in high school or in my hometown. Coming to accept myself for who I became much easier, and after nervously ending some Bridge events, I confirmed my feelings and came out. Using a cliché, it was as if an enormous weight had been lifted from my shoulders. I had found a community in Bridge that accepted me, and an environment on campus that seemed to foster acceptance, too.

All that said, even on a liberal campus such as Colby, some feel that being gay is wrong, and this is what I want to talk to you all about. I usually preface any of this with apologies for sounding pissed off and whiny (which is a kind word), but not today. I'm speaking up for me and my own life because I

**I know this fear may seem irrational and overblown, but it's not. I have reason to be afraid when Pride posters are torn down and derogatory words are written on doors.**

truly want to be proud of who I am and not be afraid to show it. With Pride Week coming, it's important to remember that as much fun as we have celebrating, being proud is also about being unafraid to express yourself. I will be very honest, however, and say that as accepting as this campus claims to be, I've been scared to walk around alone. I know this fear may seem irrational and overblown, but it's not. I have reason to be afraid when Pride posters are torn down and derogatory words are written on doors. I have reason to be afraid when a male student points at me angrily and makes a comment about "People like that..." I don't want to be afraid anymore.

I know that this campus is somewhat isolated from the rest of the world, and we're all educated individuals, many with big hearts and so much ambition, but there are those who hate people like me. You know the stories, Matthew Shepherd being one of the most well known, but certainly not the only one, not by far. I don't want to be afraid of the men in the truck who followed me on I-95, sped ahead, and then waited in a rest area to follow me again. Being who I am and looking the way I do shouldn't be wrong, and I hope and pray that I can influence even this small sphere of the Colby College campus. I know it sounds hopeful, and it is, especially with some of the experiences I've had, but if I can influence someone in some way, perhaps they'll look at me and take a second, or a minute, or whatever it takes, to get to know me as a person, not know me by looking at me. I didn't choose who I am to begin with, but I want to be able to be that person I am without fear.

So, with Pride Week coming, I encourage everyone to check out the events going on. Any small amount of support helps, whether it's going to an event, or simply letting the posters stay where they are. I would never wish such fear I've felt to anyone, but I implore you, my fellow students, don't encourage a life of fear if you can prevent it. Thanks for reading.

# An anthem for American soldiers

Over two years ago, on October 4th, 2005, Lance Cpl. Andrew D. Bedard, age 19, of Missoula, Montana, who was killed by an improvised explosive device while conducting combat operations against enemy forces in Ramadi, Iraq. Bedard was driving the lead vehicle of a 21-vehicle convoy when he turned his vehicle away from a high-threat area in a manner that exposed himself to the greatest danger from a possible buried IED, costing his own life, but saving the lives of four other passengers in the vehicle. Andrew had been deployed in September of 2005 and one month later he was death number 1,944, and his death painted the situation in violent colors to me.

I grew up with Andrew and knew him as a classmate and a friend. He changed from a shy slightly awkward boy in sixth grade to an 18-year-old who was courageous in a quiet and modest way, and who signed up for military service without ceremony before graduating high school. And in October 2005, after Andrew died, I wanted the Colby student body to understand what Iraq was for me. I wanted my Iraq to be known but I could not personally share it. So I worked with the League of Progressive Voters to remind everyone of those (then) 2,000 soldiers in November 2005. October of 2005 was the most difficult month of my



MARCY  
SHRADER-  
LAUINGER

life and still I cannot watch one movie, be in one class or look at one picture of the war without my breath being taken away.

Regardless of what one thinks of the reasons behind the Iraq war or the political deadlock that is now surrounding the country, we as students, as peers of the soldiers, must recognize their sacrifice: their service to the military and to the country of Iraq. In the months running up to March 2003, I was bewildered by the reasons for entering the war and the political situation as a whole. To my credit, I had been living outside the United States for around seven months and international news focused on the domestic dialogue in the US was sparse and limited to 10-second news bites. I did not support the war and never have, but this piece is not about my opinion on Iraq. The sacrifice of the soldiers

in Iraq is beyond what I could ever do and I am honoring them for their courage and their dedication. When writing this piece, the number of American soldiers who have been killed is 3,988 and in the next two weeks it will reach 4,000. That number is beyond the number of Colby students and it was beyond the Colby population two years ago when 2000 flags were placed in the soldiers' honor on Miller lawn in 2005. I cannot impress upon the Colby community that this number matters, as do the other high costs that have been incurred by the military, civilians and the country of Iraq. When a vision for a

memorial began, it was October again and the numbers had reached 3,800. Richard Clarke had just come to speak about his part in the war administration; John Burns and other notable Iraq war reporters spoke about their experiences at the Lovejoy Convocation, all of which brought my grief shockingly back. It was time to remember that life is fleeting and not secure for anyone.

I do not know a Colby student who knows my Iraq. I could be ignorant, but it's not something you advertise: "Looking for: someone who knows a person who was blown into a million pieces by an IED." Here and now, I feel alone; I am 3,000 miles away from anyone who knew Andrew. And I cannot help but generalize the

**Today, Iraq is as bewildering as it was for me back in 2003. And until the sky clears and there is a reason for those lives lost, I cannot say goodbye to my Iraq and I'm not sure I want to.**

Colby student population as a group of people that has been untouched by the death in this war and that frustrates me. In this article, I mean to be honest, brutally so, about what happens to soldiers in Iraq, how they die and how they are forgotten. I wish everyday that Andrew and the 4,000 others died for a cause, a greater reason, that their deaths are related to a bigger picture and not particles of dust that are being brushed aside. Today, Iraq is as bewildering as it was for me back in 2003. And until the sky clears and there is a reason for those lives lost, I cannot say goodbye to my Iraq and I am not sure I want to. More importantly I do not want anyone in the United States to forget those 4,000 men, women, mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, husbands, wives, friends and lovers, no matter their political inclination.

This week 4,000 names are being displayed in Pulver Pavilion in memoriam. Remember to honor these men and women for their lives and their service. Look at the 115 pages of names but remember this is not the only cost of the Iraq war. I hope that this modest memorial illustrates the magnanimity of the Iraq war, how it will shape our generation and how it has touched our lives, either in the distance or in a much closer reality.



Lance Cpl Andrew D. Bedard, 19, of Missoula, Montana was killed in October of 2005 when an IED exploded in Ramadi, Iraq.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Recognizing a crisis: Oil and energy in America

I would like to thank your reporter, James Beltran, for his article in the *Echo* (Feb.27) on my STS presentation, "Climbing the Oil Peak: Energy, Abundance, and the Dangers of History."

In the first part of that presentation, I gave the historical reasons why Americans tend not to worry very much about our energy supplies, and in the second part I explained why we should start to worry now.

The term "Oil Peak" in my title refers to the time when a nation, a region (such as the Middle East) or the world as a whole reaches the highest daily production rate of petroleum that it will ever achieve and then begins an inexorable production decline. For example, the U.S., including Alaska and offshore, peaked at around 11 million barrels of crude oil per day 38 years ago in 1970, and production has been trending downward ever since. At present, it is about five million barrels per day (1 barrel = 42 gallons).

Many other nations have peaked. The oil fields in the North Sea, just east of Britain, peaked in 1999, and all of the countries that had a piece of those fields have peaked as a result. Mexico, home to the second largest oil field in the world and a major U.S. supplier, peaked last year. Indonesia, a charter member of the oil-export cartel OPEC, peaked several decades ago and now imports most of the oil it uses. Iran has peaked. Venezuela, with vast reserves of heavy (i.e., thick) oil, has also passed its production peak. The list goes on and on.

Production reaches a maximum and then declines for geological and geographical reasons, although markets and politics also enter in. Because of the geological and geographical constraints, very little can be done to boost production once peak has been reached, no matter how large the reserves or how "heroic" the production efforts.

Geology and geography are becoming more important factors in maintaining the world's oil supply because we have always first gone after the crude oil that is the easiest to find, produce, and transport. Much that remains is hard to find and produce (think of an oil field that is under ocean two miles deep and way offshore), and often difficult to transport once we get it to the surface. All of that is far more costly than it used to be.

The entire process, from exploration and discovery to first production and transport to market, can easily take seven or eight years,

and crude oil production usually begins slowly and takes several more years to reach its maximum flow rate. All in all, this is a very slow, risky, and expensive process that is difficult to expedite just because the market is calling for more oil.

It is very important to keep in mind that peak oil is about oil flows, not oil reserves. Finding a few billion barrels of oil here or a few billion there will have little effect on when worldwide peak occurs because it takes so long to bring that oil to market. In the mean time, we are using far more oil than we are finding, and all of those countries that are past their peaks produce less and less every year. The world needs about three million barrels per day of new oil every year just to offset production declines, never mind meeting annual demand increases of two million barrels per day. So, no, drilling in ANWR won't delay peak, at least not in an appreciable way.

Despite all the clamoring new demand, worldwide oil production has hovered around 85 million barrels per day for almost three years now. This stasis is unprecedented and calls into question whether production will ever go higher. If it does not, pressure on supplies will only get greater, and prices will increase significantly. One consequence will be much higher prices for gasoline, heating oil, items from Wal-Mart, airline tickets, and food, to name a few.

When world oil production passes peak and begins to decline, prices and markets will become volatile—possibly explosive—and we could be in for unpleasant and prolonged consequences because of how thoroughly oil has insinuated itself into our lives. It is fair to say that almost all of our consumer economy depends on oil in one way or another, from raw material and energy for production, to transport home from the point of sale. You might think of Colby College as the point of sale for your education. If you are reading this copy of the *Echo* on campus, look around you. Just about everything and everybody you see arrived here in an oil-powered car or truck, and just about every building on campus is heated by oil burned down at PPD.

It is very difficult for most people to wrap their minds around what would happen if oil (and energy generally) were no longer abundant and cheap. Although gasoline and diesel prices have been going up, very few voices in the media are explaining what the real reasons are.

It certainly is possible that prices will go down in the short term (for a number of reasons), but the medium and long terms are different matters, and everyone should understand that.

The reason that I am writing is that I want to one of those voices, and the *Echo* article about my STS presentation got everything right—except for one crucial point. The author reported that I said, "When peak oil hits, every country will be significantly impacted, however that will not happen for centuries."

Unfortunately, that is not what I said or, at least, what I intended to say. In fact, my point was the opposite: We are now staring peak oil in the face, eyeball to eyeball. The information we have about reserves and production is so unreliable that we don't know enough to say just when peak will happen. But forget about centuries—don't bet on more than a decade or two at the most, and it could be much sooner. Maybe it's now.

The timing of peak oil doesn't really matter, anyway. Planning and preparation matter, but very little has been done, despite a flurry of reports and a lot of good intentions. An excellent place to go for information on peak oil is <http://www.energybulletin.net/primer.php>. After you look at the "Peak Oil Primer" there, click on "Home" for lots of other energy-related information.

A number of cities in the U.S. and Europe have done studies of the effects that peak oil will have on their ability to provide services such as public transportation and emergency care. Portland, Oregon, has a plan in place to deal with the fallout from peak oil. Check out its website at <http://www.portlandpeakoil.org>. The "Info & Resources" section has lots of useful downloads. Portland, Maine, among other cities, is working on something similar.

Again, I would like to express my appreciation for the *Echo's* coverage of my STS presentation. In writing this, I just wanted to be sure that some of the most important points in that presentation got through: Peak oil will ultimately affect our lives in fundamental ways. It is going to happen in a few years—at most a couple of decades—rather than in centuries. And finally, it is extremely difficult for most people to understand and accept. The best time to start is now.

Lenny Reich  
Prof. of Science, Technology, and Society

# An uncertain future

## Reflection on Tibet's bloody struggle against oppressive Chinese actions and policies

Editor's Note: This article originally ran in the March 19 edition of the *Echo*, which was exclusively online.

In an event reminiscent of last year's brutally repressed demonstrations in Burma, last week monks took to the streets of Lhasa, Tibet's capital city. As had happened in Lhasa, the protest, which marked the 49th anniversary of the Dalai Lama's exile, turned violent after the Chinese military forcibly intervened. This event comes at a pivotal time for the region, highlighting Tibet's growing resentment of the dramatic cultural transformation wrought forth by China against the backdrop of Beijing Olympics this summer.

Perhaps nothing embodies the change occurring in Tibet so much as the Qingzang railroad. Completed in the summer of 2006, the 1200-mile railway line connects Lhasa to the interior cities of China. The line, which traverses the once impenetrable Tibetan plateau, is now the highest road in the world. Hailed as an engineering marvel and an economic boon for Tibet, on it can now travel by rail from any major city in China to what once was one of the most isolated communities in the world—all in the comfort of a high-speed, air conditioned and automatically pressurized train. But this unprecedented engineering feat for China is nevertheless a dramatic cultural defeat for Tibetans, that may effectively hammer the last nail into the coffin of Tibetan autonomy.

The argument that the line will provide economic benefits for the region by connecting Tibet with Chinese markets may be correct. However, the consequences of this ease of transportation—the railroad is the single most dramatic contribution to efforts integrating the region into a larger China. On the steel road—much of it elevated several feet above the ground so as not to melt the permafrost—runs a steady stream of rail traffic into and out of Tibet.



CHRIS  
VAN ALSTYNE

Passenger trains arriving in Lhasa are capable of carrying over 1000 passengers; for a large number of those traveling, their journey is but one way, a flight from the overcrowded cities and jobless countryside of China to the sparsely populated lands of Tibet. Many are forced to come, perhaps the result of a continuation of the Chinese government's long history of forced relocation. Others may come out of desperation, barred from cities due to the constrictive laws enacted against migrants within China. Regardless of the cause of their migration, immigrants from China are streaming into Tibet and are doing so in increasingly large numbers. Faced with overbearing and often prejudicial Chinese policies, Tibetans on the other hand are fleeing their ancestral home—either to seek jobs in China or crossing the border into India and Nepal, among other nations. This population shift is quickly and irrevocably altering Tibet.

