

THE COLBY ECHO

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Termination implicates College

Administration cited in Sentinel staffer dismissal

By CHELSEA EAKIN & SUZANNE MERKELSON
EDITORS IN CHIEF

Central Maine Morning Sentinel Executive Editor Eric Conrad fired reporter Joel Elliott on January 26, citing a request made by Colby that Elliott no longer cover the College as a reason for his termination. According to Director of Communications David Eaton, no such request was ever made by the College.

Elliott's termination letter, written by Conrad, states that "A request was made recently by Colby College that you not be assigned to cover any events at the college and further requesting that you not be assigned to write about the college at all." The Echo obtained a copy of the letter from an online blog and has confirmed its accuracy with Kathy Munroe, Portland Newspaper Guild union spokeswoman, and Travis Lazarczyk, the chairman of the Guild's Waterville Unit and a sports writer for the Sentinel.

According to Elliott, Conrad told him in a meeting that Associate Director of Communications Ruth Jacobs had had lunch with Sentinel City Editor George Myers Jr. in January and that Jacobs "had requested that I not be allowed to write about anything connected to Colby. He said further that Jacobs was speaking for the College, and was willing to put the request in writing."

My boss was kind of cryptic. He said "Colby feels like you take shots."

Joel Elliott
Dismissed Sentinel Reporter

"My boss was kind of cryptic," Elliott, who had worked for the Sentinel since 2005, said. "He said 'Colby feels like you take shots.'" Conrad's wife, Barbara Walsh, is employed by the College as the coordinator for the Knight Program and also serves in an unofficial advisory role for the Echo.

Lazarczyk, who was present at the meeting with Elliott and Conrad, said it was logged that Jacobs had met with Myers and had asked that Elliott not cover anything about the College and that she was speaking on behalf of the College. Eaton, Jacobs' superior, said that she has lunch with Myers on a regular basis and that he knew nothing about issues with Elliott's reporting or a request being made.

Jacobs said she does have lunch with Myers on a somewhat regular basis as part of her job and that at a January meeting she had expressed opinions about the work of several Sentinel reporters, but that she had been speaking for herself and not for the College. "George and I last had lunch in January and, as we've done in the past, we talked that day about the paper's coverage of Colby. We discussed the work of several Sentinel reporters, and, as someone who has both studied and taught journalism, I expressed my opinion about that work. I was speaking for myself, not for Colby, and I expressed to George my personal views," she wrote in an e-mail to the Echo.

Elliott said he was shocked when he found out that he had been fired. "I've covered quite a few events at Colby and some of which got some negative feedback...I didn't have any idea

SGA ELECTION ISSUE

President & Vice President,
and Treasurer
Platforms
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Class of 2010, 2011 and 2012
President
Platforms
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Top offices uncontested

By ALEXANDER RICHARDS
SENIOR NEWS EDITOR

Last year, the month of March was marked by student and candidate outcry over the Student Government Association (SGA) elections. During the 2008 election season, four separate tickets made bids for the presidency and vice presidency, and every class representative race boasted at least two tickets (save for the Class of 2010, as study abroad plans allowed four people to run and split representation between the spring and fall semesters). This year, there is only one ticket for SGA president and vice president.

Following the initial election last year, an intense run-off erupted, during which anonymous posters and vicious Civil Discourse rants accused both tickets of poor tactics and even attempted to divide the campus along the "chem-free/chem-full" line.

As a result, SGA spent much of this year working to address these issues. Some of the solutions came to fruition in the form of the recently passed constitutional provisions, which included measures to bar negative campaigning.

It comes as a surprise to many, then, that after such a tumultuous year, the race for the top offices of

president and vice president are uncontested, as are those for most hall presidents and class presidents. According to SGA President Patrick Boland '09, he has spoken with presidents dating back to 1997, and none can remember an uncontested

I can't wrap my head around why president, vice president, and multiple class representatives only have one candidate...

Cary Finnegan '09
SGA Vice President

president or vice presidential race. The only slots for which more than one candidate is vying are Dana, AMS and Taylor Hall Presidents, the Class of 2012 Presidents and SGA Treasurer.

Of the 30 races being decided this spring (excluding appointment positions such as Off-Campus and Alford Apartments Representative), 26 of them are uncontested, including eight elections in which no candidates are running at all. Only the race for treasurer, which boasts five candidates—an unprecedented number in recent College history—can be considered heavily contested.

The reasons driving this unusual election season remain unclear, with many students chalking it up to apathy among the student body. While Boland generally agrees with this, he believes that the presidential race may be uncontested due to the fact that so many experienced SGA members are choosing to run for treasurer instead.

When polled by the Echo on this issue, many treasurer candidates indicated that their interest in the position stemmed from either their past experience on the SGA Finance Committee or a general interest in economics and accounting. A number of students also pointed out that the position of treasurer is "almost independent" and one in which a candidate can "indeed live up to the goals [they] set for [themselves]," as candidate Audell Scarlett '10 pointed out. Boland also hesitantly credited apathy for positions outside treasurer to the perception by some students that "the administration oversees everything...which was definitely talked a lot about last year."

Current SGA Treasurer David Metcalf '09 believes that while the independence has its benefits, it can also be burdensome to the treasurer. "There's very little administrative oversight...I'd actually want more," Metcalf said, adding that "recent events have brought the position into the limelight."

Even in light of the enthusiasm for treasurer, SGA Vice President Cary Finnegan '09 remains puzzled by the current state of electoral affairs. On the one hand "we have more people running for dorm president than we did last year, even though some are uncontested...but I can't wrap my head around why president, vice president, and mul-



Fischer/Unsworth are running unopposed for SGA president/vice president

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Mail-in project frees secrets

By RACHEL GOFF
NEWS STAFF

"Hello, my name is Frank," a middle-aged man said, walking out onto the stage. "And I collect secrets."

Frank Warren is the creator of PostSecret, an ongoing community art project in which people anonymously mail in their secrets on postcards. He visited Bates College on Monday, March 9 to give a lecture entitled "PostSecret: The Most Trusted Stranger in America."

PostSecret began in 2004 from an idea Warren had for a community art

project. "You are invited to anonymously contribute your secrets to PostSecret," read the back of a blank postcard. "Each secret can be a regret, hope, funny experience, unseen kindness, fantasy, belief, fear, betrayal, erotic desire, feeling, confession, or childhood humiliation," the instructions said. "Reveal anything—as long as it is true and you have never shared it with anyone before." Warren left these postcards in public places and handed them out to strangers. The response was extraordinary.

Over the past four years, Warren has received over 200,000 postcards, published four books containing col-

lections of these postcards and begun a blog that posts new secrets each week. The secrets detail confessions of inferiority, doubt, misconceptions, realizations, love and hope.

Warren calls them "graphic haiku," for the secrets are not only thoughtful and provocative, but are expressed in artistic ways, with people turning postcards into their own personal canvases. A postcard with a faded watercolor read, "when you stopped loving me, I stopped painting," and a postcard with a collage of backcountry photos said, "I'm afraid I'm only comfortable when I'm alone."

Warren has received secrets in other creative forms as well, including a bag of coffee with a secret written right on it that read, "Where I work, for whatever reason, they don't keep inventory, so please enjoy 16 ounces of our dark roast," and a hotel room key card that said, "you suck at being in love."

When he initially approached people with his proposal, the most common reaction was: "I don't have any secrets," Warren said. "But I made sure that they took a postcard," he added, "because those are always the best ones."

According to Warren, "there are two types of secrets: those we keep from other people, and those we keep from ourselves." When asked about whether he believes all the secrets he receives are true, Warren responded that, "by



PostSecret complies both lighthearted observations as well as dark secrets.

S.H.O.U.T.I WEEKEND



Eve Ensler comforts a victim of violence in the Dem. Rep. of the Congo.

Keynote speaker exposes rape as instrument of war

By ALLISON EHRENREICH
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

"Are there any vaginas in the house?"

Eve Ensler popped the question to a high-energy crowd packed into Page Commons Friday evening, March 6. The vaginas enthusiastically made their presence known. "Are there any vagina-friendly men?" The guys responded, after some encouragement, with hoots and hollers of their own.

Eve Ensler, author of the celebrated, Obie Award-winning *The Vagina Monologues* and global V-Day activist for the end of violence against women and girls, came to Mayflower Hill to deliver the empowering and eye-opening speech "Turning Power into Pain." The Pugh Community Board (PCB) brought Ensler to campus as the key-note speaker to their S.H.O.U.T.I. weekend.

Ensler preceded her speech with a spotlight video on the atrocities against women and girls in the war-torn Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), providing a clear focus for the evening. She had come to campus straight off of her tour with Dr. Denis Mukwege, also entitled "Turning Power into Pain."

While she gave the audience a broad and engaging understanding of the V-Day movement and how it began, her attention was on her most recent work and the topic of the tour: the devastation of women, girls and families overseas in the DRC.

Following their standing ovation and tears, guests were invited to join Ensler for a reception in the Pugh Center where they could purchase some of her works, and had an opportunity to speak with the bold woman herself.

Each year, V-Day features one group as its spotlight campaign, and in 2009 it is called, "Stop Raping Our Greatest Resource: Power To The Women and Girls of the Democratic Republic of Congo."

When Eve Ensler was first asked to interview Dr. Mukwege—an OB/GYN from the DRC who mends the bodies ripped apart by war there—and to incorporate the DRC into the V-Day campaign, she hesitated. "To be honest, I didn't want to open the door to another place because I didn't know that we could effectively do work in another place. But then I read Dr. Mukwege's bio and I read of his life and his work and there was no way I could turn down such a privilege and an

honor to interview such a person," she said. And once she learned of the inhuman violence and systematic destruction of women overseas, there was no turning back.

"The Congo is the heart of the world," Ensler said. "We are all connected to Africa."

It is true; the DRC has some of the greatest pockets of natural resources—like the coltite used in cell phones—on the planet. It has, consequently, been exploited since the nineteenth century under King Leopold II of Belgium. The DRC's only elected prime minister, Patrice Lumumba, was assassinated 10 weeks after taking office. The United States is believed to have played a large hand in his murder. Under his successor, it was more of the same exploitation for the Congolese. Now, according to Ensler, there is no real form of government there.

Currently the DRC is being stripped bare by its neighboring countries, who have implemented strategic rape as a

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Unclear circumstances surround firing

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Colby had an issue with my reports."

John Christie, publisher of the *Kennebec Journal* and *Morning Sentinel*, declined to comment. "The privacy rights of our employees prohibit me or any other manager at the *Morning Sentinel* from commenting," he wrote in an e-mail to the *Echo*.

President William D. Adams confirmed that the College made no official request regarding coverage of Colby.

According to Elliott, he never heard any disparaging remarks from Jacobs. He said the "closest thing to criticism" he received from the College recently was a comment from College Editor Stephen Collins about a quote he used in his October 29, 2008 article covering the annual Lovejoy Award Ceremony honoring *Washington Post* reporter Anne Hull. In the article, Elliott quoted Hull as saying "I never write about people in positions of power...I'm always dealing with unsophisticated people."