In Lhasa, there have so far been reports of some 100 deaths in the protest. Fires rage throughout the city as citizens, fed up with Chinese repression, vent their anger. As in Burma, though, the protests will largely be in vain. Despite such highly publicized events as these, the global community nevertheless seems uninterested in actively promoting human rights, democracy or self-determination, save for blanket support statements. What will happen to the millions of ethnic Tibetans—their culture, identity language and thousands of years of rich history? Will Tibet become nothing more than a warehouse for China's legions of urban poor? Given China's past history with other minority populations and cultures under their control, Tibet's future looks tragically bleak.

If you are interested in discussing issues involving Tibet, come join Colby's Students for a Free Tibet group by contacting Ratul Bhattacharyya (rbhattac).



# FEATURES

## GAP YEARS

# Students take year off school to learn through experience

By ANNA KELEMEN  
FEATURES EDITOR

A year off sounds something akin to a dream for many students as they sit preparing for finals. For most students at the College, coming to the Hill is the adventure undertaken immediately following high school graduation. Other students, however, take time before pursuing further structured schooling and take the opportunity to explore the world around them and receive some firsthand education through experience.

One such student, Julia J. Engelsted '11, decided to spend a year with her twin sister before branching out and attending separate colleges. "After graduating high school we wanted to have our last hurrah together so we decided to plan a year off," Engelsted said. Although they initially considered traveling to South Africa, Engelsted and her sister ultimately traveled to Australia for six months before spending the second half of the year traveling in Europe. While in Australia, Engelsted traveled with a program conducting conservation work. However, she was completely independent during her time in Europe.

"Australia was so structured that we wanted to be spontaneous and have an adventure by the time we got to Europe so we threw our planned itinerary out the window and decided to just play it by ear," Engelsted said. Engelsted and her sister stayed in hostels or with family friends. Although they planned to visit certain people for prescheduled weeks, between those weeks the girls followed their travel whims. "We would go to places we were intrigued by. If we woke up and were having a bad day, we could just move to another city. It is different here when you're in the same dorm room seeing the same people every day. For a year we didn't stay in the same place for more than a week."

The life changing experience was not without challenges, though. "During [the year] I thought it was a

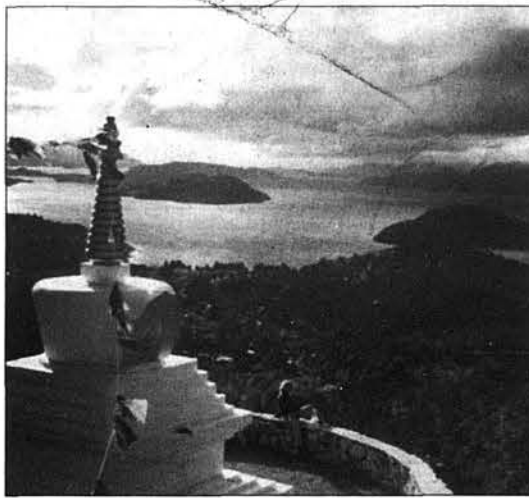
struggle trying to get by every day. When you live off your back you realize how little you need and that opens you up to all these different cultures." In addition to living out of a backpack, Engelsted and her sister separated occasionally when they wanted to see different places. "It was scary to realize that if something happened to either of us no one would know for a while." A highlight of Engelsted's year was the final night of her trip, which she spent on a park bench in Ireland. Her sister had returned to America ahead of her in order to begin her program at Colgate.

Peter Johansson '10 is another student who took time off to travel the globe. "I started in Minnesota and bought an around-the-world ticket that would bring me back after a year," Johansson said. Johansson spent a portion of his year abroad with his brother, and occasionally met with his parents who were also overseas. Johansson began his travels in Japan and from there traveled to Hong Kong, where his parents, were living at the time. He spent this time learning Chinese and exploring the city.

From Hong Kong, Johansson traveled to northern Thailand, where he worked with an organization entitled Free Burma Rangers. With them, Johansson made documentaries about the Burmese refugees living in Thailand. A favorite story of Johansson's took place in Thailand. "We had to hike into this refugee camp one evening but we weren't allowed to be there because we

were foreign. Because of that we had to hike into the back side which meant hiking for about six hours in the jungle. We had to wait for the sun to set and wear dark clothing," Johansson said, adding casually that the group was led by a fugitive. "We were spaced out 10 meters apart and we could not talk to each other. We came over a ridge, though, and we could see the lights of the camp. It was a breathtaking view and as we hiked down the steep ridge refugees started singing songs for us as we walked down."

After his time in Thailand,



Students who decide to take a year off before continuing their education take the time to travel around the world and learn through firsthand encounter. (Above Left) Rosalie Waxman '10 in Bariloche, Argentina. (Top Right) Rosalie stayed in a trailer with friends while in New Zealand. (Bottom) Julia Engelsted '11 and her sister on the Whitehaven Beach.

Johansson took a break from his around the world travels to meet his family in South Africa to celebrate Christmas. From there it was back to global travels when he went to Nepal for a little over two months to work in a school. "While I was there, Nepal was in a politically turbulent time so the city [I was in] was blockaded and there were strikes and riots," Johansson said. "Blackouts would be called and if you left lights on in your house they would throw bricks

through your windows," Johansson concluded, however, that he was never in personal danger. After traveling a few days in India, Johansson visited Egypt, went to London and worked on a service project in Romania with students from his high school. He then traveled to New York, and finally joined his parents in Moscow, where they had moved on short notice. The culmination of his trip was climbing Mount Kilimanjaro with his family.

Rosalie Waxman '10 is another stu-

dent at the College who took a year to have an adventure before settling into life on the Hill. Waxman spent the first half of the year in New Zealand and Australia and then, after returning to America to work for a month, she traveled to Argentina with a friend and hiked in Buenos Aires and Patagonia.

In New Zealand and Australia, Waxman lived in a variety of places. She began her year living with friends in a trailer park where she spent her days surfing and snowboarding. "I wasn't ready to go straight from going to school to more school. I needed time off to do something fun and I think I learned a lot in that year; not knowing where you are going to sleep and being out from under your parents [guidance]."

"I was definitely in some sketchy situations," Waxman said. "At one point in Argentina my friend and I were escorted off a beach at gunpoint. We had been wandering around and we left the city beach and somehow ended up on army territory. These guys came out of high grass and took us (at gunpoint) to the high ranking general's office where we had to explain ourselves. All in Spanish, the man asked us what would happen if we had stumbled onto a marine training ground in America, and my friend said we would probably be shot." Luckily, however, the soldiers were understanding and, according to Waxman, as friendly as they could be under the circumstances.

Of the experience, Waxman said it was the time of her life. "I learned a lot about myself. I learned how to cope with a variety of situations. To get around on your own and just live, get everything you need in a given situation still have a good time is just a huge confidence builder."

For Engelsted, traveling abroad forced her to consider her identity as an American more closely. Although she was excited about the academics upon reaching the Hill, she found the social life to reflect cliques she had rejected as myths about America while on her travels. Waxman too found the transition to college

life interesting. "Colby caters to the need and everything is taken care of for students," Waxman said. "I used to being away from home so it was a pretty easy transition." Waxman, after graduating a semester early as well as taking a year off, academic work took some getting used to. "You get cabin fever sometimes at Colby," Johansson said, continued, "I'm anxious to get there but I am also glad that I'm back. To some extent I am more appreciative of the learning experience that would be otherwise. When I first came back I just wanted to get stamped [having been educated] so that I could get out there but now I am more interested in the process of learning."

One thing all students agreed was the positive nature of their experience. Looking ahead to future travel all hope to study abroad while at Colgate, and look forward to traveling throughout their lives.

## WHO'S WHO: CLAIRE THOMPSON '08

# Senior takes volunteer work global

By MAUREEN CHUNG  
NEWS STAFF

Editor's Note: This article originally ran in the March 19 edition of the Echo, which was exclusively online.

The list of senior Claire Thompson's activities on and off Mayflower Hill runs long, but she does not sell any of them short. From her multiple research projects, to her experience in Botswana, to the three years of COOT2 leadership, Thompson has truly committed herself to each activity she has undertaken with vigor, passion and a smile.

Thompson, a biology major with a minor in environmental studies, is a

Maine native who did not let her small town limit her world. Thompson is deeply involved with LuziCare, a project founded by fellow student Jamie Goldring '08, which works toward supporting the Luzi Orphan Care Organization in Malawi. Thompson has helped run fundraisers that provide training for the Luzi volunteers as well as bicycles for mobile health care clinics, all with the aim of raising awareness and treatment of HIV/AIDS across Southern Africa. Thompson made a trip to Botswana in her junior year, which she described as amazing. "It opened my eyes to a new world, a new culture," she said. While in Botswana, Thompson con-

ducted a survey that focused on access to healthcare by interviewing locals and working with health professionals. She said of her work there, "It really raised my level of awareness of the issues facing people in other parts of the world and what people can do to help."

Thompson is also involved in activities closer to home. She is an avid member of all-girls a cappella group the Sirens, and has been a COOT leader for the past three years. She is on the COOT committee, where she reviews COOT leader applicants and coordinates the outdoor orientation program. "Being a COOT leader has enabled me to welcome underclassmen to Colby by sharing my favorite aspects of the campus with them," Thompson said. This role is strikingly appropriate every word that exists Thompson's mouth, every experience she recalls, possesses a desire to be heard and spread.

Thompson's activities range beyond campus and abroad, and she expressed a desire to "invest herself in the greater community off the Hill." She volunteers at Maine General Medical Center in Augusta, where she works with doctors ranging from radiologists to family practitioners. She is also a tutor at James H. Bean Elementary School in Sidney. Furthermore, Thompson has participated in events that strive to connect the Colby community with the community off the Hill, such as

Burst the Bubble Week. She says of the College campus, "As students on an isolated campus it could be easy to be disconnected [from] the larger community, but I've been pleasantly surprised with Colby students' awareness, especially with this incoming class. They seem ready and enthusiastic to participate in meaningful and engaging projects."

Thompson's latest project was leading a spring break trip for the Outing Club back country skiing in Yellowstone and Jackson Hole. Besides being an apt leader with her Wilderness First Aid and CPR certification, Thompson brought an element of genuine enjoyment to her trip. Thompson has also completed an Alaska Mountaineering course through the National Outdoor Leadership School. When asked about her multiple commitments and the strain they may present, Thompson said with a quiet smile and an unmistakable tinge of honest self-analysis, "I would be the first one to say that being so involved can certainly take a lot of time, energy and stress, and maybe I might not have invested myself as deeply in all these activities as I should've, but I try my hardest to approach each with care and consideration." Whether those activities are caring for a community across the Atlantic, leading incoming first-years into the wilderness, or simply sitting down for an interview, Thompson's efforts have been, and will continue to be, successful.



Claire Thompson '08

THOMAS BOLLER/THE COLBY ECHO

## Railroad Square Cinema

Waterville 873-6526

Here's What's Playing Fri. - Apr. 11 through Thurs., Apr. 14

### THE BANK JOB

R Nightly at 4:45, and 7:00; Also Fri. and Sat. at 9:10; Matinees Sat. and Sun. at 12:15 and 2:30

### 4 MONTHS, 3 WEEKS, 2 DAYS

Unrated Nightly at 6:50. Matinees Sat., Sun. at 2:45

### GIRLS ROCK

PG Nightly at 5:10; Also Fri. and Sat. at 9:10; Matinees Sat., Sun. at 12:50

### THE BAND'S VISIT

PG-13 Nightly at 5:00; Also Fri. and Sat. at 9:05; Matinees Sat. and Sun. at 12:50

### THE COUNTERFEITERS

R Nightly at 7:10; Matinees Sat. and Sun. at 3:10



# Concert raises funds and awareness

By KATHLEEN MAYNARD  
NEWS STAFF

On the evening of Saturday April 5th, the crooning tones of the College's own Blue Lights, the Colbyettes, Dori Smith '08 and several other student artists could be heard emanating from Bixler's Given Auditorium during the Sierra Leone Aid Project (SLAP) Benefit concert taking place within. The concert was one in a series of events orchestrated by a student organization dedicated to building lasting peace through malaria prevention in Sierra Leone.

The group was started in 2004 by several students, including Emily Mosites '06, who is now working toward her master's in epidemiology at Yale University, and Erin Rhoda '06, who now coordinates the Maine Ghana Youth Network. The organization sent a group to Sierra Leone in the summer of 2006 to distribute bed nets and carry out education efforts on malaria in several villages around the city of Bo. Bo is the hometown of David Amadu '07, another founding member of the student organization. Amadu continues to be involved with the organization, and will travel with the group of students going for a second aid-trip this summer.

Kirsten Duda '09 is currently spearheading the organization on campus and she described logistics for this summer's expedition with precision and enthusiasm. "We will be distributing 1500 bed nets, and of the 1500, 500 of them will be made within Sierra Leone. The materials will be transported by a company called BedNet International based in Thailand, then sewn by a tailoring business in Sierra Leone." Out of the eight core members present at Colby, three of them—Duda, Fiona Braslau '10 and Amy Eklund '11—will travel to Africa in June.

Duda described the group's increasing popularity on campus as very encouraging, particularly with respect to people's willingness to become involved in fundraising and planning efforts. After the increase in numbers last fall, Duda was fearful that everyone would be determined to travel but soon realized



SLAP recently put on a concert which featured student musicians in order to raise funds for their humanitarian efforts. The group will take a second summer expedition to Sierra Leone this year.

otherwise. "It was strange to go from being afraid of everyone wanting to go, to being afraid that nobody would want to go."

During its sojourn in Sierra Leone, the group will spend its first week in the capital Freetown before moving to the second largest city, Bo. It will focus distribution, manufacturing and educational efforts in four small villages that lie within three miles of Bo. Having a local support structure and focusing distribution in a specific area should increase the effectiveness of net distribution. "The malaria education component of our project will be centered around a comedic skit, which will be performed in each village by a local comedic skit troupe that we hire. We also hope to put up billboards, a strategy for increasing public awareness

that has been used for other communities to advertise protection against HIV/AIDS and domestic violence."

A core attitude of the project is that education is key in promoting sustainability and peace within a region.

## The malaria education component of our project will be centered around a comedic skit, which will be performed in each village...

Kirsten Duda '09  
SLAP Coordinator

In addition to funds earned through the grassroots fundraising campaign, the group has received a \$10,000 grant from Projects for Peace (see article page 2). In order to obtain this grant, project coordinators Duda and Braslau had to submit a proposal to Projects for

Peace outlining their organization and goals. Their proposal provides a brief, but important historical background of the issues in Sierra Leone. Sierra Leone suffered a civil war from 1991 to 2001 in which tens of thousands lost their lives. Despite the UN's efforts to end fighting and

withdraw troops, there is still widespread instability, and one of the best ways to counter this instability is to improve human health in communities.

In Sierra Leone, malaria accounts for 40.3 percent of outpatient morbidity, which is why the College's student organization decided to focus its humanitarian efforts on countering the disease using bed nets. Duda and Braslau's proposal also points out that there are currently larger organizations distributing bed nets in Africa, but that there are gaps in distribution in rural areas. This summer's effort will focus on filling those gaps.

The next step toward the organization's \$7,000 grassroots fundraising goal will be a pub night at Mainely Brews, this Thursday evening. The cover fee will be \$3, and the evening will kick off with trivia-themed entertainment from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by karaoke. All funds raised go directly toward program costs, and mostly toward the bed nets, which themselves cost \$6,000. Anyone who wants to become involved in the effort can contact Duda or show up Thursday night.

# Back to school again

By ANNA KELEMEN  
FEATURES EDITOR

*Editor's Note: This article originally ran in the March 19 edition of the Echo, which was exclusively online.*

How many times have adult friends reminisced and told you they wish they could go back in time, returning to their college days? Graduates can often be heard reminiscing about life in college and wishing to turn back the clock, but that desire has recently become reality for five social studies teachers from Waterville High School (WHS). Thanks to a grant from the Arthur Vining Davis (AVD) Foundation, these teachers were invited to the College to take courses of their choosing to supplement their teaching, which allowed them to expand their own teaching to include a broader worldview. The program, which began two years ago with a three-year mandate, will be over this spring.

The grant was written to "provide the social studies teachers at WHS with an opportunity to take courses at Colby which would allow them to globalize and revise their curriculum," Professor and Director of African Studies James L.A. Webb, Jr. said. While one goal set by the teachers was to create an AP World History course at WHS, the teachers also wished to introduce more international perspectives into the rest of the social studies curricula. Most of the \$150,000 the grant provided went toward hiring a substitute teacher, which allowed these teachers to take part time sabbaticals for study at the College.

The AVD Foundation strives to promote educational initiatives in secondary schools, and according to Webb, has a longstanding relationship with the College. "When the possibility of doing something for the high school was suggested to the president, the Dean contacted me and asked if I would be interested in helping them develop a program. So I looked at some of our strengths, and we have an incredible set of strengths in our international studies department," Webb said. The teachers took a broad range of courses in the government, anthropology

and history departments.

"We tried to set it up so that they could simply take courses that they thought would be most useful. We considered that the high school teachers were professionals, and we were simply providing resources that might help them," Webb said.

As the completion of the program nears, the teachers gathered at a conference on Feb. 15. There, after brief addresses by both President William D. Adams and Webb the teachers who had participated in the program led a series of panels. Teachers from across Maine attended. "Other teachers were really surprised to learn how much collaboration" these teachers had undertaken, Webb said. "There was a lot of enthusiasm at the conference and the results exceeded expectations."

The teachers have also made presentations about their experiences at Regional Conferences for Social Studies Teachers that were recently held in Boston. They are scheduled to present at the annual meeting of the World History Association in Milwaukee, and have a proposal pending for presentations at the World History Association meetings in London this summer.

"In a broad way there is a movement to teach world history in the high schools and it is not uncommon for the World History course to replace what was a Survey of Western Culture," Webb said. Thus this initiative was a small part of a broader movement to revitalize and expand social studies courses across Maine. The conference was useful for many of the teachers who came to listen to the presentations made by the Waterville teachers. "One woman who had been going to conferences for 30 years said that this was the first one that she found really useful," Webb said. The teachers handed out thumbdrives to everyone in attendance with materials from their newly revised curricula. "The thumbdrives included data and websites...everybody came away with an enormous amount of information about how to go about taking the initial steps towards curricula revisions," Webb said.

## STAFF PROFILE: SHERYL JASON



Sheryl Jason

## Friend of the 21-plus

By CHARLIE EICHACKER  
NEWS STAFF

Anyone who has ever frequented the Marchese Blue Light Pub is probably familiar with Sheryl Jason, the bartender who has presided over the campus establishment since it opened in February of 1998. In that time, however, Jason's role in the Pub has extended far past that of simply a bartender. Through a combination of her friendly demeanor, witty sense of humor, and sociable attitude, Jason remains a favorite among many upperclassmen.

When not working, Jason enjoys ice fishing and spending time with her family. Born in Winslow and currently residing in Fairfield with her family, Jason has lived in the Waterville area her whole life. She has three daughters: a 7 year old, a 12 year old and a 19 year old. One of her more memorable moments involving the College involves when she was pregnant with one of them. Members of the Colby men's hockey team got together and threw Jason a baby shower. Preparing for it, they bought her diapers, baby bottles, blankets and a whole series of other gifts for the baby.

It is the students and the memories, like this one, that have characterized Jason's ten years working in the Pub. Her affinity for the College extends past the actual space of the Pub (though the recently renovated location in the second floor of Pulver Pavilion

has been a high point for her this year) to the people filling that space. According to one of her coworkers, she knows the names of all of the students who have ever been in the Pub.

Jason also enjoys attending Colby sporting events. She can often be spotted at the men's hockey games, sitting right behind even the loudest students. Summarizing these feelings about the students, Jason said, "I love Colby. If I didn't enjoy the students here, I probably wouldn't still be here." And the students feel the same way about Jason. In 2003, members of the graduating class sang the song "Where Everyone Knows Your Name," the theme song to the television show *Cherish*, for Jason during their senior week. This is an appropriate testament to Jason's popularity among students in their final year at Colby. "Sheryl," one student said, "is like an antique. No one knows how long she's really been here, but no one can imagine the place without her."

Indeed, it is hard for any student to imagine a night at the Pub, be it a busy Saturday or a quiet Tuesday, a crowded trivia night or a Shipyard promo night, when Sheryl Jason is not standing behind the counter, filling glasses, and chatting with people ranging from students to coworkers to anyone else who happens to be there that night. Part of what makes the Pub such a popular on-campus location among upperclassmen is her presence.

## GIRLS UNLIMITED CONFERENCE

# Girls take charge and reject stereotypes

Hardy Girls Healthy Women recently hosted a conference for local girls

By ANNA KELEMEN  
FEATURES EDITOR

Hardy Girls Healthy Women is an organization with a history of helping girls to embrace their independence. Founded as an annual conference by three women and held here in Waterville, Hardy Girls Healthy Women eventually developed into a full fledged organization in 2000. "The purpose of Hardy Girls is to help girls confront a world that is unjust to them," Laura Webb '08 said. Past conferences have focused on

themes such as teaching girls about technology and finance, but have also included a meeting on beauty norms. This year, the conference focused on art and was an attempt to provide the roughly 100 participants with a realistic perspective on the challenges and biases women face in the professional art world.

At the conference, held last weekend, several students involved in the League of Progressive Voters at the College volunteered to facilitate activities throughout downtown Waterville. "Girls Unlimited is a Hardy Girls Healthy Women weekend for girls to

see professional women and what they do," Lindsay Tolle '08 said. Because the current conference was focused on art, participating girls were exposed to art projects conducted by local high school students, taught about stepping by the Colby Steppers and helped to design their own clothes by a local artist. "It is an opportunity for them to be with each other and foster self esteem. It gives them a chance to get to know one another and create a network of women."

Students from the College arrived in the afternoon to help serve the girls lunch before chaperoning them to various workshops. "All the girls I talked to had the best time," Tolle said. "They were extremely happy and the conference helped them to realize that

it's ok for them to speak their minds, even if they are not completely confident. It is all right for them to express an idea even if it is nothing special." Webb added that the aim of Hardy Girls Healthy Women was to "use art to help girls deconstruct media images and find their own ways to create the worlds they wish to see."

When asked if she had a favorite moment of the day, Webb recalled observing a girl come into her own throughout the course of the conference. "She wasn't there with a friend or her mom, and she was on a scholarship which was something you could sense she was uncomfortable with." As the day progressed, however, Webb was able to observe this girl shed her quiet shell after an afternoon workshop with the Colby Steppers. "She came back dripping in sweat and pulled aside any adult she saw to show them what she learned. She was excited about how she was going to start a Step Team at her school and it is amazing to see how girls can transform when given the right medium. It makes you want to donate your whole life to this work," Webb said.

For Tolle, women's issues are an important aspect of life at the College. As a Women's, Gender and Sexuality minor, Tolle is committed to the work that Hardy Girls Healthy Women does. "I think Hardy Girls does really important but also overlooked work. Often people focus on the work women's groups do at shelters and rape crisis lines and forget the other part that has to do with (improving ordinary) girls' self esteem." Specifically, Tolle is impressed with the movement away from "mean girls" fighting that can occur in school systems absent more positive leadership. "Whatever I am doing in five years, it would be great if there were things like Hardy Girls as a part of that work," Tolle said.



Local girls participated in a weekend conference intended to enable them to reject constricting cultural norms.



# FORUM

## WEDNESDAY

**Baseball vs. St. Joseph's**  
Coomb's Field  
3:30 p.m.

**Student Docent Gallery Lectures**  
Art Museum  
4:30 p.m.  
Speaking is Emily Stoller-Patterson '09

**Campaign to Save the Environment**  
Lovejoy 213  
7:30 p.m.  
Information Session

**"Learning Through Loss"**  
Roberts- Robin  
7 p.m.  
Lecture and panel discussion brought to you by the Psychology Department

## THURSDAY

**Noontime Art Talks**  
Art Museum  
12 p.m.  
Adolph Gottlieb and the Question of Jewish Art

**Social Sciences and Humanities Colloquium**  
Cotter- 242 Philson Lounge  
12 p.m.  
Speaker is Alec Campbell  
Professor of Sociology

**Printmaker Grace Bently-Scheck**  
Bixler 154  
4:30 p.m.  
Lecture brought to you by the Art Department

**Goldfarb Fellow: MP Singh**  
Keyes 105  
7 p.m.  
Lecture

## ROBERTS ROW CONSTRUCTION



Construction on Pierce beginning before Spring Recess marked the beginning of renovations to residence halls on Roberts Row.

TOM BOLLIER/THE COLBY ECHO

**Pride and Prejudice from Soccer to Politics**  
Lovejoy 215  
7 p.m.  
How the Germans and the British have viewed each other after the Second World War  
Lecture by Richard Bessel, University of York

**In the Heart of America**  
Runnals  
7:30 p.m.  
Performance by Naomi Wallace

## FRIDAY

**Muslim Group Prayer**  
Lorimer Chapel  
12 p.m.  
Religious Event

**Career Services Drop-in Hours**  
Eustis- Career Services Library  
2 p.m.  
Come see what Career Services can offer you

**Softball vs. Tufts**  
Craft's Field  
4:30 p.m.

**Baseball vs. Trinity**  
Coomb's Field  
3:30 p.m.

**Jesus Christ Superstar**  
Waterville Opera House  
7:30 p.m.  
Also again on Saturday night at 7:30 and Sunday at 2 p.m.

## SATURDAY

**Baseball vs. Trinity**  
Coomb's Field  
12 p.m.

**Softball vs. Tufts**  
Craft's Field  
12 p.m.

**Women's Lacrosse vs. Wesleyan**  
Bill Alford Field  
12 p.m.

**Music at Colby '07- '08**  
Bixler- Given Auditorium  
7:30 p.m.  
Featuring the Colby Jazz Band

## STUDENTS ON THE STREET

What products would you like to see in the new bookstore?



"Taco Bell."

— Dan Roboff '09



"Nike Dunks."

— Kwadwo Opoku-Nsiah '11



"Cups and balls."