According to Elliott, Collins "didn't dispute the quote's accuracy, but said that if someone took that out of context, it sounds like she's disparaging her subjects. I hope that's not how it came across," he said. Collins said he recalled the conversation and said he told Elliott, "I felt he had used Anne Hull's quote out of context, misrepresenting her clear respect for the people she writes about."

When asked if the College would request that its name be removed from Elliott's termination letter, Eaton said that the content of the letter was an in-

ternal personnel issue to be worked out at the *Sentinel* and that the College would not get involved.

In addition to the College's supposed request, Conrad's letter cites a previous warning given for an alleged failure to clarify the nature of an interview with Special Assistant Ator-

We're left with the strong impression that, in making the decision to terminate Elliott's employment, the newspaper yielded [...] to pressure from an influential local institution.

Al Diamon
"Media Mutt" columnist

General Jessica Maurer, "unacceptable performance reviews and continued problems with performance and behavior" and failure to file news stories in a timely manner as reasons for Elliott's termination.

While Elliott has covered controversial issues involving the College, including reports on the Champagne Steps celebrations in 2006 and 2007

(detailing trips to the emergency room by students and multiple arrests), his most recent articles about the College have had a different tone. On January 4, 2009, he wrote about the fate of a Vietnamese pot-bellied pig named Colby, who "evaded capture on [Colby's] campus for a month in the summer" and appeared "to have found a happy home at a petting zoo and nursery school in Casco Bay."

Last fall, he also covered a water quality study at Winslow's Pattee Pond by senior environmental science majors and profiled both Qiamuddin Amiry '09, an Afghan student, and 2008 Oak Fellow Afsan Chowdhury. Elliott also reported on the campus assaults that occurred in the fall of 2007.

The question of Elliott's termination has been picked up by pseudonymous blogger T.C. Munjoy, *Portland Phoenix* columnist Jeff Inglis and Maine media critic Al Diamon.

Diamon wrote in a February 11 "Media Mutt" column on the *Down East* magazine website that the College's supposed role in the firing was problematic. "It's not clear either from the [termination] letter or from Elliott's published stories in the *Sentinel* what he did to annoy the powers that be at Colby. Without that information, we're left with the strong impression that, in making the decision to terminate Elliott's employment, the newspaper yielded, at least in part, to pressure from an influential local institution."

The College, through both Adams and Eaton, maintains that no official request was made. Elliott continues to fight his termination through the Portland Newspaper Guild.

Kids cuddle with Corduroy



CHRIS HODER/THE COLBY ECHO
Corduroy Bear welcomes local children to the Bookstore.

original story. Corduroy lives in a department store and goes searching for his missing button. Since then, the bear has been the star of many more tales.

"We try to pick the character that fits our format the best," Bookstore Director Barbara Shutt said of the process for selecting Corduroy. "We want to find a character that we can build an event around, as well

as someone that will be appealing to the kids."

In the past the bookstore has featured popular characters such as Winnie-the-Pooh, the Cat in the Hat, Clifford the Big Red Dog, Franklin, Curious George, Arthur and the Berenstain Bears.

On Saturday, though, it was Corduroy's turn to be the star. Children from the Waterville area were treated to a wide range of activities that kept everyone busy throughout the afternoon. In the bookstore, kids had the opportunity to meet with Corduroy and to get their books autographed and their pictures taken with him.

"I get calls months in advance from people wondering when it's going to be held, and what character will be coming this year," Shutt said.

Judging from the number of families that poured into Page Commons throughout the afternoon, the event continues to be a sweeping success. Kids ran around excitedly, hurrying from activity to activity, sporting Corduroy buttons and carrying balloons. Their smiling faces said it all: getting to meet a book character that they know and love is something truly special.

By NICOLE HEWES
NEWS STAFF

Page Commons was bustling on Saturday, March 7 with a younger crowd than usual for the Colby Bookstore's 14th annual Kid's Character event. Although this springtime event is free to the public, tickets must be reserved in advance due to its overwhelming popularity. Attendance is capped at 600 people.

This year featured Corduroy, the beloved bear in the green overalls. Corduroy was created in 1968 by American author Don Freeman. In the

Posted secrets show all shades of life

From POSTSECRET, Page 1

sharing a secret, it goes from being true to being fake," because it no longer belongs to the sender.

As part of the presentation, Warren shared images of secrets that he could not include in any of the four PostSecret books. As many of the secrets in the books are extremely provocative, often containing nudity and descriptions of sexual escapades or abuse, it was hard to imagine the vulgarity of those secrets that had to be omitted. In displaying the secrets, however, Warren clarified that unfortunately many that had to be eliminated in the selection process were done so for lack of copyright or the threat of lawsuits. This, however, didn't stop Warren from revealing the secrets in the presentation. "I always wanted my life to look like a picture frame insert," one postcard read, the words pasted over a picture frame insert with the image of a happy bride and groom. "I still believe in God, but I've lost my religion," read another secret.

The less serious confession "I like to watch Dr. Phil, drunk," was met with roars of laughter. While many of the secrets were humorous, and left audience members smiling and nodding their heads, many were much more serious. Warren said that he gets very few secrets about crime and murder—cases that are highly publicized by the news and media—but many about self-inflicted injuries, instances that are often unseen or ignored, until it is too late. "Suicide is America's secret," he said, and emphasized the importance of helping those in need.

Warren's concern was evident when he posted a plea for support for the National Suicide Hotline on the PostSecret website after being informed of the hotline's lack of funding. Those who frequent the site saw the request and the effort was met with immediate success, raising \$30,000 in just one week and demonstrating the strong sense of community awareness and consciousness the PostSecret project has created.

At the end of the presentation, Warren invited audience members to share their own secrets. After a minute of people looking around, waiting to see

who would get up to stand in line behind one of the two microphones placed in the aisles, several brave souls made the journey. Their confessions ranged from funny to heartbreaking, but with each one it was obvious in the shakiness of people's voices that, with or without tears, none were easy to tell.

Upon returning to their seats after saying their secrets, the people who shared were greeted with hugs and comforting smiles. Warren was grateful for the people who were courageous enough to contribute. "Thank you for trusting us with your secrets," he said, "I saw so many hugs, so much emotion and connection in this room tonight."

In his closing remarks Warren said he hoped the presentation allowed people to "see a little bit of themselves articulated on a postcard from a person they'll never meet," and will possibly even inspire people to go home and share their secrets with a loved one. Warren cited from personal experience the "cathartic" result of sharing a burdensome secret, and encouraged the audience members to "free your secrets, and become who you are."

COTTER DEBATE



CHRIS HODER/THE COLBY ECHO
Robert O'Neil and William Thro debated over whether or not academic freedom is legally guaranteed.

Understanding academic freedom

By BENJAMIN COOK
NEWS STAFF

On March 5, the Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement sponsored the annual Cotter Debate, which this year focused on the question "Whose Interests do Academic Freedom Protect: The Individual or the Institution?" Director of the Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression and Professor of Law Emeritus at the University of Virginia Robert O'Neil and Chief Counsel for the Christopher Newport University William Thro were present to debate and offer their insight on the constitutional issues behind the question.

William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of Government and Director of the Goldfarb Center L. Sandy Maisel moderated the event.

The Cotter Debates, according to Maisel, originated when "in 1983 or 1984...the CIA [Central Intelligence Agency] decided they wanted to interview on campus...so Bill Cotter organized a debate moderated by a Colby trustee." The question over whether or not the College had a right to ban CIA recruiters from the Hill sparked national interest. Since then, the debate has evolved into the William R. and Linda K. Cotter Debate Series, which "bring[s] to campus experts who debate pressing contemporary issues."

This month's Cotter Debate focused on academic freedom. A member of the Goldfarb Center's Student Executive Board, Khoa Nguyen '11, said, "Academic freedom is defined as the freedom of teachers and students to teach, study, and pursue knowledge and research without unreasonable interference or restriction from law, institutional regulations, or public pressure...With the establishment of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP)...and its 1944 statement of principles on academic freedom and tenure, the United States has generally been a fortress of academic freedom. However, recent rulings at different federal and state courts have raised doubts about the status of academic freedom at public colleges and universities."

The debate format consisted of a 20-

minute argument delivered by Robert O'Neil, followed with 20 minutes presented by William Thro. The two were then allowed to respond to each other's claims for five minutes each. Afterwards, the room was opened up to questions from the audience.

O'Neil, a proponent of academic freedom, asserted that the Constitution protects the rights of teachers and students to teach, to study, and to research in the area of their expertise. "Most reputable private institutions pride themselves on free expression," said O'Neil. He cited *Urofsky v.*

freedom." Since Butz is a professor of engineering, he is free to make comments about his beliefs about history. If he were teaching a history class, however, it would be a different situation.

As a professor of law, "I cannot teach French Literature or offer candid views on wildflowers," O'Neil explained. "There must be high standards of integrity [in one's area of expertise]... a demonstrated lack of fitness or competence would forfeit academic freedom."

In response to O'Neil's argument, Thro maintained that although he was not completely opposed to the concept, there was no constitutional basis for academic freedom. As O'Neil's former student, he opened with, "I really hope I'm up to the challenge."

In his efforts to disprove the constitutionality of academic freedom, Thro followed four steps. First, he examined the literal content of the Constitution and determined that "there's nothing in the text that pertains to academic freedom." He followed by taking a look at the structure of the text to find out if the framers of the Constitution ever alluded to academic freedom. "The historical reality is they did not," said Thro. "Colleges were controlled by the churches... what we know about academic freedoms comes from Germany."

Next, he investigated precedent, whether or not the United States Supreme Court ever ruled in favor of academic freedom. In Thro's opinion, "There is nothing in the case law, no individual right to academic freedom." Lastly, he claimed that it might be possible to accept academic freedom as "legitimate only if it has the overwhelming consent of the American people." Thro speculated that the majority of Americans would be "appalled" that professors have special rights.

O'Neil and Thro's opinions were both compelling and although the debate ended unresolved, the complexity of the issue proved to be intellectually stimulating for those who attended. President William "Bro" Adams concluded, "The most vexing questions arise in and among students outside of the classroom." The next series of Cotter Debates will be on water policy and will take place on April 29.

Academic freedom is defined as the freedom of teachers and students to teach, study and pursue knowledge and research without interference...

Khoa Nguyen '11
Goldfarb Student Exec Board

Gilmore (1999), a Supreme Court case in response to Virginia's ban of sexually explicit material from public computers. These restrictions also applied to professors at public universities. In this example, O'Neil argued that "you can't do this more than you could tell a custodian not to bring a *Penthouse* to his break time." He believed that if a professor accessed sexually explicit material for legitimate research, then they certainly had a right to do so.

O'Neil referred to other examples, including the case of Northwestern University's Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering Arthur Butz, who insists that the Holocaust never happened. Although O'Neil disagreed with Butz's statement, he was adamant that "what he says is protected under academic

echo news in brief

Lovejoy grant brings two new speakers

Journalists David Shribman, editor of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, and Cindy Skrzycki, *Bloomberg News* columnist, will visit Colby next week as the March Lovejoy Journalists in Residence.

Shribman, who won a Pulitzer for his political reporting, and Skrzycki, whose columns are distributed to over 300 print publications, will speak to classes and meet with students individually from Monday, March 16 through Thursday, March 19.

They will also give a public lecture on March 16 at 7 p.m. in Ostrove Auditorium on "Navigating the New Landscape of Government and Politics." Shribman and Skrzycki will discuss how the shift from the Bush administration to the Obama government has altered the political landscape and what that means for journalists and citizens.

Skrzycki will also give a lunch talk on Wednesday, March 18 at noon in Fairchild Room of the Dana Dining Hall. Her lecture "Greener Rulemakings: The Obama Administration" will focus on sustainability initiatives under Obama's presidency. Lunch with the speaker begins at 11:30 a.m.

Along with speaking to classrooms, Shribman and Skrzycki will be available to meet with students and professors individually. They can be reached via e-mail during their stay at dshribman@post-gazette.com and cskrzycki@bloomberg.net, or notes for them can be left at their on campus office: Diamond 261.

—Barbara Walsh, Knight Program Coordinator

Railroad Square Cinema

Waterville 873-6526

Here's What's Playing Fri., Mar. 13 through Thurs., Mar. 19

The Class
PG-13 Nightly at 5:00, 7:30; Matinees Sat./Sun./Mon at 12:00, 2:30
Cadillac Records
R Nightly at 5:10, 7:20; Also Fri., Sat. & Mon. at 9:25; Matinees Sat./Sun./Mon. at 12:20, 2:35
Slumdog Millionaire
R Nightly at 4:40, 7:00 (except no 7:00 on Wed.); Also Fri., Sat., & Mon. at 9:15; Matinees Sat./Sun./Mon. at 12:00, 2:20
Miracle at St. Anna
R Sun, Mar. 15 and Mon, Mar. 16; 9:00 pm only
Our Disappeared
Unrated. Wed., Mar. 18 at 7:00 pm only

CORRECTION:

It was mistakenly reported in the March 2, 2009 article "SGA reforms pass, spring elections stay" that the proposed election change from spring to fall was voted down 60 percent to 40 percent. In fact, 60 percent of the student body voted in favor of the change and 40 percent against it. However, in order for the change to pass it needed to receive 66 percent of the vote.

Denmark moves toward green future

Samsøe island stands as bastion of sustainability

By JAMES BELTRAN
NEWS STAFF

Søren Hermansen, president of the Energy Academy in Denmark and 2008 Time Magazine Environmental Hero, spoke at the College on Tuesday March 10 about a tangible example of how, with the right combination of will and grit, humans can achieve the often idealized but seldom executed value of sustainability. Samsøe, the topic of Hermansen's talk, is the famous fully sustainable Danish renewable energy island. The lecture was sponsored by the Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement and the Environmental Studies



Søren Hermansen speaks in Diamond.

Program and focused on issues of renewable energy. Hermansen was the man who originally proved that the Danish island of Samsøe is capable of fully producing its own energy. In his lecture, however, Hermansen made it clear that the credit for making the island self-sufficient in energy did not only belong to him. "The real heroes of this project are the islanders," Hermansen said. The island is a microcosm of environmental stewardship. Because it is self-contained, it is the perfect place to work with new methods in sustainability because scientists can measure and control energy flow into and out of the island. The impetus for the move to energy self-sufficiency came during the oil shocks of the 1970s when no one was allowed to drive. Even after the oil shocks ended, Danes remained deeply affected. "We felt that an oil crisis meant something," Hermansen said.

As a result, there were discussions over the future of energy, with a blueprint drawn up that called for a nuclear power plant. However, public objections to a nuclear power plant arose after the accident of the Three Mile plant in Pennsylvania in 1979. "In 1985, the government said, 'We are not going to have nuclear power in our time in Denmark,'" Hermansen said of the Danish response.

In 1997 the island of Samsøe became involved in the quest for energy self-sufficiency. Samsøe,

with a population of 4,000 and an area of 114 square kilometers, was able to reach its goal after it won a contest by the Danish Ministry of Environment and Energy that called for projects in renewable energy. "We started the project in a funny way, actually," Hermansen said, explaining that the mayor of Samsøe joked that he would spend at least four more years in office if Samsøe won the competition.

"It's a windy area. Everyone feels the wind every day," Hermansen said of the advantages of having a renewable energy project in Samsøe. He added that the only question about using the wind was how to tame it. "We have had windmills for the last three hundred years," Hermansen said, stating that they historically have been used for agriculture.

Hermansen noted that there were several difficulties in getting the project started. One such difficulty was that no one in Samsøe believed that they would see an offshore wind turbine within their lifetimes. A second problem was communication; although it was a small island, Hermansen had to negotiate with many people. "It's an ongoing process where we have to listen to what they say," Hermansen said. He added that there was initial reluctance to form working groups because of the fear that too much work was involved. Hermansen commented that the project came through after initial reluctance when people recognized that they had to respect their traditional organizational structures, as the alternative would have been to put undue pressure on one person for the success of the entire project.

"Every individual lives in the center of the universe," Hermansen said of how people should approach energy issues. "We should act and think locally and behave where we are and do our best to do better." With the implementation of a renewable energy program in Denmark, Hermansen stated that more jobs would be created while Samsøe's economy would be enhanced. However, Hermansen cautioned that in order for policies centered on energy sufficiency to become a reality, brave and reliable politicians and reasonable budgets were needed. He also identified long-term targets as a necessity to ensure that alternative energies flourish. Within Samsøe itself, Hermansen called straw the island's oil, noting that using a portion of it was the equivalent of 200 liters of oil. Individual people, small investor groups and the local municipality own the offshore wind turbines. An energy office was set up in Samsøe to raise further awareness of energy issues. "We help people organize themselves by having public opening hours," Hermansen said, explaining that workgroup meetings, open house meetings and information on how to increase the energy efficiency of houses were also given to people to spread the word on the importance of energy.

Hermansen ended the lecture by addressing sustainability in the United States. "We have great expectations for you guys," he said, noting that a major international conference on climate change sponsored by the United Nations will be held in Copenhagen this coming December. If the United States fails to agree to a new climate change policy, Hermansen said, everyone will be in trouble.

form of warfare. Ensler calls it "femicide." Mukwege—who has worked in a hospital for 25 years repairing these battered women—calls it "sexual terrorism." Either way, for the past 12 years, the DRC has suffered unimaginable atrocities—things "so horrific they're unbearable to take into your understanding," she said—while the world has stood idly by. "I can only believe that this is fundamentally racism," she said. "Some part of us expects" this to happen in Africa. So far, Mukwege approximates that 500,000 people have been raped and tortured. Women and girls are systematically raped. They are raped with guns and they are raped with glass. Sons are forced to rape their mothers; brothers, their sisters. Husbands must watch their wives and daughter be violated. Soldiers who are known to be HIV positive are directed to rape entire villages. Both six-month old girls and 80-year old women are raped. Entire villages are left physically, emotionally and mentally destroyed, according to Ensler.

"Everyone is doing it," Ensler said. "Even the UN peacekeepers were at one point doing it [participating in the rape of the women of the DRC]." At the end of the evening, Ensler shared the story of Noella, a young girl whom Ensler came to care about deeply during her time in the DRC. When she was eight, Noella was separated from her parents. Her father was murdered. Her mother was raped. For two weeks, while the young girl was ripped away from anything familiar, the militia raped her every day. In the DRC, many women suffer from traumatic fistulas from the rape. The presence of a fistula means that there is a hole in the woman's vagina where there shouldn't be. Depending on the hole's location, it can inhibit the woman's ability to control her urine or bowel movements. "It is a hole inside a woman's soul," Ensler said. Noella has a double-fistula. She is too small and does not have enough tissue to have reconstructive surgery, so she must endure another eight years in her current condition. Ensler said that when she went to give her young friend a hug, Noella recoiled at first. "I realized she hadn't been hugged" in years, Ensler said, because people were afraid that Noella would urinate on them. Ensler told Noella she did not care and as they hugged and sat in Noella's urine together, Ensler said it was like a "communion" and that it was one of the most profound experiences she has ever had. "These women [of the DRC] feel forgotten. They feel as though the world forgot them," Ensler said.

In the DRC, Ensler, Mukwege and V-Day are working to bring the plundered back to life. The women are strong and they are fierce. They tell their stories to villages and begin to repair their damaged souls and bodies through dance. V-Day is setting up a City of Joy, which will be guarded by trained women as a place to heal. She calls these women "vagina warriors."

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES It all begins with vaginas. About 15 years ago, Ensler began writing *The Vagina Monologues*. It is a collection of monologues, as the title suggests, that stem from interviews with "more than 200 women. With humor and grace the piece celebrates women's sexuality and strength," according to the V-Day website. "I didn't really want to talk about anything but vaginas," Ensler said. In the first production of *The Vagina Monologues* about 11 years ago in a downtown New York City theatre, Ensler performed every monologue herself. Now productions usually have a different woman perform each role and Ensler has added new monologues to her work. On that first night, she said, "I thought maybe I'd survive a performance."

After the show, women lined up to talk with her. Ensler was ecstatic. She told the audience on Friday that she thought she was going to hear great sex stories and otherworldly orgasms. Little did she know that what she would hear would change the course of her life forever. "95 percent of the women were lining up to tell me about the violence" they had experienced, she said. Even as a victim of rape and near death at the hands of her father herself, Ensler said, "I had no idea how profoundly violence has infiltrated men and women's lives." Ensler realized that she could use the monologues "as a tool to end the violence against women," she said. And so

V-Day co-opts Feb. 14 to combat global rape

From VAGINAS, Page 1

she began the V-Day movement. "I still believe it's possible" to end the violence, she said. "I'm not giving up that dream."

V-DAY In 1998, Ensler staged a production featuring a cast of all-star women, from Winona Rider and Whoopi Goldberg to Calista Flockhart and Ensler herself, in New York's Hammerstein Ballroom. The event drew 2500 people and raised \$250,000 for anti-violence groups in New York City, marking the beginning of the V-Day movement. "In that time this movement has spread like wildfire around the world," she said. V-Day is "a global movement to stop violence against women and girls. V-Day is a catalyst that promotes creative events to increase awareness, raise money and revitalize the spirit of existing anti-violence organizations. V-Day generates broader attention for the fight to stop violence against women and girls, including rape, battery, incest, female genital mutilation (FGM) and sexual slavery," according to the movement's website.

V-Day, the movement, has also co-opted Valentine's Day as its official day. This year there were over "14,000 places doing 400,000 events like *The Vagina Monologues*," Ensler said.

However, according to the website, "Performance is just the beginning. V-Day stages large-scale benefits and produces innovative gatherings, films and campaigns to educate and change social attitudes towards violence against women including the documentary *Until The Violence Stops*; community briefings on the missing and murdered women of Juárez, Mexico; the December 2003 V-Day delegation trip to Israel, Palestine, Egypt and Jordan," and the list goes on.

Ensler's experience with Dr. Mukwege highlights another important tenet of V-Day: the role of V-Men. These are male supporters of V-Day who seek to deconstruct patriarchy and redefine masculinity. "In your life you meet maybe one or two people... who live on some other plane, who's as close to a saint that you get in a lifetime, and that was the experience I had meeting Dr. Mukwege," Ensler said.