— Hannah Lafleur '11 and  
Kavla Kawalick '11



SUNDAY

**Baseball vs. Maine- Presque Isle**  
Coomb's Field  
12 p.m.

**Senior Recital**  
Pugh Center  
1 p.m.  
Student  
Performances

**Admissions Ice Cream Social**  
Mary Low Coffeehouse  
7 p.m.

**Challenges of Studying the Holocaust**  
Pugh Center  
7 p.m.  
Doris Berger will give the  
Berger Family Lecture

**Softball vs. Southern Maine**  
Craft's Field  
1 p.m.

MONDAY

**Memoir Reading by Hubert C. Kueter**  
Miller- Robinson  
7 p.m.  
Colby Professor emeritus of  
German reads from his memoir *My Tainted Blood*

**Engaged Anthropology Lecture Series**  
Diamond 122  
7:30 p.m.

"Confronting Empire on Diego Garcia:  
Anthropology as a Tool for Progressive Social  
Change"

0 FLY A KITE



ittany Thomas '10 flies a kite over Spring Recess on Sunset Beach in North Carolina.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN B. GOODS

TUESDAY

**Lecture with Dr. Annette Kolodny**  
Miller- Robinson  
4 p.m.  
Reception to follow

**Teach for America**  
Lovejoy 215  
7 p.m.  
Information Session

**Goldfarb Fellow: Steve Stamos**  
Diamond 122  
7 p.m.

This week online

[www.colbyecho.com](http://www.colbyecho.com)

EXPANDED CONTENT



C.W. Bassett's "I'm  
never going to retire"  
column

More photos from last  
week's women's  
lacrosse game



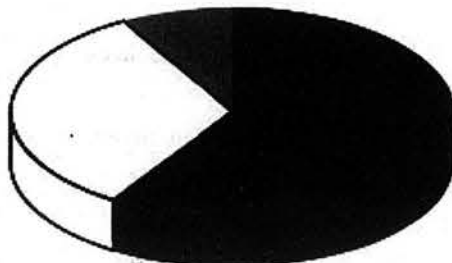
ROB HEINTZ/THE COLBY ECHO

THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION

*did you believe the  
april fool's day  
prank?*

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

Which ticket won the SGA  
debate?



■ Boland/Finnegan (35%) ■ Pitt/Heinrich (33%)  
■ Todi/Roboff (8%) □ Meinerth/Green (24%)

JOKAS'  
SPECIALS



Casco Bay Winter Ale \$15.96/case

Corona Light \$14.99/case  
12-ounce bottles

Microbrew Kegs Call for specials

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THIS WEEK'S FORECAST

[www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com)



Few Showers  
HIGH 56 LOW 36

THURSDAY



Partly Cloudy  
HIGH 49 LOW 37

FRIDAY



Showers  
HIGH 49 LOW 34

SATURDAY



Showers  
HIGH 46 LOW 33

SUNDAY



Rain/Snow Showers  
HIGH 43 LOW 35

MONDAY



Few Showers  
HIGH 50 LOW 36

TUESDAY



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## BMR shows off talent and has fun



BMR gave an entertaining performance that demonstrated both their talent and sense of humor.

By AMANDA MELLO  
A&E EDITOR

Page Commons welcomed a huge crowd for the Friday night Broadway Musical Revue (BMR) performance. Minutes before the show, members of the group were frantically scrambling to add more chairs to the audience. A couple minutes past 8 p.m. Emily Goodnow '09j and Michelle Easton '08, the directors of BMR, came out to the stage to kick off the show.

However, the girls were interrupted during introductions by a frantic Andrew Cox '10 running onto the stage anxiously trying to put a show together for next year. He was followed by the rest of the cast, opening the night with a performance of "I Hope I Get It" from *A Chorus Line*. They enacted trying out for next year's BMR productions. All members were enthusiastic in their performances, laughing and going along with the choreography. With that number, BMR kicked off a great evening, performing 19 songs from various musicals. As usual BMR added its own flavor to each piece, leaving the audience members holding their sides in laughter. Of course, some of the pieces took stabs at Colby

and in between some numbers, BMR members entertained the audience with short skits.

The next piece featured Elizabeth Zagroba '09, Sammee Jaff '11, Jenny Katzman '10, Jessie Newman '11 and Goodnow. The girls were all dressed beautifully. They lined up to on the stage to start, with Andrew Boldue '10 hiding behind them in a fashionable pink furry bikini top, frilly blue shorts and a sailor hat. The girls sang "Honey Bun" from *South Pacific*, pointing Boldue out as their attractive honey, which brought out many laughs from the audience. Boldue held a sign up at the end of piece saying, "I did not volunteer for this," also getting laughter and enthusiastic clapping. The performance of the piece was fun and upbeat, a good second piece to move the night forward.

The next piece, "Pretty Women" from *Sweeney Todd*, featured Nic Robichaud '09, Jeffrey Larson '08 and John Bergeron '08. The boys brought up some pretty women from the audience and sang the song to them, though at some moments did not seem to know what to do with the ladies. This led to a lot of hair playing and nervous looks on the girls' faces. However, laughs from the audience were plenty as each guy on stage

matched the song they were performing. They put in a seductive, sexy attitude with each dance step and really brought the piece to life.

For the first piece that BMR related to Colby, the seniors came out to perform "You Won't Succeed on Broadway" from *Spamalot*. They came out decked out in Colby gear, with first-year Jaff discussing the party she was going to throw. She was especially excited to play Apples to Apples and Pin the Tail on the Donkey. However, she was immediately told that this party would "not be poppin'." The seniors explained what it took to make a Colby party great; the essential ingredient was of course, booze. With the chaotic dancing that complemented the singing, it looked like a Colby party on stage.

After nine numbers, the show broke for a short intermission, afterwards opening the second half with an old favorite, "Footloose" from *Footloose*. The full cast performed this piece, coming out in colorful outfits, some in leather pants and plenty of denim, proving that BMR would have been hot in the 'eighties. The group kept the piece very upbeat and fun, and some audience members were bopping their heads along to the beat.

"Shy" from *Once Upon a Mattress*,

brought Sarah Haines '10, Savvy Lodge '11, Kelsey Jones '10, Easton, and Katzman to the stage. The girls brought up two guys from the audience, and sang to them, insisting they were shy, but acting otherwise. The boys looked nervous on stage, making the piece even more fun to watch. The girls did a great job singing and dancing, smiling throughout the entire number.

Another piece poking fun at Colby was "Tradition" from *Fiddler on the Roof*. Dan Echt '11, Pat Roche '09, Jaff, Newman, Michael Clark '11, Haines, Cox, Jones, Robichaud, Zagroba, Polanco, Easton and Bergeron took the stage for this piece, singing about the traditions at Colby College. These traditions were divided by class roles, the seniors making rules and the freshman partying too hard, for example. This piece was especially funny since nearly everyone in the audience was in the process of fulfilling these traditions.

Another hilarious number was "The Knights of the Round Table" from *Spamalot*. Sean Senior '10, Nate Hill '09, Boldue, Jim Rockafellow '10 and Larson came out onto the stage decked out in beer boxes fashioned into knight costumes. With lots of laughing and awkward dancing, the boys brought the song to life. The audience got a good laugh at the boys, with some booty dropping from Rockafellow and lots of crotch grinding.

Other memorable performances included "Cain't Say No" from *Oklahoma*, featuring Katherine Gagnon '11, Zagroba, Lodge, Polanco and Goodnow. The girls dressed in plaid and denim and gave a fabulous performance as country girls who can't say no to country boys. Also great was "Greased Lightning" from *Grease* which featured all the boys from BMR singing, and dancing with some great hip thrusts throughout the number. Also great was the piece from all the girls, "A Bushel and a Peck" from *Gyps and Dolls*, which brought Special Assistant to the President Janice Kassman to stage to perform with the group.

The group finished with a full cast performance of "We're All in This Together" from *High School Musical*. The night ended on an upbeat note, filled with smiles and laughter that many have come to expect from BMR performances.

## A strong performance of a difficult program

By SAMMY GRADWOHL  
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday night, the Colby Wind Ensemble, joined by members of the Acadia Brass Ensemble, delighted audience members with its program, entitled, "Ethnic Celebrations". The concert featured both new and familiar tunes, and everything from opera to movie soundtracks to music based on photography.

The group started the evening off with the Triumphal March from Giuseppe Verdi's opera *Aida*. Opening with a trumpet fanfare, a slow, steady line grew with the addition of a drumroll and cymbals. The trumpets kept this main line prominent while other instruments, such as the flutes and saxophones, accentuated it with different twists of rhythm and articulation. The clarinets and oboes then introduced a new, more legato idea, which they passed to the lower brass and then a solo trumpet, which sounded very patriotic. The lower brass created a third motif, and then the group returned to the patriotic theme accompanied by lots of cymbals and another drumroll. The final passage was big and triumphant, reflecting the work's title, ending with several large chords executed by the entire ensemble.

The second piece, composed by Eric Ewazen, bore the name "Shadowcatcher" and was based off four photographs of Native Americans. Although I could not find the photographs themselves, they must be rather fantastic and inspiring images, as each of the four parts of this piece was amazingly rich and beautiful.

Part I, "Offering of the Sun", opened with a solo trumpet passage, joined by the second trumpet, French horn, and trombones of the Acadia Brass Ensemble. The quintet seemed to be playing a majestic tribute to a rising sun. A roll on the timpani and cymbals brought the rest of the group into the piece. The trumpets and percussion then added a new, rather merry theme, with the saxophones throwing in an interesting contrasting line. The majority of the movement remained triumphant and bouncy, slowing down only at the end with a decorative passage from the flutes.

The second movement, "Among the Aspens," began very slowly with drums and shakers, which sounded like wind blowing through the trees. The brass then introduced the very slow theme, which resembled a funeral march. The group played around with that idea for a bit, and then the flutes lightened the mood slightly. Different sections took turns elaborating on the theme, and then the clarinets, aided by the lower brass, picked up the tempo. The group then rearticulated the first theme, but slightly faster and within the new context. Extreme dynamic contrasts demonstrated the group's skill. One passage was rather foreboding and dark, and the next was a beautiful variation on the theme that was both sad and hopeful at the same time. To end the piece, the entire ensemble restated the main theme in octaves, to quite an effect.

Shakers and a steady beating drum opened the third movement, called "The Vanishing Race". The trombones introduced the theme with sixteenth-note accents from the flutes. After that, the flutes, piccolos, and percussion introduced another idea, echoed by the trumpets and a lower brass harmony. The trumpets then picked up the tempo with an intense passage accented by the lower brass. The percussion

added interesting accents of its own, and then the group transitioned into yet another intense, very prominent section, which had the feel of almost calling out for the audience to hear its message. Quite suddenly, the piece went out as quietly as it had begun, fading out with single brass solos and the lightly beating drums finally leaving only the shakers behind.

The fourth and final movement, "Dancing to Restore an Eclipse Moon", began with a light and playful flute line accompanied by the lower brass. The drums changed the mood with a short solo, which became an intense beat while the brass played a powerful melodic line. This transitioned into a dance-like line, still very prominent brass, but light-headed. The drums kept the steady beat while the rest of the ensemble danced. Then the drums dropped out and the brass played with forceful syncopations and dissonances. From there, it was the flutes' turn to shine, quickly joined by the rest of the ensemble again. The final idea was much like that of the first movement: a triumphant tribute.

After intermission, it was time for a well-known movie favorite—*Star Wars, Episode I: The Phantom Menace*. Different sections passed around the familiar tunes from the film, as it was fun to imagine the different parts of the saga—not just Episode I, but all six parts—playing out as the music translated from written notes to soaring sounds.

The next piece, "Ragat", was, as the title suggests, based off a traditional Indian rag. It began with a dancing line echoed by the trumpets, who then immediately contributed their own stately motif. Throughout the middle of the piece, different solos for instruments such as the oboe, saxophone, and piccolo further created the dance-like feel of the composition, and although the drums had been occasional entrances, their prominent addition added an entirely new layer to the music. Interesting rhythms in different time signatures played off each other through the various instruments. The addition of a tambourine playing in rhythmic unison with the melodic line spiced it up a bit as well.

The final work on the program was Richard Danielpour's "Vespers Populi". Director Eric Thomas invited the audience to listen for the many different rhythmic styles the piece had to offer, which ranged from Cuban to Indonesian. The piece started in fact, very heavily on rhythm, starting from the top with a 4/4 against-3 beat quickly switching to steady drum beat. The melodic line was rather simple, but deceivingly so, being accented by different instruments through complex rhythms and articulations. The style Thomas told to audience to listen for became apparent in different sections of the piece, which had an overall feel of salsa dancing music. Quite suddenly, the piece became slow and soft, the exact opposite of what it had been, and the flutes took over, followed by the brass. Just as quickly though, it was back to the 2-against-3 rhythm of the opening, the syncopations, and the dancing fun.

Overall, the concert was excellent. The group obviously worked very hard and put in a lot of time to prepare such a difficult program. Thomas recognized his graduates seniors, of course, as this was the last concert with the Colby Wind Ensemble, but the entire group should be commended for their wonderful efforts.

### SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS: JAKE FRANKLIN '08

## Senior is active presence on campus

By NATE LIFTON  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

You probably already know Jake Franklin '08. He's a COOT leader, I-Play commissioner and member of both the Colby Symphony Orchestra and Colby Blue Lights. If you don't know him in any of those capacities, then perhaps you'd recognize him from his appearances at hockey games with the Colby Hooligans, the blue and gray painted boys who brave the cold to faithfully cheer on our team. The point is, Jake Franklin is tough to miss. Only a few days after his Friday performance with the Blue Lights, Jake

found time to sit down and talk about the violin, a cappella, and what music has meant to him.

Since his freshman year, Jake has been playing violin for the Colby Symphony Orchestra. He began playing at the age of seven, though he recalls, "I actually wanted to play since I was three." When asked where his enthusiasm for the instrument came from, he says, "My parents took me to an orchestra concert once, and apparently I loved it... but all I remember is falling asleep."