"Dr. Mukwege will be the godfather" of the V-Men, she said. "Patriarchy destroys women, but it really destroys men, let me tell you."

TAKING ACTION "If we do not support these women [of the DRC]... we will see this [type of systematic] violence spread everywhere," Ensler said. College organizers can bring V-Day events to their campuses each year around February 14, including producing *The Vagina Monologues*. The purpose is "to raise awareness about violence against women and girls as well as raise money for local beneficiaries that are working to end violence," according to the website.

Students can also go to V-Day's website at www.vday.org to find out more information, or simply reach out and volunteer at local shelters and hotlines. Write a letter to your representatives and spread the word to friends. Attendees found her speech to be very empowering. "It's amazing how little people know," Maddie Caplan '12 said. "The benefit of her talk is she inspires people." Whitney Greswold '12 said Ensler was, "very joyful... joy kind of radiated out from her."

V-Day 2007 marked the last time *The Vagina Monologues* were performed on the Hill. Already there has been talk on campus about bringing them back, along with more V-Day awareness and activism. Students Kimberly Noelle Parker '11 and MyTien Huynh '11 are bringing events to raise awareness of sexual assault to campus this April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). The events will include Take Back the Night, "a march to downtown Waterville around dinner-time" with "a vigil to remember and celebrate victims of sexual violence," and the Clothesline Project, a visual representation of how sexual assault infiltrates society, according to Huynh. In the 2003-04 school year, Ashley Hunt '07 began Students Against Sexual Assault (SASA) after a friend of hers was assaulted. SASA organized events for April like the ones coming this SAAM on the Hill. This is its first year since it began that SASA is not on campus. It died out after last spring. If a club comes back to the College dedicated to sexual assault awareness, Huynh said it would probably be under the umbrella of Student Health on Campus.

"We, people of the world, will change the world," Ensler said. "So really, the people I count on are you."

Five run for treasurer in unusual election season

From ELECTION, Page 1

multiple class representative positions only have one candidate," Finnegan said.

Both Boland and Finnegan find it strange that no "dark horse" candidates have emerged, as Boland put it. Based on precedent, Finnegan is also surprised that so few people are running, even if they were to do it for the wrong reasons. "Not that I want anyone to run for the room... but are people forgetting about the money or the rooms?" Finnegan asked. She also found the Class of 2010 president race surprising, as people holding this position "get to do a lot, like run Senior Week and speak at graduation."

Despite the lack of candidates for most positions, however, candidates and current SGA members alike appear optimistic about next year's prospects. "All these treasurers are very qualified under the precedents set by past elections," Boland said, a sentiment shared by Metcalf. Finnegan also pointed out that there are many dorm presidents returning to SGA next year, which she believes "says good things about SGA this year" in terms of the progress it

has made. Moreover, next year's treasurer is going to have a "big job" and will have to "reevaluate the system to determine if it needs an overhaul," Finnegan said. Boland also stressed that SGA will have to determine next year whether or not this year's attitude toward the election is "due to a general apathy or not."

Dana Beer & Wine Night sees new life

By ANNA KELEMEN
NEWS EDITOR

The air was welcoming at the recent Beer and Wine night. Bright lights and cheerful chatter filled the Fairchild Room of Dana Dining Hall on March 6, in an event sponsored by the Student Government Association (SGA). Students over 21 years of age were invited to come together and share a one-dollar drink over dinner. Drinks were limited to two per student.

"The event is a way for students to come together on campus in a way that is sociable but offers a different setting from the usual party scene," Parliamentarian of the SGA Parliamentarian and Beer and Wine Night planner Liza Comeau '09 said. After noticing that the event had disappeared after her first year at the College, Comeau decided this year to investigate reviving Beer and Wine Nights. "I hadn't seen it for the last two years so I met with Joe Klaus the director of Dining Services to ask what had happened.

Apparently they stopped doing it because they had really low turnout," Comeau said.

The success of last Friday's event, however, shows that turnout is not a problem this time around. "When I was there it was packed," Comeau said. "I was really happy with the great turnout. I don't have any numbers but we made a Facebook event and over 90 people said they were going."

The event is a way for students to come together on campus in a way that is sociable but offers a different setting from the usual party scene.

Liza Comeau '09
SGA Parliamentarian

SGA President Patrick Boland echoed her enthusiasm over the revived event. "I was really excited to see Beer and Wine Night return, and it went amazingly well," Boland said. "People were bringing in extra tables and chairs in order to take advantage of it."

For both Boland and Comeau, however, the event was more than just an opportunity for students to gather and socialize. "One of the main things is to promote responsible social drinking rather than drinking to get drunk," Comeau said. Boland



When introduced in 2005, Beer and Wine night gained national press attention.

felt similarly, saying, "I think that it is an incredibly responsible way to drink, which the College administration and SGA have been encouraging for years, and I hope that it doesn't stop with just this year, but rather continues on."

Boland, too, emphasized the distinction between social drinking and drinking to become intoxicated. "It's just like the pub, having a drink with friends, but not with the purpose of getting drunk," Boland said. "It's the way that the College should be."

Although she was unable to attend this past Friday, Ellen London '09

looks forward participating in the future. "I think it is a good idea because it teaches students how to drink in a way that is social and responsible," London said. "It is one of those few events where the administration trusts the student body to be accountable for their actions, which in turn gives us more respect for the administration's stance on alcohol."

Given this recent success, Comeau is confident that the student body can look forward to upcoming Beer and Wine Nights. "This was a trial run, but given how many people showed up, I think it is safe to say that we will be having more of them," she said.

Colby College Department of Security Incident Report Log

Nature:	Date:	Time:	Location:	Disposition:	Comments:
Medical Call	3/5/09	11:49 p.m.	Piper Hall	Deans Office	Underage drinking.
Medical Call	3/6/09	1:43 a.m.	Dana Hall	Maine General	Alcohol.
Alcohol Violation	3/6/09	10:50 p.m.	Colby Gardens	Deans Office	Unregistered party, underage drinking.
Failure to Comply	3/7/09	12:14 a.m.	Outside Cotter Union	Deans Office	Drunk and disorderly.
Medical Call	3/7/09	1:22 a.m.	Cotter Union	Health Center	Alcohol.
Assault, Simple	3/7/09	2:30 a.m.	Colby Gardens	Deans Office	Argument and physical contact.
Vandalism	3/7/09	8:17 p.m.	East Quad	Deans Office	Graffiti in stairwell.
Medical Call	3/7/09	11:29 p.m.	Health Center	Maine General	Alcohol.
Medical Call	3/8/09	1:26 a.m.	Cotter Union	Health Center	Alcohol.
Safety Violation	3/8/09	4:06 a.m.	Alford Apartments	Deans Office	Failure to leave for fire alarm.

SGA ELECTION

candidates for

President & Vice President

Jacob Fischer '10 & Katie Unsworth '10



Katie Unsworth '10 and Jake Fischer '10

COURTESY OF THE CANDIDATES

Before you delve into this campaign platform, let us be honest and admit that there is no way we are going to fit everything we want into this tiny 500-word article. So here is our platform overview: SGA should not just be a machine working in the background of your life.

We should be a vehicle for change, so that any time you don't like something about Colby, SGA will hear you and fight to fix it. This college would not exist without the students. It is necessary that you be heard by the rule-makers.

We, Jake Fischer and Katie Unsworth, pledge that we have the COLBY PRIDE, experience, and knowledge to know exactly how to get done both what we plan to do and anything that you need us to.

Our ideas can be broken up into four categories: Colby Pride, Town-Gown Relations, Campus Unity, and

Campus Responsibility.

COLBY PRIDE

Events like the Winter Carnival, COOT, Fall Ball and Cotillion bring the school together and show off why we all chose to live in lovely Waterville, Maine. We will continue and improve on these traditions.

However, some need to be revamped. An example of this is FebFrosh orientation. We pledge to work with former FebFrosh and Campus Life to make this something that every student becomes a part of and enjoys.

TOWN-GOWN RELATIONS

It's a fact that Waterville residents don't hate Colby as much as we think they do. Seriously. We will work with the Treasurer to make sure that events

like Hill 'N the 'Ville and Burst the Bubble Week become bigger and better than ever. Spending money downtown is important too. How about some safe rides back and forth from the bars?

CAMPUS UNITY

This is a small college, and there should be more communication between campus leaders. We will bring together SGA Executive Board, SPB Executive Board, PCB and anyone else interested to regular meetings to discuss what's happening on campus and how to make our home a better place.

Along the same lines, we will work with CCOR members to develop a training program for all members of SGA. Next year, SGA members will be the most approachable people on campus.

CAMPUS RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility is a big word. To us it means several things. First, responsible partying. We are all adults and should act like them. Let's make partying a public thing and promote bigger, more inclusive parties where there is more to do than sit in a corner and chug.

Second, green initiatives. Being green not only saves the environment, but saves money. Be green to save green. Third, SGA transparency. On any given day, you should know what SGA is doing for you.

At the heart of these ideas are two people who have some serious COLBY PRIDE and are committed to making your life here as good as it can be. On March 16, vote FISCHER/UNSWORTH for SGA President/Vice President.

candidates for

Treasurer

Kat Cosgrove '10



Kat Cosgrove '10

COURTESY OF THE CANDIDATE

the Belgians. Uncertain is the future of our collective lifestyle. In the midst of all this turmoil, I offer you a candidate for SGA treasurer that you can rely on: myself.

My name is Kat Cosgrove and I'm a double major in French and International Studies. I'm writing to you from the land of chocolate, watches and neutrality: Switzerland, where I am spending my junior year studying abroad. You may ask yourself "What does a French/international studies major, who is in Switzerland, know about being treasurer?" I understand your hesitation. However, I believe I am highly qualified to be a very successful treasurer.

I was treasurer of my high school class for four years. To be responsible for the class dues of a class of just under 1,000 students is quite the task. Furthermore, last year I represented the class of 2010 on the first Student Financial Committee.

I worked alongside the former and current Treasurers, as well as several others, to get club funding under control and cut down the mounting debt. In this position, I was able to observe exactly what being treasurer entails, and I know that I am the right person for the job.

The position of treasurer is an important one. It deserves to be filled by an individual with firsthand experience and who promises to keep spending at a reasonable level during tumultuous times.

So when the polls open on the 16th, please vote Kat Cosgrove for SGA Treasurer. It's a choice you won't regret.

My fellow Colbians,

These are trying economic times. Our very existence as students at a small, New England liberal arts school is being threatened. Starbucks is watering down their lattes, Saab is on the verge of bankruptcy and Anheuser-Busch has sold out to

of students, which has been a valuable experience in and of itself. Although my familiarity in the financial world situates me uniquely to act as SGA Treasurer, my agenda will be dictated by the student body. From my discussions, I have found a common thread—you want to know where your money goes. The SGA budget reflects a proportion of your tuition—thus you should be entitled to see exactly how the money is spent. The way the system is set up now, the vast majority of students do not know the details of which organizations receive funding and how much they are given. As treasurer, I will make this information public and easy to access, no more will there be constant rumors about which club gets how much money. Working with Dave Metcalf '09, the current treasurer this spring, has allowed me to see how truly baseless much of this conversation on campus is.