While struggling through the awkward years of middle school, Jake joined a youth orchestra in a different part of Maryland, his home state,

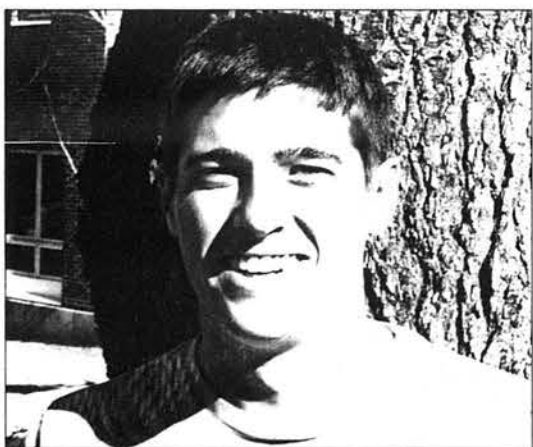
where he found a group of kids similar to himself. "It was like my first real social outlet was joining this orchestra," he says. "It was one of the best things, I think, that I've done, because it gave me a place to just really be myself and make music, which is a blast." Trying to explain the feeling of playing the violin, he continues, "There's a hundred different thought processes going on at once, where you have to think about where you're going to put your finger for the next note, and with what style you're going to play it. It's an excellent outlet for being in the moment, where you can't really be distracted if you want to play a piece well. It's less relaxing than meditation, but it's sort of meditative in that it removes you from the nonsense that goes on around you and just puts you with the violin."

Where Jake has found musical satisfaction in playing the violin, he has found a great social community singing a cappella with the Colby Blue Lights. "We're probably too social," he says of the Blue Lights, "in that we laugh for half our rehearsals, as opposed to singing." Jake didn't join the group until his junior year, and recounts, "Trying out for that was the most nervous I'd ever been in my entire life. My hands were shaking." Besides a brief stint with his school's fifth grade chorus, a time predating puberty when he recalls that there were no differentiated vocal parts and everyone sang the same note, Jake had no singing experience. When asked why his lack of experience didn't deter him from auditioning, he explains, "The guys in the group were friends of mine, and my mom has always said that I have a good voice." Additionally,

Jake found that training his ear on the violin for fourteen years enabled him to sing on pitch and pick out harmonies. Still, after being accepted to the group, he remembers his first rehearsal: "I had no idea what part to sing. Everybody's dividing up into parts, and I just sort of stood in the middle and asked them to fit me into a place. I had no idea what I was doing." Though Jake says he still lacks confidence in his voice, he praises the group's light-hearted nature. "We're a crazy group. We dress crazy, we sing funny songs, we put on skits. We've always been a group that's based around having fun with music, as opposed to just getting up there and singing, and I think that does a lot for us."

As his Colby career draws to a close, Jake confesses that he doesn't see music playing a big role in his life after graduation. "I'm going to try to play violin in small orchestras," he says, "but I'm really not that good." Though he recognizes that the violin could get him a job as needed, perhaps teaching private lessons, he says, "I'm much more motivated to be a social activist... to do something to change the world, and I don't think that being a professional violinist is the answer that I'm looking for." With ambitious goals in mind, Jake is hoping to join the Peace Corps for the next two years. He has applied and interviewed, and with the help of the regional office, will be nominated for a specific program to the central office, where the final assignments will be determined.

If you haven't had the chance to see Jake performing around campus yet, definitely make an effort to see him in the next few weeks before graduation.



Franklin '08 partakes in many activities, from Orchestra to the Colby



## THE MAINE GAMES

## Anthem auditions

By AMANDA MELLO  
A&E EDITOR

Last Saturday morning Given Auditorium hosted the National Anthem Auditions to determine who will sing the National Anthem at the Maine Games being held at the College this summer. This summer will mark the second appearance of the games at the College, and the sixth year the games have been held overall. The Maine Games are the Maine version of statewide Olympics, gathering people from all over Maine to compete in various sports. Maine was the first state to include baton twirling in their state games, as well as the first to hold auditions for the anthem.

According to Jeff Scully, director of the Maine Games, the mission of the games is "to provide Mainers of all ages and abilities the opportunity to compete on a statewide stage, to practice good sportsmanship, and to share in the camaraderie special to sports." The group is non-profit and part of the National Congress of State Games, which is a member of the United States Olympic Committee.

There had been around 100 applications to audition, which were narrowed to 46. Of this, 26 appeared on Saturday. Applicants attending the auditions were asked to dress business casual, and perform the "Star Spangled Banner" as written. Each contestant would have ninety seconds to do so. Judging the event were Special Assistant to the President and member of the Board of Directors of the Maine State Games Janice Kassman, Arnold Bernard Professor of Arts and Humanities Dr. Paul Machlin and Dori Smith '08. The judges were asked to judge each applicant on singing and personality. Scully said, "We were looking for someone who could help us set the tone for our Olympic-style festi-

val in June." The winner will sing for the opening ceremonies in June as well as have the opportunity to sing the "Star Spangled Banner" at a Portland Sea Dogs game sometime this spring.

After round one, twelve applicants were left for round two, which was further narrowed down to six applicants before the applicants had the opportunity to sing again. These six remaining were Tina Osgood from Lincoln, Rose Upton from Orland, Bruce Augsburg from Topsham, Jeremy Porter from Portland, Aaren Rivard from South China and Terrance Coley Sr. from Fairfield. Of these six, three had applied in 2007 for the same honor. For round two each singer clearly put forth much passion and each had a lot of talent. There was no doubt that throughout the night and especially in round two, the judges had very hard decisions to make.

When it came time to make decisions, Scully told everyone there would be three awards given, the Maine Games bronze, silver and gold medals. Taking away bronze was a two way tie between Aaren Rivard, age 16, and Rose Upton, age 12. Both of these applicants had incredible range and passion in their singing and it was no surprise the judges could not choose one over the other. The silver medal went to Bruce Augsburg, age 51. His voice was very deep and steady, ringing out richly throughout Given during his performances of the song.

The winner was Jeremy Porter, age 25. In 2007, Porter had applied and been given a spot, but could not make it due to rescheduling. He sang the National Anthem at Fenway Park in 2007 before the "Futures at Fenway" Sea Dogs game. Porter's voice was very distinct, confident and steady when he sang the song. His put together appearance, as well as his voice, will give a positive start to the Maine Games this summer.

## WMHB DJ of the week



CAROLINE DICKSON/THE COLBY ECHO

**Name of Show:** Virtually Irresistible Classical: the VIC mix

**Day and Time Show Aired:** Sundays, 2-4pm

**Kind of Music:** Classical

## A little about your show:

Putting the antic into Romantic while keeping the class in Classical, DJ V-slice spins only the hottest tunes from the 1600s, 1800s, and today.

## Music you're playing before heading out on the weekend?

There are several insane pieces of music I would choose to play before rocking my neon sweatshirt, radioactive pants, and bright red crocs: The Firebird Suite by Stravinsky comes to mind, as does Tango Tragedy by Piazzola.

## If you were going into battle, what song would you play?

O Fortuna from Orff's *Carmina Burana*. DUH.

## Guiltiest pleasure album?

Hahahahaha! Oh this is embarrassing. I'd have to say it's a tie between "the most relaxing classical album in the world...ever!" and Eric Whitacre's "Cloudburst and Other Choral Works." If you have not yet heard choral works sung by Polyphony directed by Stephen Layton, you have clearly missed out.

## Best album for a road trip with friends?

It's hard to choose an album, 'cause most of them have very similar pieces that might become monotonous on a road trip. However, Otto Klemperer's collection of all nine Beethoven symphonies, if heard back to back, would blow your mind. Which would be perfect for a road trip, of course.

## What should be the current billboard number one track today?

Anything by John Cage... pause... NAHT. I think I'd narrow it down to either Brahms's or Rachmaninoff's second piano concerto. I can't begin to describe their awesomeness (in the archaic sense of the word).

## All around favorite album?

Don't make me! No, that's not the name of the album. You know what, I'd actually have to say *X & Y* or *Details* (Coldplay and Frou Frou. I know. I promise I'm not still in high school....).

## Best singing in the shower album?

*Duetto* featuring tenors Salvatore Licitra and Marcelo Alvarez.

## Pre 1990s that you would bring back today?

Everything before the 1920s except a few of Mahler and Wagner's more melodramatic works.

## Album you put on while doing homework or instead of doing homework?

Does it count if I tell you that before my biochem. exams I'd put on the first movement of Dvorak's New World Symphony, forget about everything else that was going on in the world at that moment, and rock out to it?

## Best album after a tough break up?

Go listen to *Pierrot Lunaire* by Shostakovich. It'll distract you from your emotional pain by exerting aural pain.

## If there were to be an album titled after your life, what would you call it?

Oh dear. Let's just say thank god none of the brilliant composers of the past 2000 years had to worry about quantifying bacterial slime...

## If not in the mood for music, what's the next best thing?

Excuse me?

## REVIEWS

drink

## Cider acts as a comfort for those studying for endless exams

By Kenneth Lamantia, contributing writer

Everyone knows that exams really aren't the most pleasant thing about college...and yes that is a big understatement. In Scotland, things really aren't that much different, except exams go on for a month and a half. Unfortunately, some people actually have to study for the whole month before exams actually start. However, there is a silver lining to this situation: in Scotland they have cider, and cider can remedy all the pains that come with exams, at least for a while.

Cider is pretty big in the UK. They have it on tap in most pubs. I'm not really sure why they don't have it (or at least I don't know about it if they do) in the States. It is an excellent drink, comparable to most light beers in alcohol content, and has a taste somewhere in between champagne and sparkling cider. If you are not a fan of beer because of its bitterness and you don't want a really sweet girly drink, then cider would be a good choice.

For this review I chose three different kinds of cider to give an overview and because that way I would have a good excuse to drink three pints consecutively. There are different flavors of cider, such as pear, but I chose to stick with the standard apple because I think it is the best.

The first kind of cider that I chose to sample is a Swedish brew, Kopparberg Apple. Kopparberg weighs in at 4.5 percent ALC, pretty much equivalent to a standard beer. It is very light in color; you might think it was clear if you didn't look closely. Accompanying its clarity, it has a subtle scent which is somewhere in between apple juice and apple cider. Kopparberg pours easily; if you are in a hurry it won't overflow your

glass. On first impression, Kopparberg seems too sweet but then it mellows out nicely. It is definitely a sweet drink but not overly so, which makes it a good stand in for a beer. It has very little aftertaste and certainly does not have a bite. It is very hard to tell you are drinking hard cider.

That said, if you like the taste a lot, it would be easy to drink several quickly. I would have, myself, if I did not have two other ciders in the lineup.

The next cider was Blumer's Original, another apple flavored drink. Blumer's is darker than Kopparberg and has a much stronger scent. It smells of hops and good strong cider. Blumer's, like Kopparberg, is 4.5 percent ALC. It is slightly more foamy but not annoyingly so. Blumer's has much more of a kick than Kopparberg both in first impression and aftertaste. It is strong, smooth and very flavorful. On the whole I preferred Blumer's because it wasn't as sweet and had a stronger kick.

The last cider was by far the strongest. Fittingly named Strongbow, it is the most common cider in the U.K. In most stores they

sell it in clear two liter bottles; people drink a lot of it. It is more alcoholic than the others at 5.3 percent ALC. It has a strong scent; you can smell the alcohol and the apples. It is very foamy, and if you are not careful it has a tendency to overflow. It is not nearly as smooth as Blumer's or Kopparberg, with a stronger bite in the aftertaste. On the whole, it is stronger and more bitter. You would definitely like this better if you are not a fan of sweet. Whether you decide on one of these, or pick another cider, anyone visiting the U.K. would be well advised to try some...it is delicious.



COURTESY OF KENNETH LAMANTIA

If taking a visit to the UK, be sure to try one of these ciders.

book

## Author fails to write with power she is known for

By Amanda Mello, a&amp;e editor

Having read many Jodi Picoult books, I had been eagerly anticipating the release of her new book, *Change of Heart*, since last spring. Last spring Picoult promised and delivered a touching story in *Nineteen Minutes*, a story tracing the events before, during and after a school shooting. Over the years Picoult has been a forerunner in making tough issues a primary topic in popular literature. However, with *Change of Heart* Picoult failed at many of the things she had done best in her previous novels.

As usual Picoult picked a tough issue, telling the story of a man, Shay Bourne, sentenced to death for murdering a young girl and her stepfather. Eleven years later, while awaiting her death, his victim's sister, Claire Neilson, begins growing up and struggling with her health. By the time the majority of the story takes place, Claire is in need of a heart transplant to save her life. Shay then decides upon his execution he wants to donate his heart to Claire.

The first problem with the book comes in the structure. Picoult uses each chapter to tell the story from a different perspective, including a current priest who had served on the jury sentencing Shay to death, a fellow inmate, Claire's mother, and a young lawyer. This method, which served her well in novels such as *Nineteen Minutes*, failed in *Change of Heart* perhaps in part because neither Shay nor Claire are ever given their own voice. Their story is told from those around them, which makes each character difficult to know, completely obstructing the reader from personally connecting with either one. If a story such as this one is to be effective, readers should sympathize and understand Shay as more than a murderer. We should be able to see Claire as more than a little girl struggling with her health; she needs a face, a personality, unique traits to pull the reader closer to really caring for her.

Instead, we get none of this.

Furthermore, Picoult adds an element of religion, in a complex series of events hinting at the possibility of Shay as a second messiah—Jesus walking the earth again. His job as a carpenter, his quoting of the Gospel of Thomas (a gospel not in the Bible) and the miracles that seem to surround him provide evidence for this possibility and spark a controversy outside the jail. This element of the story overshadows the tragedy and loss that one typically associates with crimes such as Shay's. It is hard enough to successfully humanize perpetrators of violent crimes in novels, never mind to further suggest they are types of messiahs. Picoult's goal with this storyline is not clear, making it simply frustrating to follow.