Daren McGregor '12



Daren McGregor '12

COURTESY OF THE CANDIDATE

Hello, my name is Daren McGregor and I am running for SGA Treasurer. If elected to the position, I intend to bring a new standard of communication and continuity to the office. The challenge of being the Treasurer is twofold: be the financial means through which clubs enrich the College community as a whole, and maintain the financial discipline to exercise those means. I am ready, willing and able to level with clubs, the student body and the administration to promote a time at Colby where all students genuinely feel that the SGA and the Treasurer serves them.

This past year I was on the SGA Finance Committee. The committee reviews all requests for club funding on a weekly basis and provides a plurality of viewpoints for the Treasurer's decision. This experience granted me the chance to look at clubs and campus events from a different perspective. It gave me the opportunity to listen to genuine frustration among the student body about the entire process. If elected, I will use my experience to augment my performance as Treasurer in all aspects and confront those problems. I will maximize the effectiveness of the office through communication between the Treasurer and the student body, and will use my experience to provide continuity as a 2009-2010 Treasury adapts to a rapidly changing campus.

idly changing campus.

An informed Treasurer is an effective one; I intend to promote that through constant student feedback. If elected, I will expand the visibility of the Finance Committee, so that members of every class know that they have an advocate among their peers to ensure that their views are heard and respected. Secondly, communication goes both ways. If elected to the position of Treasurer, I would address the campus twice a month, either by e-mail or *Echo* editorial, to keep all students abreast of what the Treasurer is doing to best serve the campus. For a great 2009-2010 year, there needs to be a constant loop between the student body and SGA.

My largest goal if elected Treasurer is establish a level of continuity within the office that will smooth the transitions from year to year and eliminate the disorganization that currently accompanies these transitions. To varying degrees of benefit, the position of Treasurer has been generally held by seniors, who regardless of their performance, will graduate and move on to professional life. Should I be elected to the position of Treasurer as a sophomore, every action that I take will be made with the full knowledge that I will live with the consequences on campus for the extent of my time at Colby until 2012. As such, I will take strides to ensure that the position of Treasurer can be made into a lasting institution that will provide stability and steadiness from year to year.

My name is Daren McGregor, and I am fully confident in my ability to perform in the office of Treasurer if elected by you, the student body.

Brandon Pollock '10

Do you know where your money is? Today, nothing is more pressing in regard to finance than accountability of funds. I'm Brandon Pollock, and as your SGA Treasurer I will address these concerns immediately.

I grew up in Brewster New York, a small suburb of New York City. Next year I will be a senior working on completing a major in economics, with minors in administrative science and philosophy. The last three years have been the best times of my life, and my goal is to ensure that year after year everyone at Colby can say the same.

I have significant financial experience, which I feel is a necessary prerequisite for the important position of SGA Treasurer. The last two summers, I worked at a small investment firm in New York. Working a job in the real world financial sector enabled me to pick up a considerable amount of knowledge regarding financial planning and prudence. More importantly I gained valuable experience through my interactions with professionals in the field. I have already begun to put these lessons to use as I am in the process of starting a Limited Liability Company with another student at Colby. As your treasurer, I will handle the SGA budget with the same care I treat my own business, with profits expressed in student satisfaction and happiness.

Over the past few days, I have had the opportunity to speak with dozens

of students, which has been a valuable experience in and of itself. Although my familiarity in the financial world situates me uniquely to act as SGA Treasurer, my agenda will be dictated by the student body. From my discussions, I have found a common thread—you want to know where your money goes. The SGA budget reflects a proportion of your tuition—thus you should be entitled to see exactly how the money is spent. The way the system is set up now, the vast majority of students do not know the details of which organizations receive funding and how much they are given. As treasurer, I will make this information public and easy to access, no more will there be constant rumors about which club gets how much money. Working with Dave Metcalf '09, the current treasurer this spring, has allowed me to see how truly baseless much of this conversation on campus is.



Brandon Pollock '10

COURTESY OF THE CANDIDATE

As your treasurer, I will pride myself on being approachable. For me, this does not mean that I will simply hold office hours where you can wait your turn to ask me something. More realistically, I want you to feel comfortable to ask me questions, tell me concerns, whatever is on your mind at times that suit you best. Whether it be at the gym, in the dining hall, or in the apartments on a Friday night, I would appreciate hearing feedback. Ideally, I view this position as a complete reflection of what the student body wants. If you have a problem with the way things are being handled, next year you will be able to see the facts and talk to me about them at any time.

Audell Scarlett '10

Hey all! My name is Audell Scarlett and I'm running to be SGA Treasurer. I am a member of the Class of 2010 and an economics major, from New York City. Given the economic circumstances facing the College, whoever is elected to be the next treasurer will need to be able to address the realities of what is taking place. The treasurer will face some extremely difficult choices of what to fund next year, and this individual must be prepared to make decisions that are in the best interest of the student body. I am ready to assume that role, but I need your support in order to do it.

The duty of the treasurer is to ask: How many people will this event reach? We need to fund events that reach a large group of the Colby community. I believe that the Student Finance Committee (SFC) needs to play a more integral role in the funding process and I see great potential in improving the procedure. I intend to work with the SFC so that we can get the money into the hands of clubs as quickly as possible. I sat on the Pugh Community Board my sophomore year, the board had twelve members and in order for us to fund events there had to be a majority vote in favor of that proposal. I see a similar structure working for the SFC, not in the size of the committee but definitely the procedure.

leader going through the funding request process. When I was the treasurer for SOBHU during my freshman year getting funding was relatively easy and there seemed to be no real precedent in place, however, my sophomore fall the opposite was true. There seemed to be too much oversight involved in the process and it took forever to get funding which made it difficult for the club to operate. I think that the process has gotten better but I still think there is work to do. There needs to be more transparency in the process and clubs need to know how their money is being spent. If elected treasurer I intend to have an open door policy where students can inquire how much money has been spent.

For many of these initiatives to work, the treasurer will need to be an effective leader, who will need to work closely with administrators to improve the funding process. I am confident that I will be able to achieve all that I have set

out to do because I have great relationships with administrators, which will be a plus when trying to navigate the difficult course of improving our SGA funding procedure. My leadership skills will be useful when I assume leadership of the SFC because the treasurer needs to be an effective communicator and motivator. There are many enthusiastic people running for treasurer this year but none more prepared and ready to lead than I. Please Vote Scarlett for SGA Treasurer.



Audell Scarlett '10.

COURTESY OF THE CANDIDATE

Visit colbyecho.com to learn more about the treasurers

candidates for

Residence
hall
president

Eric Braunstein
Charlie Wulff
Emily Warmington
AMS

Andy Estrada
AVERILL

Nicole Murakami
Benjamin Oakes
DANA

Alex Nichols
DRUMMOND

Jessica Boyle
EAST QUAD

Ali Brandels
FOSS

Judy Merzbach
GO-HO

Alex Essman
JOHNSON

Mike Reilly
MARRINER

Khoa Nguyen
MARY LOW

Annie Chen
PIERCE

Raymond Reiling
Alex Hymanson
TAYLOR

Sam Carter
TREWORY

Ricky Schwartz
WEST QUAD

Amy Dunlap
WOODMAN

Residence halls
with no candidate

COBURN
COLBY GARDENS
GROSSMAN
HEIGHTS
LEONARD
PEWI
STURTEVANT
WILLIAMS

If no candidate is elected to a residence hall presidency the Incoming SGA President & Vice President appoint a president. They will also appoint an Alford representative and an off-campus representative.

Treasurer
Michelle Graff '10



Michelle Graff '10

Hello Echo readers! My name is Michelle Graff, and I am running to be

your next SGA Treasurer. Currently, I am a junior and I am abroad in Australia. I am an economic major and environmental studies minor, and I have been on SGA for the past two years. In addition, I am a microeconomics tutor and a research assistant for the International Studies

Department. Last year, I was elected as the sophomore class representative, and this year I was elected as the junior class representative by the class of 2010 and served on the SGA Finance Committee.

I think that the most important role of a Treasurer is to create an amicable atmosphere as well as a transparent system for all clubs and organizations that must request money. Club and organization leaders at Colby should not be burdened with requesting funds; they should be spending their time planning events that will enhance the Colby community. I am confident that I will be able to complete the duties that the SGA Treasurer has to take on, especially the duty of distributing and managing the budget. Not only have I become familiar with the logistics of handling Treasurer duties by attending many of the current Treasurer's office hours, but I have thought of ways in which

to improve the current system.

I believe that I will be able to fiscally manage the overall budget during this time of economic crisis. I will spend my time attempting to adequately fund programs that contribute to the betterment of the campus. Now that the SGA's monetary situation is more stable than it has been over the last few years, I think all of SGA's funds should now be allocated toward what they are meant for: student clubs and activities. I plan to ask the larger clubs to submit a semester-long budget delineating operating and programming costs at the beginning of the fall semester. I will examine these budgets thoroughly and with my Finance Committee, will allocate funds accordingly. For those clubs that do not need to request money on a regular basis, there will be a financial re-

quest form available at all times in the Office of Campus Life. I also plan to post a calendar of planned events online so as to increase collaboration of clubs as well as attendance at events.

After having been elected to and served on SGA for the past two years, I have become very invested in the organization. I know what a good treasurer needs: the ability to communicate effectively and the ability to manage and organize money responsibly and accurately. I know that I have these abilities. I believe that I can work closely and productively with not only the students in this community, but also the SGA Executive Board and the Office of Campus Life, as well as the administration.

Thank you for taking the time to read my article, and I hope you seriously consider voting for me for your next SGA Treasurer in the upcoming election.

NONE OF YOUR
NUMBERS
ARE *just*
NUMBERS.

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candidates for

Class of 2010 Presidents

Kaggie Orrick & Alex Aitoro



Kaggie Orrick '10

COURTESY OF THE CANDIDATE

Hey class of 2010. We're Kaggie Orrick and Alex Aitoro and were running for Class of 2010 Presidents.

Alex and Kaggie have been involved with the school in numerous ways. Alex has served on SGA for two years and Kaggie has been a liaison for CCAK and both are your current Class Presidents.

We've been working with the senior class presidents on events like pub nights, cotillion, and senior week so we have an understanding of the

processes and problems that are encountered so that our senior year can be smooth and sweet.

We plan to build on the pub and bar nights by making them more frequent, adding more events like bowling nights and Portland Pirates games to bring our class together.

We want to get everyone to attend games and support our friends and athletics. We want to take the stress off of academics and have events let you enjoy your senior year.

We want senior year to be fun and we will do our best to make it that way by working with the steps committee to make a great end of the year celebration as well as planning a senior week that we won't forget.

Let's work together to make our senior year the best it can be.



Alex Aitoro '10

COURTESY OF THE CANDIDATE

candidates for

Class of 2011 Presidents

Leslie Hutchings & Athul Ravunniarath



Athul Ravunniarath '11 and Leslie Hutchings '11

COURTESY OF THE CANDIDATES

Hello, let me tell you about my 2011 Class President running mate Athul Ravunniarath. Athul has spent the past year serving as our sophomore class representative. Throughout this year he has established himself as a hard-working and well-respected voice in our Student Government. And let us not forget the delicious class dinner he helped plan with the exhibitions of the incredible talent in our class.

Athul is from India and the current president of the International Club. He's a member of our JV squash team, part of the Colby

Mock-Trial team, and a resident of the Music and Art house. Athul is a double major in Government and International Studies.

—Leslie

Running with me this year for 2011 Class President is Leslie Hutchings. Leslie is from Great Falls, Virginia and is the dorm president of Averill. Leslie serves on the Security Advisory committee, SGA reform committee the Town-Gown committee, and also as the SGA-SPB liaison. This year Leslie pro-

posed and helped pass a motion requiring all student leaders to go through diversity training.

Leslie is a government major with an Education minor. She is also very involved on the campus outside the SGA. Leslie is a CCAK mentor and she re-activated and currently presides over the Four Winds Club (Native American Alliance).

—Athul

Both of us, having been on the SGA for a year in different capacities, will bring incredible experience

and perspectives to the SGA of 2009-2010. As Pugh Club presidents, we are also very well versed in the various multi-cultural issues on campus and we are committed to making Colby a 'safe space' for everyone.

Currently we are running unopposed to the position of class presidents.

However we assure you that we will not take our position for granted and will do what it takes to make sure the voice of the Class of 2011 is not only represented but also heard.

candidates for

Class of 2012 Presidents

Laura Maloney & Justin Rouse



Justin Rouse '12 and Laura Maloney '12

COURTESY OF THE CANDIDATES

that Class Presidents must have experience with college issues and event planning, enthusiasm, and the ability to achieve promised results.

During our freshman year, we have both worked tirelessly for you. Currently, as one of our class presidents, Justin has worked with SGA and the administration on finances, SGA reforms, housing and environment initiatives to fulfill the promises he made as a candidate in the fall. Laura, a member of the Class Council, has been an integral part in organizing and planning events. After serving on her high school's student government for four years, Laura has the desire to make change and build community at Colby. If elected, we will use our experiences to improve freshman orientations, promote environmentalism, build class spirit and advocate for financial reforms that keep the programs you care about.

We look forward to working with you on this campaign in the coming days! We hope to have your support and ask you for your vote; thanks for listening!

Dear Colby, Than Moore and Doug Proctor are running to be your class presidents. We're going to break it down so that each of us have an individual chance to get our message across to you, and then we're going to tell you why as a team, we are the best candidates.

Hi, my name is Than Moore. I am a Feb-Frosh, so this past semester was my first at Colby. Since arriving on campus, I have had the chance to meet many of you. During high school I was the SGA President, so I do have some experience with this stuff. Some things that I'd like to see done, and will work hard as your Class President to achieve, are more school spirit and class unity, and better involvement between the SGA and the rest of the school. I'm excited to be here, and look forward to meeting many more of you as the year goes on. OK—now to Doug.

Hi, Colby. First of all, let me thank you all for electing me to be your class representative for our first year together. It was a pleasure and an honor to serve and represent you, and I was glad to have the opportunity to do so. I ran on the promise that I would do

several things; most notably, I would listen, and act upon your recommendations. I have done this, and based on both my own analysis as well as your views, voted either in support or against numerous motions brought to SGA. I have worked hard for you during my time on SGA. I have taken your advice, and acted upon it to the best of my ability. I've learned a lot

during my first year serving you, and hope to apply this knowledge next year. Together, Than and I promise to work hard to take full advantage of the opportunity to serve you. We work well together, both have experience with SGA and as a pair hold the potential to do some great things for you. We look forward to representing you. Thanks for reading.



Doug Proctor '12 and Than Moore '12

COURTESY OF THE CANDIDATE

Get to know the treasurers more...

Given the College's current financial situation, where specifically do you see an opportunity to pull back funding? What will be your priorities for funding?

Kat Cosgrove:

President Obama recently had to make decisions concerning the financial situation that weren't necessarily received warmly by everyone. Unfortunately, tough decisions must sometimes be made. As treasurer, I would be forced to decide, with the help of my Finance Committee, where spending should be cut back. I would continue the policy of not funding food for club meetings. Pizza is a nice perk, but I see it as the most pain-free way to save money, and it's a burden that everyone can share. Additionally, in the beginning of the year, I want to

talk with every club leader and determine a list of priorities, so that I know what they would most like me to fund, and where they feel it would be acceptable for me to hold back. I will welcome comments from everyone on this matter, and work diligently to meet as many needs as possible.

Michelle Graff:

With the current economic condition, we need to become a more fiscally responsible campus and like the rest of the college, SGA will be forced to cut back on funding to some programs and events. I understand that the Echo, CER, WMHB, and the Oracle operate with high costs but these are programs that cannot be cut. I would like to continue to fund the Hill 'N The Ville, Burst the Bubble Week, and the Winter Carnival, but even those events may have to see a reduction in SGA fund-

ing. With that in mind, all clubs will most likely have to make some cuts in their usual programming. Any cuts will be equitable and there will not be a club or a program that will take the bulk of this burden.

This unique situation allows the treasurer to work with the Club Liaison to have clubs work together and have joint events. This can allow for better events with a wider target area.

Daren McGregor:

In the current financial climate, the top focus of the SGA treasurer should be ensuring that all funds and events are geared towards benefiting the campus as a whole, and not just the private interests of a few. While pulling back funding is never comfortable, a key sector where it can occur responsibly is on some of the trips and expeditions that clubs take; specifically ones that are not open to

non-members to participate. While SGA allocates the lion's share of its funding through clubs, the major priority should be the promotion of an atmosphere where SGA enriches the campus as a whole, and not just the club members. My largest focus would be allocating a larger percent of funding for Class Events, which provide a change of pace for everyone, and for campus-wide events like Winter Carnival. That way, all students see a tangible benefit from SGA.

Brandon Pollock:

A main focus that I will have as treasurer will be to eliminate unnecessary spending and spread funds further around campus. The way to do this is to ensure accountability of every club purchase—I am strongly opposed to the idea of giving more clubs proprietary budgets of their own. My opinion is that if you give

clubs a certain amount of money, they will spend all of it. To address the main question, what I will do with significant help from my finance committee is focus on subsidizing clubs costs whenever possible instead of outright giving funds. An example of this would be if a group is asking for money for sweatshirts, I would give them the option of selling some to decrease the average cost, or simply using SGA money to pay for a proportion of the purchase. This will enable clubs to focus their spending on what is truly important. By focusing on subsidizing spending as opposed to outright giving funds, the unnecessary club expenditures will be eliminated.

Audell Scarlett:

The college is facing serious financial stress and the next treasurer must be able to adjust to this. I intend to try

to get clubs to co-sponsor events with each other. If we can get two clubs to co-sponsor an event, then not only do we reach a larger part of the campus population but we can save considerable amounts of money and resources on the part of the college. Many people do not think about little things like buying decorations or having PPD set up spaces. While we do not directly pay for the latter, if PPD has to set up for two similar events in one week then it is a waste of college resources. This is my thought process, I believe we can save quite a bit of money, build community and have successful events that reach many students, which is one of my goals as treasurer.

To read the answers to two more questions posed by the Echo to the treasurers go to www.colbyecho.com

OPINION

THE COLBY ECHO

PUBLISHED BY THE STUDENTS OF COLBY COLLEGE SINCE 1877

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The Colby Echo is the weekly student newspaper of Colby College in Waterville, Maine. The paper is published every Wednesday that the College is in session. Students are strongly encouraged to contribute and should contact the editor(s) of the section(s) they are interested in working for in order to learn more.

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.

OPINION PAGE

Editorials represent the majority opinion of the editorial board. Opinions expressed in the individual columns, letters or cartoons are those of the author, not of the Echo.

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

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UNORTHODOX ECHOES

On the culture of validation

MY TIEN HUYNH



I knew the perfect kid in high school. He had a 4.0 GPA, was captain of the football team, acted and sang lead in nearly all the plays, was an expert pianist, dated a gorgeous, smart and nice blonde (they exist!), was a talented artist, was witty yet sweet and humble, racked up a thousand awards at each of the year-end ceremonies, naturally got into Harvard and, dare I say, wasn't bad-looking in the least. Yes, he was PERFECT!

This boy, who I shall name "James," became the standard by which boys at Deering High measured themselves, and by which girls measured them. My girlfriends and I constantly made comments like, "Yes, Terrence did a decent job on his history project, but did you see James'?" We would joke, "Yes, you may have the hots for (insert name here) when James isn't present, but those butterflies will vanish for bigger and better ones when he comes around."

The poor boys, though they wouldn't admit it, were probably more than a little jealous. We all wondered how he did it: get a 100 in AP Anatomy and Physiology, have friends of all backgrounds, have perfect parents who were both educators. We often forgot that he too would have to die and pay taxes.

Colby has several James-like individuals, both males and females. They're the kids who do it all, in a nauseatingly perfect and effortless manner. We want to hate them, but we can't, because they're just so goddamn nice, so we challenge ourselves to live up to the standards they set.

But this need to live up to other people doesn't begin at Colby, or in high school, or even in the first grade when a teacher pays more attention to one boy than another. This lifestyle based upon the concept of comparison likely begins the day we're born.

If James got an A on his exam, and you got a B, you were inferior to James on that exam. The only way you could validate yourself as a person was to receive a grade equal to or higher than James'. Similarly, if a beautiful size 4 woman observes that a size 2 girl is dating the football player, she may feel like the only way to validate herself is to lose two sizes or go out with a more popular football player (preferably both). It's intriguing that James' grade can determine someone else's self-esteem, and one woman's looks can drive another woman's actions.

Clearly the culture of validation and self-worth is detrimentally pervasive. There

If none of our girlfriends have boyfriends, we're OK being single. If most of our girlfriends have boyfriends, we wonder, what can we do to make ourselves like that? (As if the men in their lives somehow define their self-worth, much less ours.)

have been many instances where Person X would fail a test and nearly break down, go to her friend in tears and melodramatically ask, "Why am I bad at life?" only to have the friend nonchalantly reply, "Did you know the class average was a 59 on that test?" Suddenly, like a ray of sunshine, Person X brightens up, because she obviously cannot be bad at chemistry or math if others failed the test as well. However, if on the same test, the class average were, say, a 95, Person X would probably think she was

a failure at life and continue her quest to break down in tears.

And that's what we come to. If none of our girlfriends have boyfriends, we're OK being single. If most of our girlfriends have boyfriends, we wonder, what can we do to make ourselves like that? (As if the men in their lives somehow define their self-worth, much less ours.) James had the power to determine other boys' self-esteem; it's sad to think that if someone like him were to become less gifted, it would inexplicably raise the esteem levels of others.

In this culture we validate ourselves by our class rank, by our looks, by our popularity and by our talents, based not on self-analysis but on the achievements of the people we would like to become. It's almost as though the purpose of having others around is not friendship or love but solely to lower our self-esteem and de-validate ourselves. Furthermore, the only way we can become worthy and complete people is to prove them wrong. The only way to be a complete person is not to be unique, but to be validated. We first validate ourselves by proving that we've lived up to these standards, then we show others our accomplishments to have them pay attention to us and validate our validations of self. It's a bit ironic since being put on this earth in the first place means that we already have a special purpose, that we're all already validated.