Other factors that complicate the plot are the personal struggles of the lawyer, Maggie, with her body image and relationship with her mother, and of the priest Michael with his religion and guilt for sentencing Shay to death so many years earlier. These plot lines do not have sufficient room to develop within the story, and as a result we don't get close enough to any of the characters to care about their struggles in a real way. Like most of her novels, Picoult utilizes the ending chapters to contradict everything the reader thought before. However, these contradictions are never reconciled with what was thought in the first half of the novel.

Needless to say, Picoult's novel did not meet expectations, and in fact fell far below the novels she has written previously. Picoult has tackled more and more difficult subjects as her writing career continues. With *Change of Heart* she again takes on a tough topic, but she does not deliver the emotional, heartfelt stories readers have come to expect from her.

movie

## Movie offers an accurate portrayal of teenagers

By Keane Ng, staff writer

*Paranoid Park*, the new film by Gus van Sant based on Blake Nelson's young adult novel, tells the story of Alex Tremaine, a teenage skate punk in Portland, Oregon, who cruises through an only mildly troubled life when he accidentally kills a security guard while riding a freight train near the quasi-legal skate park of the film's title.

Using Alex's written confession as a framing device, the film skips around the chronology of the events at hand. The murder—which is a shockingly graphic and horrifying scene—happens a third of the way through the film. The rest of the film finds Alex in mostly mundane situations—skating around with his friends, dealing with his Avril-clone girlfriend—and sometimes unusual ones, like being called out of chemistry class to be interrogated by an overly friendly police detective. The chopped-and-screwed narrative structure, though a bit imposed, works because it subtly amplifies the emotional echoes of the central event of the story, the murder. "Something happened to me," Alex continually mutters to the one person he almost confides in. That "something" never explicitly intrudes into the story after it actually happens, but it haunts everything that comes before and after it.

As Alex, Gabe Nevins, a non-actor recruited via MySpace, has taken flak for his stoic performance, but the alleged flaws of his performance are the best things about it. He stumbles around lines, looking awkward on screen as he tries to fit complex emotion on his baby face. His acting is wholly fitting, and almost uncomfortably real for a character who

doesn't know how to feel about any of the things that happen in his life, or how to express his confusion. Alex loses his virginity while numbly staring at the ceiling while he wonders what he's thinking about, if he's thinking about anything. He's confused, awkward, scared and in way over his head—that Nevins himself probably felt that way in front of the camera lends his performance a real veracity.

Nevins' performance is the best example of *Paranoid Park*'s most surprising accomplishment: how realistically it captures the life of young people. Despite the film's at times cloying art house aesthetic with its broken narrative, extended slow-motion shots and forced political commentary, it's almost real to the point that it feels like a documentary at times. The teenagers of the film, mostly non-actors like Nevins, say things like "oh my god, awkward!" and make grammatical mistakes in their speech—fumbled lines or realistic writing, the effect is the same.

It's fitting that Alex is a skater, and *Paranoid Park* as a film about skateboarding deserves more space than this review has to give it. Skating, in *Paranoid Park*, is where Alex's youth begins and ends. It's sublime, full of grace and beauty, as a long Super 8 shot of a skater riding around *Paranoid Park* near the beginning of the film makes fantastically clear. But it's also a world of danger and death, where a failed trick means unavoidable pain, embodied by a park where drifters and punks live on the edge of society. The flight and fall of the skater's movement figured as the ups and downs of adolescence, that old story *Paranoid Park* puts in a new and frighteningly real context.



Paranoid Park brings non-actors to portray the world of skating.



## WOMEN'S LACROSSE

## Drops Tufts match; beats Bates

By TODD HERRMANN  
STAFF WRITER

The Colby women's lacrosse team is coming off of a busy week, with tough away games at two division rivals. On Wednesday, the Mules traveled to Lewiston to take on the Bobcats of Bates College. Colby trailed 7-6 at the half and was still down 11-9 with just under nine minutes to play. It was there that the momentum completely turned in Colby's favor. Forward Becky Julian '09 tallied her third goal of the game to make the score 11-10. Then midfielder Cary Finnegan '09 rifled a shot past Bates goaltender Mara Kreuger with 7:58 to play, tying the game. With 1:52 remaining, Finnegan scored her second goal of the game, giving Colby a 12-11 lead. From there, they were able to run out the clock and seal the victory. In addition to Julian's three goals and Finnegan's two, Kate Sheridan '09 notched two goals and two assists, Heather Nickerson '09 and Amy Campbell '10 each added two goals, and Carly Rapaport '10 scored one. Colby starting goalie Keryn Meierdiecks '10 made four saves before leaving the game for Sarah Warnke '11, who made three and got the victory.

Then, on Saturday, the Mules went to Medford, Mass. for a game against the Tufts University Jumbos, and unfortunately saw some last minute heroics from the other side. Colby had an 8-6 lead at the half, and had extended it to 13-9 with eleven minutes to play. From there on out, momentum swung towards Tufts. The Jumbos rolled off four unanswered goals to tie the game at 13-13. Then with 3:30 left in the game, Campbell scored her third goal, momentarily giving the lead back to the Mules. But with 2:19 left, Tufts once again tied the game, and then with only twelve seconds to play, Tufts, ranked 14 nationally, scored the devastating game winner. Several Mules, in addition to Campbell, contributed to the offensive effort, with Sheridan racking up three goals and adding two assists, Nickerson



Jevan Jammal '10 carries the ball down the field in Tuesday's win over Plymouth.

scoring three goals and adding one assist, Julian scoring three, Finnegan and Lauren Strazzula '09 each scoring one, and Rapaport adding an assist. Warnke had twelve saves in the losing effort for the Mules.

With the win and the loss this week, the Mules, now ranked 15 in the national Division III poll, move to 5-4 overall, and 2-3 in the conference, putting them into a tie with Tufts for fifth in the conference. Colby is the highest scoring team in the conference, averaging 14.86 goals per game. Sheridan's 48 points on the season (30 goals and

18 assists) make her far and away the highest scoring player in the conference, and she is at the top or at least close to it in just about every statistical category.

Up next for Colby as it continues to fight toward the New England Small College Athletic Conference playoffs and beyond is a series of home games. They played Plymouth State on Tuesday, April 8 after press time and will compete on Saturday, April 12 against Wesleyan, who is only a half game ahead of the Mules for fourth in the conference.

## Tennis nets mixed results

Men's squad dominates Conn. and Wesleyan, yet women fall to both

By SARAH KIRKER  
STAFF WRITER

This weekend the men's and women's tennis teams turned out to defend their home turf against the visiting Wesleyan University Cardinals and Connecticut College Camels. While the men easily dispatched their opponents, the women, despite a very tough fight, fell just short of their opponents.

On the men's side, Saturday was a day full of victories as they sailed to a very impressive 8-1 win over Wesleyan. Bryan Brown '09 set the tone

when he took an easy 6-2 6-1 win in the number one singles spot. Brown also teamed up with his doubles partner Zack Schumann '08 to secure a Colby win in the first doubles spot. As the final score suggests, the whole team played well, with wins also coming from Schumann in the second singles spot, Tim Fuhrman '09 in the third singles spot, Alex Chin '09 in the fourth singles spot and Nick Rosen-Wachs '09 in the fifth singles spot. To round out their dominating success, the Colby men won all three of their doubles matches.

Sunday saw even more impressive

play from the men when they shut out their opponents completely, taking a 6-0 win against Connecticut College. The weekend ended with Brown, Schumann and Chin recording two singles and two doubles wins each, and as a team the men dropped only one point over two days. Head Coach Doanh Wang was very happy with their performances and very optimistic for the remainder of the season. "Our guys are on the right track," said Wang. "Our only losses have been to nationally ranked teams. We beat Tufts which was ranked 20th early in the season. We have all the potential to be a NESCAC tournament team. After this weekend, I think we are feeling good about going into our remaining three NESCAC matches and one against USM."

Saturday proved less successful for the women's team, who fell just a bit short of Wesleyan with a final score of 5-4. However, this result certainly did not stem from lack of effort. Tara Davidson '10 won what was described by her coach as a "thriller," squeaking out a third set super breaker by a score of 16-14 to take the fifth singles spot. Katie Brezinski '11 also won a super breaker to take the sixth singles spot for Colby. Brezinski also teamed up with partner Katherine Koleski '08 to take the only Colby doubles win of the day. The final Colby win came from Audrey Jacobson '10 in the third singles spot.

Sunday was more of the same as the women fell 8-1 to Connecticut College. Although Katie Muto '11 recorded a win in the second singles spot Colby and Jacobson barely lost a hard fought three set match in the third spot, the women were unable to stop Connecticut. Although the score may seem disappointing, in reality these matches were far from blow outs. As a result, Coach Wang still has faith in his team. "In most of our matches this season, we have put ourselves in the position to win," Wang said. The final scores do not reflect how close the matches really were. It also doesn't reflect how well they have competed. Every one of them have worked really hard at practice. It is a matter of time before everything clicks for us."



Julie Achenbarr '10 and the lady Mules were edged out by Wesleyan on April 5.

## GUEST COLUMN

## Touchdown dance haters

A look at racism and today's sports

If you don't like touchdown dances, you are a racist. A bold statement for sure, one that seems like it makes absolutely no sense. However, there is a lot more to it than appears on the surface.

The world of sports is at a critical juncture right now, where a lot of the "old school" ideologies and players who embody such qualities are being pushed out the door in favor of a new, distinctly more urban culture. Most recently, this clash between the old and the new has manifested itself in the NCAA basketball tournament, and the media's treatment of two of the annual event's brightest stars.

Kevin Love of UCLA and Tyler Hansborough of North Carolina are two dynamic power forwards who make an enormous impact on the game on both ends of the floor. They hustle, dive on the floor after loose balls, aren't afraid to mix it up with their opponents and are committed to mastering the fundamentals of the game. They are considered classic "throwback" players, guys who night in and night out sacrifice everything for the sake of winning. They are both white. And, to listen to the way the predominantly old and also white sports media talk about them, one would think they are the only things pure and good about basketball.

During UCLA's loss to Memphis last Saturday night, crotchety CBS analyst Billy Packer spent the last fifteen minutes of the game openly complaining that Love was not getting enough touches on the ball, and that UCLA's star point guard (an African-American) was selfishly not doing his job. Whether this was simply an observation about basketball or whether it represented something much larger can only be confirmed by Packer himself, and I think we all can guess how he would answer such a question. However, anyone who has followed the tournament would see that this is only one link in a long chain of comments from media members who are reverent of the white players while simultaneously ignoring some of the accomplishments of the African American players.

This selective highlighting is especially interesting given that, at this point in time, many professional sports have become predominantly African-



DOUG SIBOR

American in the makeup of players. With a smaller pool of successful white players to choose from, is it any surprise then that these older media members would want to latch on to any feel good story about a white boy who made it against all odds? This subtle suggestion that white athletes like Love and Hansborough have risen against tremendous adversity to the top of their game is a slap in the face to some of the African-American athletes who have come from far worse situations,

The world of sports is at a critical juncture right now, where a lot of the "old school" ideologies and players who embody such qualities are being pushed out the door...

combating not only economic but also social pressure as they have risen to levels that were unachievable to them in the not so distant past. It would be equally biased of me not to acknowledge that white players certainly can come from difficult circumstances, and African-Americans likewise can endure an easier path than these white players. However, when a 2000 study indicates that only a quarter of African-American men aged 18-24 even attend college, and of those only 35 percent graduate within six years, who faces the more difficult circumstances becomes abundantly clear.

The struggle between the old and the

new doesn't just play itself out in the college realm either; when athletes reach the professional levels, they are given new and more widespread means to show off their talent and passion for the game. In modern times, this idea of playing with passion has evolved into playing with personality, and many athletes put their own stamp on the game. Though this type of creativity and flair has been going on in soccer leagues around the world for years with players of all races and nationalities, it has only recently made its way into the United States. However, instead of embracing this new aspect of sports, one which stereotypes as belonging almost exclusively to African-Americans, the media bristles at these displays of creativity. One of these supposedly "controversial" players is Randy Moss, who is no stranger to media scrutiny.

When Moss was playing for the Minnesota Vikings, they traveled to Green Bay for an important late season matchup with the Packers. As they do for all games, the Packer fans greeted the Vikings team bus as it arrived at the stadium by mooning them as the bus pulled in. Now, we fast forward to the fourth quarter—Moss catches a touchdown pass that seals the win for the Vikings, and he celebrates pantomimes mooning the now silent Packer fans. Announcer Joe Buck, known for his absurd man-crush on grossly overrated Packer quarterback Brett Favre, deems the celebration "a disgusting act by Randy Moss." If you go to YouTube, you can hear the venom and resentment in his voice as he denounces something that, if taken in context with basic background knowledge of Packer home games, would be pretty funny. If the roles were reversed and Favre had "mooned" Vikings fans, do you really think Buck would have made such a deal out of it?

Race in sports, and really everywhere, is still a very sensitive subject. We haven't even begun to look at other major racial stories in sports today, from the public convictions of Barry Bonds and Michael Vick before they even went to trial to the declining participation of African-Americans in baseball, or even on an international scale where many soccer players continue to receive death threats on a daily basis. These problems are very real, and until we face them we are only doomed to perpetuate the bitterly segregated and racist past of sports culture.

## CREW

## Teams takes fourth and third

First spring regatta for men's and women's squads

By CHRIS GORUD  
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, the crew teams traveled to Worcester, MA to take part in a regatta hosted by Worcester Polytechnic Institute. The Colby men, led by captains Trevor Hardigan '09 and Sam Fabens '08, finished in fourth place at 6:31.13 across the 2,000 meter course. New England Small College Athletic Conference foe Wesleyan University won the men's side (6:04.6). This race marked the first spring race of the season. Although the Mules are usually quite competitive in the league, Colby finds itself at a dis-

advantage to more southern schools who are able to practice in the water before the weather and lakes of Maine permit outside rowing. Both the men and the women began water practices only a week before spring break, while other teams have been on the water since the beginning of February.

"We were a little disappointed with fourth place, but we rowed a decent race," rower Spencer Crim '09 said. Crim and teammates recognize the youth of their team to be a factor that contributed to the relatively slow start to the season. The Mules only return one varsity rower and the varsity coxswain to the first boat from last spring's varsity lineup. "It was good to learn what we need to improve on and we look forward to narrowing the gap between us and the those crews who placed above us on Saturday," Crim said.

On the women's side, the squad captained by seniors Rachel Daly and Jesse Kaler, finished in third place with a time of 7:16.65 and were seconds off the pace of the winning boat from Smith. The Mules also gained experience among underclassmen with JV races. Although it was difficult start for Colby to the spring season, as the weather improves the Mules should be able to improve upon their times and hopefully contend for spot in the NCAA championships.

The men and women entered into last weekend's races after a long week of training in Clemson, South Carolina at the Clemson University rowing facilities. This weekend the team travels to Lowell, MA to race against Coast Guard and the University of Lowell in anticipation of the spring Colby-Bowdoin-Bates regatta in Lewiston on April 20.



The men's second varsity boat finished fourth with a time of 6:42.87 in the spring season opening race in Worcester.



# TRACK Women win first outdoor meet of year

## Men's team takes second place while women capture meet in Fitchburg

By PAT BAGLEY  
STAFF WRITER

Blame it on the weather. Or perhaps, thank the weather. Regardless, Colby's women track and field team made a fortuitous decision to compete at Fitchburg State's Jim Sheehan Memorial Championship last Saturday after inclement weather canceled a meet at Bates College in Lewiston.

"It was great to come out of the meet with the win," captain Liz Petit '08 said after dominating the 18-team field. "A lot of people performed really well in spite of the cooler temperature."

Four women won their events: Laura Berzins '08 won the 800 meters with a time of 2:26.49, Katrina Gravel '10 won the 5,000 meters in 18 minutes 16.65 seconds, Heather MacDonald '10 edged to a win in the 3,000 steeplechase (12:13.95) and Brianna Kondrat '09

won the discus throw (119-11).

Kondrat proved invaluable to the team, as she also placed second in the hammer throw (139-09) and third in the shot put (36-2). A pack of Mules placed second. Erin Beasley '09 was the runner-up in the 100 meters (13.32), Emma Linhard '11 was second in the 1,500 meters (4:46.86), Greta Wells '11 followed MacDonald in the steeplechase (12:27.04), Alyssa Marquez '11 was just edged out in the pole vault (9-4.25), Tory Gray '11 took second in

It was great to come out of the meet with a win. A lot of people performed really well in spite of the cooler temperature.

Liz Petit '08  
Captain

(fourth place) collected 106 points. Bowdoin did not compete. Of the

javelin (102-04) and Jordan Schoonover '11 was barely displaced in the triple jump (32-11.75).

The Mules continued their dominating performance, placing many athletes in the third step of the podium. Linhard, a distance event standout, took third in the 400 hurdles (1:10.12). Also earning a third place finish were Schoonover in the long jump (15-6) and Hannah Coulson '10 in the triple jump (30-10.5). The women captured 205 points as a team, easily taking the Championship title. Second-place Amherst College earned only 126 points and Bates collected 106 points. Bowdoin did not compete. Of the

eighteen schools that did compete, the last six did not earn more than 10 points. The men's team fought for second place. "We had some really good competition," Tim Maguire '08 said, "and some not so good competition." Trailing only to Bates (124.5 points), the Mules garnered 97.5 points, besting 15 other schools, including fifth-place Amherst College (76 points). Perhaps the performance of the day belonged to Chris DeRoo '09. He blazed through the 400, finishing in 49.1 seconds. According to Maguire, the performance "qualified Chris for everything but nationals. He's running really well, and getting faster."

Ben Ossoff '10 took second in the 800, racing over the half-mile in 1:59.30. Third place performances belonged to Chris Copeland '09 in the long jump (20-9) and Camden Buesko '08 for the shot put (42-9.75). Buesko was also fourth in the discus (136-08). Mid-distance runners Dan Moss '08 and Maguire placed fourth in their respective events, the 1,500m and the 3,000m steeplechase.

## DEVASTATOR OF THE WEEK



ROB KNEVITZ/THE COLBY ECHO

## Brianna Kondrat '09

HOMETOWN: Eaton, N.H.

EVENTS: throws

KEY STATS:

At Fitchburg St., Kondrat won the discus throw by more than six feet with a throw of 119-11. She placed second in the hammer throw (139-09) and was third in the shot put (36-2).

WHY:

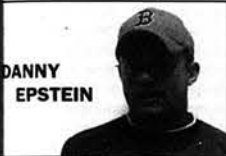
Kondrat led the Mules in points in the women's track and field team's first-place finish at Fitchburg State. She was honored as the NESCAC Performer of the Week.

# 24

Points totaled at Fitchburg St. meet

## THE FOCUS ON FANTASY

### A preview of the Masters journey



DANNY EPSTEIN

With the Boston Bruins clinching a playoff berth, the Boston Celtics clinching the best record in the Eastern Conference and the Red Sox again playing baseball, it seems go be a good time for Boston sports fans. The Bruins will play a team they haven't beaten in their last eight opportunities (the Canadians) and they may be one-and-done, but at least the Boston College hockey team has a chance to win the Frozen Four when it plays the North Dakota Fighting Sioux on Thursday night (ESPN2, 6 p.m.) and then again, hopefully, on Saturday night for the National Championship in Denver, CO. Taking a quick look at fantasy sports, both basketball and hockey are deep into the fantasy playoffs so unfortunately you're on your own on those championships. Fantasy baseball is done with one week left since much hasn't happened yet, I'll wait until next week to write a major column regarding that. It seems appropriate to celebrate the beginning of spring and thus preview everyone's favorite golf tournament, the Masters.

Tiger Woods comes into the tournament beginning next Thursday through Sunday in Augusta, Georgia as the pre-eminent favorite. He seems to win just about every tournament he enters, and even though he struggled putting at a few weeks ago, he seems to be in good position for another Green Jacket. Outside of Woods, defending champion Zach Johnson from Iowa has the game with accurate driving, great edge play and good putting to take home the championship.

If you listen to most golf pundits, they say that a player needs to drive the ball in the middle of the fairway, attack the often-difficult pin positions and most important make putts on the notoriously treacherous greens to win at Augusta. This year, the course will total 4,455 yards featuring an extremely difficult back nine holes. Minor changes were made to the golf course this season from last but none that affect course length or difficulty. Mostly, they simply wanted to improve the spectator experience for the "patrons." Other contenders such as Phil Mickelson, Ernie Els and Jim Furyk will certainly be in the hunt for a victory. Take note that this year ESPN will televise the Par 3 contest on Wednesday at 1 p.m., which is supposed to be one of the most entertaining events of the golf season. With nice weather expected for the entire weekend and the best golfing field in the world, this should be the marquee television event of the weekend and certainly worth watching, even for non-golfing fans.

## BUMPIN' AND JUMPIN' ABOVE THE COMPETITION



COURTESY OF LAURA BERZINS

Colby first-year Laura Berzins took second place at Killington's Annual Bear Mountain Mogul Challenge, held on March 29-30. It was the 28th consecutive running of the event, which features over 200 amateur mogul skiers in a competition that is seen as the crown jewel of Killington's "King of Spring" celebration. In her preliminary run on Saturday, Laura placed sixth of 39 female competitors. On Sunday, the top sixteen finishers squared off in a duals competition. In the final round of two, Laura lost to her former skiing coach, Catherine Toupençe, in a hard-fought run.

## Hitting well, a great start for baseball

From BASEBALL, Page 18

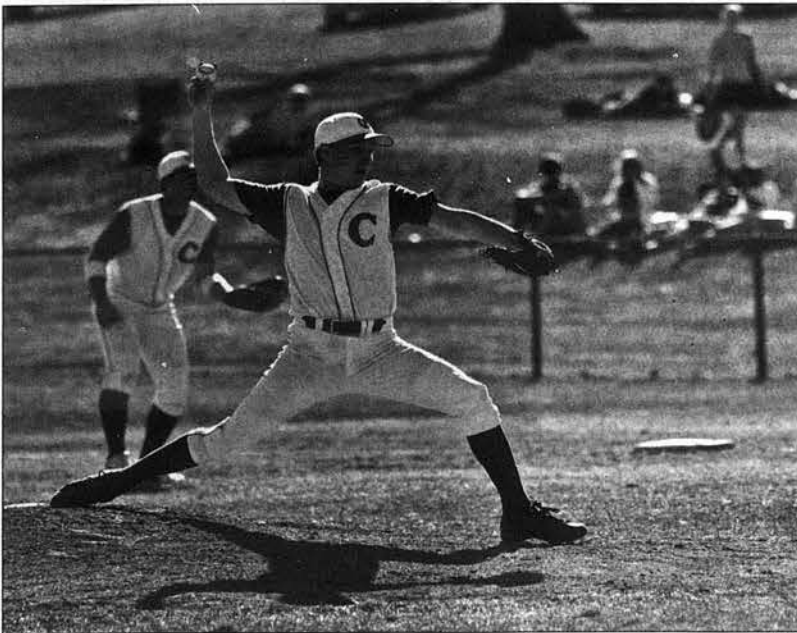
these two names in the big games down the stretch. First-year Ryan Murphy seems to be settling into a late innings role for the club as he collected a save and two wins in 6 IP. Another interesting storyline to watch is the

play of Tim Brettingen '10. He turned his sinkerball into a gem against Lawrence University when he recorded 14 ground ball outs in seven innings while walking none.

With an 8-2 record this early on, one could look at these wins simply as wins. But look deeper and you just might see a program on the rise. Head

Coach Dale Plummer is here to stay, the team has young talent and there seems to be a philosophical work ethic that every member of the team has gravitated toward.

These next few weeks will be proving ground for the Colby team as Tufts, Trinity and Bowdoin all remain on the schedule for NESCAC play.



FILE PHOTO

Nick Rucco '10, a member of the Mules' pitching staff, will help Colby improve on its past seasons' records.

## NESCAC ROUND-UP

In women's lacrosse, Wesleyan finally ended a quarter-century of futility against Williams in defeating the pesky Ephs 9-8 in a thrilling come-from-behind victory on Saturday in Middletown. First-year Allie Lynch scored the clinching goal, her 15th of the season and 12th in the last four games, at 3:38 of the second half. Wesleyan then held on to win, beating Williams for the first time since 1983...Bowdoin senior attacker Mike Giordano led the Polar Bears to two consecutive wins over Springfield and Trinity last weekend. Giordano scored seven goals in the victories, and was honored as this week's NESCAC Player of the Week for men's lacrosse...The Trinity baseball team remained at an undefeated 19-0 after defeating Bates in both games of a doubleheader on April 6. The Bantams are ranked eighth in the nation and looked to go for a 20-0 start against Western Connecticut University on April 8...In softball, Tufts pitcher Stefanie Tong led the Jumbos to an undefeated 6-0 week, contributing three victories with a 1.12 ERA over 18.2 innings of work. In the game against Bowdoin on April 5, she entered the game in relief and gave up no runs on three hits...In men's track and field, Amherst freshman phenom Peter Harrison took first in the 1500-meter (3:59.73) at the Jim Sheehan Memorial Invitational held at Fitchburg St. Harrison also placed fourth in the 800-meter (1:59.77) and ran a leg of the winning 4x800 meter relay for the Lord Jeffs in the same meet...On the women's side, Hamilton sophomore Liz Wahl broke the Continentals' school record in the 200-meter, finishing first in the event with a time of 26:55 at the Hamilton Invitational

—Nick Cunkelman, Asst. Sports Editor

## STANDINGS

BASEBALL							
	NESCAC				OVERALL		
East Division	W	L	T	W	L	T	
Trinity	6	0	0	19	0	0	
Tufts	2	1	0	11	6	0	
Bowdoin	2	3	0	10	6	0	
Bates	1	5	0	4	9	0	
COLBY	0	2	0	8	4	0	
West Division							
Williams	3	0	0	13	7	0	
Amherst	4	2	0	11	6	1	
Wesleyan	3	3	0	9	12	0	
Hamilton	1	2	0	5	9	0	
Middlebury	1	5	0	4	9	0	

MEN'S LACROSSE				
	NESCAC		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
Middlebury	6	0	8	0
Wesleyan	3	1	5	3
Tufts	3	2	6	3
Bowdoin	2	2	6	3
Conn.	3	4	5	4
COLBY	2	3	5	3
Trinity	2	3	4	5
Bates	2	4	3	7
Williams	2	4	3	4
Amherst	1	3	6	4

## LEADERS

BASEBALL				
Triples, NESCAC				
				3B
Robin Altemand	Williams			5
Ryan Conlon	COLBY			4
John LaMantia	COLBY			4
Max Pinto	Williams			4
Kent Graham	Trinity			4