Thus, Person X's 87 rather than someone else's 89 probably shouldn't make her feel like less of a person, and though James has a beautiful girlfriend, other boys can still be complete people. The validation virus is spreading and I am not immune, but I wonder, why, when people are born completely validated, we work so hard to de-validate ourselves? Isn't the idea to become a distinctive individual who sets one's own goals based on one's own ability, creativity and ambition, and thus maintain the natural hierarchy of abilities and talents in the world? The only difference is that it might be a happier and more validated natural hierarchy of individuals who'll contribute big and small to the world in general.

EDITORIALS

On Joel Elliott's firing: Take a stand, Colby

On the front page of this week's Echo, you'll read about how Morning Sentinel reporter Joel Elliott was fired after being told that Colby had requested he not cover the College anymore. There were other reasons cited as well, but as the College's student newspaper, we're mostly concerned with what role, if any, a request from Colby played in Elliott's termination.

The College denies that any such request was made. Associate Director of Communications Ruth Jacobs says she discussed the work of several Sentinel reporters with Sentinel City Editor George Myers Jr. and expressed opinion about their work, but that she was speaking for herself, and not for Colby.

We've been looking into this story for several weeks now — reading pseudonymous blogger T.C. Munjoy's reports, calling other journalists who have written about it, talking with people at the Sentinel and questioning Colby officials — and as far as we can tell, it seems as though the College's name and clout is being used by the powers that be at the Sentinel as leverage to fire somebody they had been wanting to fire for a while.

We don't know if Joel Elliott deserved to be fired, but we do know that nobody at the College has given us any good reason to believe that he should have been. If the College had legitimate issues with Elliott's reporting, we assume (or at least hope) they would be willing and able to express those issues.

We believe the College should ask that its name be removed from the termination letter. Why wouldn't it? As an institution that prides itself on supporting freedom of the press and that awards annually the Lovejoy Award for courageous journalism in the name of Colby graduate Elijah Parish Lovejoy, America's first martyr to freedom of the press, why would the College sit back and allow its name to be used as one of the main reasons a qualified reporter is currently unemployed? What gives, Colby?

Director of Communications David Eaton says that the content of the letter is an internal personnel issue to be dealt with at the Sentinel and that the College will not get involved. We understand this approach. It's like when in middle school, if two kids got in a fight and your name was mentioned, your mom would tell you to just "stay out of it" and wait for things to settle down.

But this isn't middle school. This is the name of a powerful institution being used to justify the sacking of a reporter that nobody at the College has given us reason to believe is not good at his job. It's hypocritical to sit back and do nothing. In the name of truth, freedom and fairness, we ask that Colby publicly take a stand and request its name be removed from Elliott's termination letter.

No need to endorse: SGA needs to be re-examined

Unlike last year, when the highly contested SGA race involved several runoff elections, this year's Student Government Association (SGA) bid for president is uncontested. Because of this, instead of our usual endorsement, the Echo has decided to take this opportunity to look at the role of the SGA on campus.

The current economic climate has raised a variety of contentious issues on campus, and rumors are swirling about cost cutting measures. Although the student response to these speculations has been anything but subdued, where is our activism? Where are our leaders? If SGA is our voice, our access to the administration, why are there so few people willing to step up and get involved?

It makes sense that the position of treasurer, with five candidates running, is the most contested this year. It is clear that the person in charge of finances has more power and ability to make a difference than SGA president and vice president at this point in time.

While we feel that the current lack of enthusiasm is partly the responsibility of the student body (after all, this is our school and it is important for the student body to remain actively involved in its governance), at the same time it is important to look more deeply at this apparent apathy. Perhaps students are so reluctant to run for SGA president not because they don't care but because SGA's power is so clearly limited. While the Presidents' Council is able to make recommendations to the administration, its actual influence on policy is so limited that it can seem almost non-existent.

That being said, we would like to commend all five of the students running for SGA Treasurer, as well as the presidential and vice presidential ticket. Treasurer is an important position and Dave Metcalf '09 has set an impressive precedent for taking the job seriously. He has been bold enough to make unpopular decisions in order to do what he feels is best for the school.

In determining whom you should support for treasurer, we ask that you keep the following things in mind. First, SGA experience should not necessarily be considered an absolute positive in this race. In fact, having Metcalf as one of the few non-SGA treasurers in Colby's history may have been one of the best things to happen to SGA in recent years. An outsider can provide a fresh perspective, and is less likely to be weighed down by precedent for precedent's sake or other historical baggage. As Metcalf has emphasized, tradition is not a reason for funding. Moreover, Metcalf has remained fair-minded, as he has no personal connection to any of the budgets he balances—a problem that has crippled the objectivity of many past treasurers' administrations.

Due to the number of people running for treasurer, there have been talks of having multiple treasurers serving next year. This proposal suffers from two major faults. First, this means the treasurer would have to split his well deserved stipend. But more importantly, managing a budget requires that the treasurer be able to see the whole picture, not just a piece of it delegated to them.

Instead, the authority of the Finance Committee should be bolstered (maybe in the form of voting privileges on finance-related PC motions, for instance). We believe that all the treasurer candidates deserve serious consideration for appointment to this body, even if that means either doing away with the current system of one representative per class or increasing the FC's size.

Furthermore, the current system of assigning funds on an event-by-event basis is inefficient and overly tedious. We propose a return to lump sum budgets distributed by the treasurer at the beginning of each semester or year. These lump sums should be heavily audited and reviewed frequently. Furthermore, the treasurer would retain a significant discretionary fund—perhaps for co-sponsored events, high-profile speakers or other unusually large projects—but no club or organization would be guaranteed monies from this reserve. These changes, coupled with a continued commitment to fiscal conservatism, will make the power that the SGA actually has more viable.

Visit

www.colbyecho.com

for SGA candidates' positions and in-depth questions with each candidate for treasurer

The creepiest day of the year is coming... again



NICK
CUNKELMAN

On March 13, 2009, for the first time in 11 years, the 13th day of a month will fall on a Friday for the second consecutive month. This phenomenon of back-to-back months where the paraskavedekatriaphobes among us opt to stay in bed to avoid the wrath of jinxes, hexes or the like, occurs with predictable regularity, yet for those who fear Friday the 13th—designated by the big p word above—it is the thought of *unpredictable* ills that makes them tread lightly on this day. Indeed, in the pattern of the Gregorian calendar, February and March are *always* the paired months for Ft13, November is *always* the third month to feature the day in the year, and in terms of cycles there are *always* two eleven-year gaps, followed by a six-year gap between each one of these “triple-whammy” years. Thus, the 2009 calendar is exactly the same as the one from 1959, 1970, 1981, 1987 and 1998. As for the next time we’ll get the formidable consecutive triple year? Just add six and voila, look out for 2015.

But why do we fear this day in the first place? According to a 1990 Gallup poll, about nine percent of Americans believe that Friday the 13th is jinxed, and Smithsonian Magazine asserts that \$800 to \$900 million is lost in business on this day due to absenteeism, train and plane cancellations, and overall reduced commerce. The 32nd President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, would not travel on the 13th of any month and, like Napoleon and Herbert Hoover before him, would never host 13 guests at a meal due to his fear of the number itself. Even today, the U.S. Navy will not launch a ship on a Friday the 13th. Sure seems like a whole lot of trouble over a day of the week and a number.

However, the superstition’s origins, for which multiple theories abound, give some credence to the cultural fear of Friday the 13th. One maintains that it all began with the Last Supper and Christ’s crucifixion, with the former featuring 13 diners and the latter occurring on a Friday. (Proponents of this idea overlook the fact that every time Christ gathered with his disciples they numbered 13 and also that the crucifixion is called *Good Friday*, not *Bad or Black Friday*.) Another theory traces Ft13’s roots to the arrest of the Knights Templar, the monastic military order founded to protect Christian pilgrims in Jerusalem during the Crusades who became very powerful and wealthy by the 14th century. Threatened by their power, King Philip ordered the arrest of all Knights Templar in France on Friday, October 13, 1307.

One anthropological theory even suggests that early man was comfortable with the obvious and feared the unknown. Thus, considering that these cavemen counted using all 10 fingers and 2 feet, giving them a sum of 12, they feared 13. (What, they couldn’t count on their toes?)

To consider recent times, some have argued that the superstition’s popularity derives from the 1907 publication of Thomas W. Lawson’s novel *Friday, the Thirteenth*, in which an unscrupulous broker takes advantage of the superstition to create a Wall Street panic on a Friday the 13th.

Yet the most plausible theory comes from Norse mythology, where the goddess of love and fertility, Frigg—for whom Friday is named—is found. Indeed, when Scandinavian tribes converted to Christianity, Frigg was banished and labeled a witch, but this didn’t stop the spiteful goddess from meeting with eleven other witches and the devil—a gathering of thirteen—on every Friday to plan doom for the upcoming week. Thus, for many centuries in Scandinavia, Friday was known as the “Witches’ Sabbath,” and fear of Ft13 grew from there.

Yet despite its likely origins above the Arctic Circle, Friday the 13th still send shivers down spines all over the world. In the 1800s, the famous insurance company Lloyds of London refused to insure any ship sailing on an Ft13, and a 1993 study in the *British Medical Journal* concluded that even though there were fewer cars on the road on Ft13s (as compared to other Fridays), more accidents were reported. In 1970, Apollo 13 launched off from pad #39 (13 x 3) on Cape Canaveral at 13:13 CST, and the dates of its launch (4.11.70) add up to 13. Two days later, on April 13, the mission was aborted after an explosion occurred in the fuel cell of the ship’s service module.

Today, according to the Stress Management Center and Phobia Institute in Asheville, North Carolina, an estimated 17 to 21 million people in the United States suffer from paraskavedekatriaphobia.

Interestingly, even those who considered 13 to be their lucky number, such as President Woodrow Wilson, didn’t exactly have the fortune they hoped for with good ‘ol 1-3. Indeed, Wilson arrived in Normandy, France on Friday, Dec. 13, 1918, for peace talks at the end of World War I only to return to America with a treaty he couldn’t get Congress to sign. On a subsequent tour of the United States to rally support for the treaty, he suffered a near-fatal stroke.

In addition to bad luck, rumors abound regarding Ft13, such as one stating that the British Navy built a ship named the HMS Friday, which on its maiden voyage left dock on a Friday the 13th and was never heard from again. However, this appears to be a legend, for on its website the Royal Navy Museum states: “There has never been a Royal Navy ship named HMS Friday—or after any other day of the week for that matter.”

Still, there are those who single out Ft13s for periodic events specifically *because* of the superstition, such as the thousands of bikers who ride to Port Dover Ontario every Friday the 13th. The tradition began in 1981 when one biker and approximately 25 friends, through word of mouth, met at an old hotel in Port Dover on an Ft13 in November, and has since grown to the point that, on Friday, June 13, 2008, an estimated 150,000 bikers and spectators converged on the Canadian town.