SOFTBALL				
Runs batted in, NESCAC				
				RBI
Alex Easman	COLBY			19
Talia Bernstein	Wesleyan			18
K. Powers	Williams			15
L. Copeland Halperin	Williams			15
5 tied with 14 RBIs				

MEN'S LACROSSE				
Points per game, NESCAC				
	GP	Pts.	PPG	
Eric Thompson	Bowdoin	1	5	5.00
Russ Follenabee	Wesleyan	8	31	3.88
Mike Stone	Middlebury	8	31	3.88
D.J. Hessler	Tufts	9	30	3.33
Thomas McDonnell	Amherst	10	33	3.30
Caddy Brooks	COLBY	8	26	3.25
T.J. Jackson	Amherst	10	32	3.20
Pete Smith	Middlebury	8	25	3.12
Walt McCarthy	COLBY	7	20	2.86
Will Ferrer	Amherst	10	28	2.80

WOMEN'S LACROSSE				
Points per game, NESCAC				
	GP	Pts.	PPG	
Kate Sheridan	COLBY	9	48	5.33
Rachel Romanowsky	Trinity	7	37	5.29
Caroline Thomas	Bates	9	38	4.22
C.J. Yanofsky	Trinity	8	33	4.12
Mimi Schatz	Middlebury	8	33	4.12
Aranda Smith	Middlebury	6	22	3.67
Lyndsey Colburn	Bowdoin	9	32	3.56
Amy Craig	Amherst	9	31	3.44
Maddie Hoeg	Amherst	9	31	3.44
Katherine Entwistle	Middlebury	8	27	3.38





# SPORTS

THE COLBY ECHO

Page 18 | www.ColbyEcho.com

April 9, 2008

## Baseball looks to continue hot start to season

*The Mules' 8-2 record already surpasses last season's win total of seven*

By WILL HARRINGTON  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

If one were to ask any Mule baseball player if this season has already been a success, one would be hard pressed to find any self-exaltation. Most would shun the thought of complacency with New England Small

**Look no further than the offense for the source of Colby's turnaround... Right now, seven of the starting nine are hitting over .300...**

College Athletic Conference (divisional) play only just beginning this week. As any mentally prepared team will argue, the first ten games of a season will not dictate how a team finishes. However, from an outsider's perspective, it is difficult not to see the beginning of this spring season as a success. For starters, the Mules returned from their rampage in Phoenix, AZ, boasting an 8-2 record. The eight wins in the first week of the season already surpass last year's total of seven (7-22). For a program that has struggled to claim a winning season in the new millennium, it is good to see Colby baseball off to a hot start.

In the opening game of the Arizona trip, the Mules lost 12-4 against Suffolk University. Coming off a travel day and acclimating to an outdoor venue

might have been a couple of variables that affected the outcome of the opener. With adjustments made, the team proceeded to tear off eight wins in nine games. Involved in that 8-2 record was a six-game win streak in which Colby outscored its opponents 77-27. D'youville College took the brunt of the barrage with a double-header in which Colby scored 34 runs and limited its opponent to three.

Other highlights of the trip include taking three of four from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Chicago and two late inning victories involving game winning hits from John LaMantia '10 and Dom Morrill '11.

Look no further than the offense for the source of Colby's turnaround. It is hard to find a Mule on the stat sheet that did not

mash. Right now, seven of the starting nine are hitting over .300; three of these players own averages above .400. It is early to take these astronomical numbers as fact, especially with the tough NESCAC pitching ahead, but if the Mules keep up similar numbers (.357 team BA) they could have a prolific offense on their hands.

Junior catcher and tri-captain Kyle McKay led the offense and the



Nick Spillane '08 dives back to base in last season's game against Tufts. This year the Mules aim for a break out season.

NESCAC with a .560 batting average through the first week. McKay was rewarded as NESCAC Player of the Week to go along with his 14 hits, four 2Bs and four BBs in eight games. Not to mention he was errorless behind the plate and threw out four runners attempting to steal. First baseman Ryan

Conlon '10 was not to be outdone and was just as deserving to share the award as he collected 19 hits and four 3Bs and led the team with 15 RBIs. Tri-captain Nick Spillane '08 played solid outfield and also hit .450 with 11 RBIs.

Furthermore, Colby left Arizona with more confidence in a rejuvenated

pitching staff. The one-two punch of Justin Clark '09 and Matt Moore '10 combined to throw 21.2 innings with an ERA under 2.00. Clark has yet to be scored on this year. A top-heavy rotation is vital to any club so look for

See **BASEBALL**, Page 17

### MEN'S LACROSSE

## Mules fall in league games

*After a 5-0 start, Colby loses to Midd., Tufts, Bates*

By DAVID LOWE  
STAFF WRITER

After winning its first five games, the Colby men's lacrosse team has dropped the previous three matches to Middlebury College, Tufts University and Bates College. In order to get back on track, the team "needs to get back to doing what we do well. Consistency and sustained effort is what led us to a 5-0 start," Head Coach Rob Quinn said. With only six more games left, the Mules need to get back on track soon. They have two chances to do so this week, including this past Tuesday after press time when the Mules played the University of Southern Maine followed on Saturday with an away game in Connecticut against Wesleyan University.

Wednesday night the Mules hosted a

tough Bobcat squad. Bates' defense was able to shut out the Mules for three quarters. Going into the fourth quarter, Bates led 5-0. Colby began to chip away at the lead, with Todd Boertzel '09 and Whit McCarthy '10 each scoring for the Mules and making the game 6-2. Bates stepped up an already staunch defense after Colby's two goals and shut down the Mules for the rest of the game. Bates claimed the last three goals of the game, and won 9-2.

The weather for the Bates game was a big factor. "The weather conditions were difficult to overcome," said Quinn. 40 mph winds and wind chill in the low 20s made it tough for Colby to get things started. Colby's defense played well in the first quarter, limiting Bates to just a goal. Things changed in the second quarter as Bates found the net three times. It was a "frustrating game for everyone... we struggled with clearing and turned the ball over way too much," Quinn said. Caddy Brooks '09 and Mark Squicciarino '11 each had assists for the Mules. In Saturday's game against

Tufts, Colby looked again to take down a difficult New England Small College Athletic Conference opponent.

The Mules played the Jumbos evenly for all but one minute of the game. In that minute, the closing 63 seconds of the second quarter, Tufts scored four times. The rest of the game was hard fought, as evidenced by the 5-5 score in the second half of the game.

The first quarter saw Tufts go ahead 2-1. Colby stayed strong in the second quarter. Boertzel scored with over a minute left in the half, making it 4-3 Tufts, before the Jumbos went on their scoring run. "Tufts dominated the face-offs," Quinn said, which was especially true during its four goal run. Some highlights for the Mules included a hat trick for Drew Piekarski '08 and two goals and

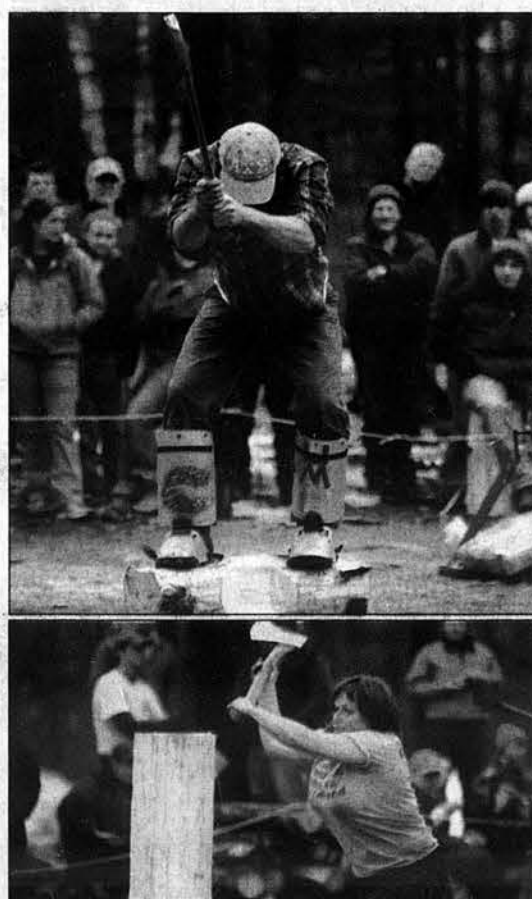
**[The Bates match was a] frustrating game for everyone... we struggled with clearing and turned the ball over way too much.**

Rob Quinn  
Head Coach

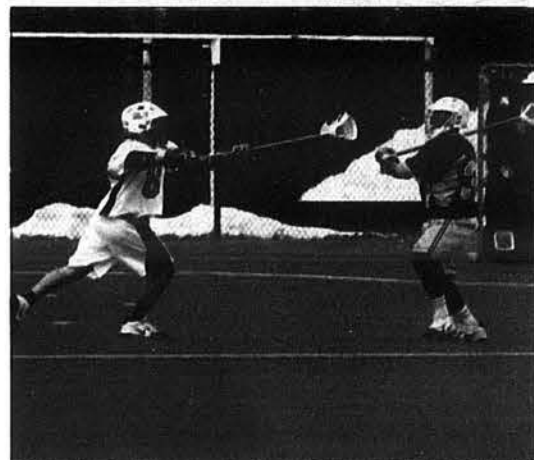
an assist from McCarthy. Goalie Alex Farmer '09 played well, and earned respect from Quinn. "We had a tremendous performance by our goalie, Alex Farmer, with 15 saves." Brooks added a goal and an assist, Squicciarino netted a goal, and Zach Goodnough '08 had an assist.

Colby now stands at 5-3 with a 2-3 record in the NESCAC. Quinn knows that his team "needs to regain some momentum as we head into the last six games."

### WOODSMEN HOST JACK AND JILL MEET



On Saturday, April 5 the Colby Woodsmen team hosted its annual Jack and Jill meet, in which it competed against the University of Maine Orono, the University of New Hampshire, SUNY school of Environmental Science and Forestry, Dartmouth College and Unity College. Colby's A team, "The Lawnsmiths," consisting of captain Jamie Poster '08, captain Tom Myers '08, captain Doug Rooke '08, Jamie Plume '08, Erica Block '10 and Haley Harwood '11 won first place overall and won the packboard relay/water boil event. Colby's B team "Unity Volunteer Fire Department" (Nate Lifton '08, Isaac Needell '08, Tom Nicol '09, Madeline Gordon '11, Margosia Jadowski '10 and Jenny Helm '11) came in second place overall and won the team Swede(Bow) Saw event.



Jason Forino '09 defends a Jumbo as the Mules fell to Tufts on April 5.

### SOFTBALL

## Bantams take three games against Mules

By DANNY EPSTEIN  
STAFF WRITER

The Colby softball team, forced to Connecticut by the presence of snow in Waterville, traveled to play three games against Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. Saturday, the Mules dropped game one to Trinity 11-1 and lost 9-2 in the second game of the affair. On Sunday, Colby lost the finale of the series 3-2, a closely contested affair. It is easy to sympathize with this team since it has been unable to practice outdoors and this was one of the first times it has been on an outside softball diamond this season.

In game one, Trinity jumped out to an 11-0 lead and cruised to an 11-1 victory in five innings behind starting pitcher Gabrielle Sergi. Sergi pitched for solid innings of work, giving up only one run on three hits with three strikeouts. In the top of the first inning, Anna Wilson '11 led off with a single but was thrown out attempting to steal second base, while the rest of the inning went quietly for the Mules. Amelia Roehn '08 took the mound for the Mules in her first New England Small College Athletic Conference start of the year and had a rough outing. The Mules scored five times in the first inning. Mollie Puskas '08 singled for Colby in the second inning, but no runs were scored while the Trinity offense erupted for six more runs in the bottom of the second. Roehn faced six batters before being removed in favor of Gabrielle Minichino '09, who allowed three hits in three innings, but no earned runs in a nice relief performance. Minichino also drove in the only run scored by Colby in the fourth inning. Sergi moved to 6-3 on the year while Roehn dropped to 2-3 on the young season. The game moved Trinity's overall record to 9-5 while Colby is 6-5.

In the second game of the doubleheader, the Mules again struggled with starting pitching and surrendered six runs as they lost 9-2. After a rough first inning, Alyssa Crowell '09 stepped down and provided the team with four innings pitched, giving up seven earned runs and striking out three batters. Betsy Tasi '10 provided an effective inning of relief for Colby. Puskas and Clark drove in the runs for the Mules who got two hit games from Minichino and right-fielder Alex Essman '11. Kristen Anderson received credit for the win for Trinity moving to 2-1 on the season while Crowell dropped to 1-3. Colby left nine runners on base while Trinity stranded 14, a good sign for the Mules pitching rising to the occasion in tough situations.

In the third game of the series played at noon on Sunday, Gabrielle Sergi took the mound again and pitched several effective innings, giving up two hits and two earned runs, as Trinity won the game 3-2. For the Mules, Tasi started the game and pitched three and two-thirds innings of effective softball while Roehn and Crowell combined to finish the game allowing no more runs for Colby. In the first inning, Colby took its first lead of the series when Essman hit a two-run home run to put Colby a 2-0 lead. Wilson scored off the play after leading off the game with a single. Trinity moved to 11-5 on the season and 6-0 in the NESCAC while Colby dropped to 6-7, 0-3 in the NESCAC. Next weekend, Colby will be at home to play Tufts University in a three game series with a home game against the University of Southern Maine on Sunday. The game Friday will begin at 4 p.m., weather permitting, while the doubleheader Saturday will begin at noon. On Sunday Colby will round off its weekend when it takes on USM at 1 p.m. for another doubleheader.