Fear and events surrounding the number 13 itself are equally interesting. Consider:

- According to Otis Elevator Company, 90 percent of skyscrapers have no 13th floor.
- Continental, Air France and Lufthansa don’t put a 13th row on their planes.
- Princess Diana’s limo hit pillar #13 at Place de l’Alma when she was killed in Paris, France in 1997.

And as for Friday the 13th:

- Butch Cassidy, the notorious American train and bank robber, was born on Friday, April 13, 1866.
- Fidel Castro was born on Friday, Aug. 13, 1926.
- A penumbral eclipse, in which the entire surface of the moon is easy to see through-out and remains relatively well lit with only a subtle shading visible, occurred on March 13, 1998 (the last time we had back-to-back Ft13 months.)
- The asteroid 2004 MN4 will make its close encounter on Friday, April 13, 2029.
- And, not surprisingly, Black Sabbath’s eponymous debut album was released in the UK on Friday, February 13, 1970.

After considering all this talk of bad luck and doom, it feels about time for some humor. Thus we turn to the venerable Mark Twain, who was once the 13th guest at a dinner party that a friend warned him not to go and later told his friend:

“It was bad luck. They only had food for 12.”

POSTCARDS

South of border, watching whales



Tourists take snapshots of gray whales in western Mexico.

3/7/09

I’ve been up since before 4 a.m., but Nutella and anticipation are keeping me alert as I scan the horizon for whales. I woke up this morning in a tent, surrounded by mangroves. With the sky still glittering with stars, my roommate and I climbed quietly into a boat to check out the nylon nets. In three shifts, from 8 p.m. to 7 a.m., our research team caught three green sea turtles—less than half the number we caught on our last trip, but you can’t control the turtles. We measured, weighed, tagged and took DNA samples from these juvenile turtles who spend their long adolescence in the mangrove-lined *esteros* of the coast of Baja California. These turtles, like all other sea turtle species in the world, are endangered, and studying their population dynamics and structure in this area will hopefully help create effective conservation plans for them. But we released them hours ago. Now I’m perched on the front seat of a small fiberglass panga, searching for gray

whales in Bahia Magdalena.

The water is smooth as our blue and white panga cuts through the bay, weaving between fishermen pulling up traps and setting nets, heading toward open water. We’re on the Pacific coast of Baja California, Mexico, studying the distribution and behavior of gray whales, which were once hunted almost to extinction along the eastern Pacific coast. They spend their summers feeding in the Arctic, and in the winter trek down the coast to Mexico to breed, give birth and now be patted by eager tourists. Their protection

has been a major success story in species conservation, and the eastern Pacific population is once again considered stable. The more we know about these marine mammals, or any other species, the better we will be able to protect them.

Tourist pangas, distinguishable by their canopies set up for shade, crowd around a mother and calf. We think we’ve seen these whales before, but we take GPS coordinates again. I climb onto the bow of the boat with my camera just to make sure. My research for the semester involves the photo identification of whales, and though I have a 300mm zoom lens, I rarely need to use it. These whales come right up to the boat, apparently attracted by the noise of the two-stroke engine, and bask in the shallow water below us. The mother stays below the surface, coming up only to breathe, but the calf is more curious. Boats surround the pair—my boat of eager students and then three or four tourist boats. All of us want to get closer, to pat a whale,

EMMA
GILDESGAME



and the excitement is palpable.

This is hardly the first day my group has seen whales this semester; we’re out here doing transects and photo IDs twice a week but each time is thrilling. Not wanting to crowd the whales, we get just close enough for me to take as many pictures as possible, our boat bobbing in the swells with the motor off. The tourists have no such reservations, and the baby is patted, kissed and even bopped on the head. The mother surfaces a few times and is excitedly reached for and stroked. They don’t seem to mind too much, but we wonder if the constant crowding by whale watchers has a larger impact on the gray whales in the bay. We try to figure out ways to incorporate that question into our research as the baby and mom surface just beyond our outstretched fingertips.

As we move on to the next group of whales, I think about the fact that all of this—watching the sunrise while measuring turtles, sitting on a boat taking pictures of whales—is class. I can’t control a smile as I realize that of all the reasons my experiences in Mexico have been amazing, this is why I’m here. This is a completely different way of learning science. Some people go abroad on language immersion programs; though I’m learning many things here beyond the realm of ecology, days like this I feel immersed in the world of conservation research. It’s a little window into the world I someday want to be a part of, and I’m loving every minute of it.

Finding beauty in the streets



ASHLEY
MITCHELL

La beauté est dans la rue, the beauty is in the street. That is what a poster tells me. However, these days that statement is hard to believe. How much beauty is there left in the world? Sometimes, I find myself completely discouraged with the world and I don’t know where to turn or what to do. I am stuck up here on the Hill and it can often feel like there is no escape from the madness that surrounds me and that I am powerless to stop what has already been put into motion. I know that I voluntarily put myself in this bubble, and that even in the outside world it would be relatively difficult to make a difference. In the outside world, though, at least I could see the streets.

This is not meant to be negative about Colby, because in many ways there is a lot of good that comes out of the little Colby bubble. Everyone here has good intentions and looks for some beauty in the world, whatever form it might take. However, we are isolated so we tend to miss things. We are told to look to the world around us, to the streets. In my head, I picture children playing hopscotch, people hurrying with shopping bags, beggars rocking back and forth—their grubby hands outstretched in hopes that someone will notice them—and then I see a truly empty city street. It looks totally alien, missing its in-

habitants. Which form is more beautiful, the abandoned street or the street teeming with moving people?

We strive to find ways to distinguish ourselves from the people around us. We look for ways to have a real impact. Often, we search for the big things when really we have to start small. We say that we are raising awareness with all of our Civil Discourse posts and school events, but people are aware of the problems already. They just choose to ignore the world’s problems because those problems don’t have an impact on their daily lives. I will be the first to admit that I do this. Sometimes hearing about all of the world’s problems is just too much and I have to shut them out just to keep myself sane.

I find it difficult to read the newspaper or watch the news because all we see these days is negative and scary. We forget to notice all of the good that is around us. I went to see the movie *An Examined Life*, which interviewed high-profile philosophers on their views on life. These views contrasted greatly and it was fascinating to hear about all of their different experiences. One, by the name of Michael Hardt, talked about his trip to El Salvador. The people

of El Salvador told him that there was nothing he could do for them and that the only thing he could do was go home and start a revolution in America. While it is an interesting idea, I don’t know how you would even begin to go about doing that.

But then I think about the poster and its message. It is from the protests of May 1968 in France. The students in this movement stood up and fought for what they believed. Politically, they did not accomplish their goals but they changed the social structure significantly and they are still remembered. They made their point. They wanted us to notice that the beauty is in the streets. We just have to take a moment out of our busy lives to notice and fight for it.



A poster from the French student protests of May 1968.

A WILDER PERSPECTIVE

Animal housing... or not: some alcohol issues that don't end at apartment parties



CHARLOTTE
WILDER

College students are known to drink. Even before Jim Belushi chanted “toga, toga!”, students were celebrating their newfound freedom from home with cheap beer and themed parties. Not all who attend college partake in the illegalities of underage drinking—some are 21 or older for most of their college career, some wait to drink until they turn 21 and some simply abstain from drinking at all. At Colby, there is always a focus on providing alcohol-free weekend activities. There is also a considerable amount of effort to make sure that the divide between students who drink and those who do not does not become a rift in the Colby community.

But what about the divide that is becoming more and more pronounced within the school between underage and off-age students who do

consume alcohol? Sports teams on this campus tend to be in control of parties. It used to be that many seniors on sports teams lived together in the Alford Residence Complex (apartments for seniors on campus) and would host events there. Yet last year, most of these senior athletes were denied apartments. Those who have been denied apartments in the past have moved to the Heights dorm, but this became chem-free last year. As a result, seniors moved to various houses scattered around the greater Waterville area.

I find this rejection a very poor strategy for dealing with drinking on campus. Yes, alcohol abuse occurs at Colby. The College has been working extensively over the past few years to cut down on the destructive behavior that can accompany partying, but we need to address why this binge drinking occurs, not how can we move it off campus. It is very shortsighted to assume that by limiting the places for students to drink on campus, such as the apartments, we will lessen the problem, much less make it go away. The sports teams still throw parties, but they are off-campus, and therefore underage students either go and risk getting in trouble with

the police if the party gets broken up, or don’t go and a divide starts to grow between those who can legally drink and those who can’t.

I know that it might seem fruitless to argue for the College to allow students to party on

I notice a huge difference in the involvement of the freshman class with upperclassmen between last year and this year.

campus. Legally, it’s not a plausible argument. But legality is not always reality, especially not in this case. I can guarantee you that students will find a way to drink whether or not it is legal or there is a place to go on campus. The fact of the matter is that if students are going to

drink—and believe me, they are—then doesn’t the College have a responsibility to work with the facts and realize that the problem can’t be eradicated, but rather must be made safer?

Off-campus parties present several problems, the first being that if the police break up the party and underage kids are there, legal trouble mostly always follows for both the hosts and the attendees. If the legal system were completely fair this would be one thing, but students who can afford to donate to charity get their records wiped clean, while students who don’t have the \$500 to donate (plus legal fees) can get a record. If the party is only 21 and up, the students who aren’t of age are left out. Secondly, if a student does abuse alcohol and gets sick, there is no nearby health center to rush them to, and there might not be anyone at the party sober enough to take them to get the care they need. Third, the risk of students driving drunk rises exponentially if they are beyond walking distance to campus.

One of my favorite things about Colby is the community. Friendships aren’t limited to graduation year, and are fluid between teams and organizations. Yet I see this great quality being jeopardized by the current housing situation.

Sports teams are becoming divided along age lines, and in general I notice a huge difference in the involvement of the freshman class with upperclassmen between last year and this year. In my opinion, housing has been at least part of the cause for this shift in the dynamic on campus.

There was much talk last spring when Heights became chem-free and so many people moved off campus, yet I don’t think anyone has evaluated the actual outcomes of the situation. I know some might consider my argument silly and think I’m simply a college student asking the administration for places to party. Let me set the record straight: this is not what I’m advocating. I simply wish to draw attention to this matter and ask the College to look at the facts and realize that a safe environment must be provided for its students, given the reality that they will be drinking.

Hopefully alcohol abuse will steadily decrease in the coming years with all the work going on at the College surrounding it. I just hope that the administration organizes housing for next year with the truths of campus life in mind rather than continue to ignore them. Doing the latter will only perpetuate the problem.

There might be too much to fix, but dammit, I can care



SUZANNE MERKELSON

Hey Kris, I need to write for opinions this week." As I typed this text message into my phone last Friday night, I wanted to throw up. Eve Ensler, playwright and activist, was finishing her speech. I had just learned about the heartbreaking situation in the Congo, where women and girls are being violently targeted in a war over natural resources, including colite, which is used in our iPods and phones. Rape, brutality and murder are used in a calculated way to tear communities apart and gain control over the most mineral-rich areas in the Congo. Ensler spoke about little girls who are violated with guns, sons forced to rape their mothers, militias who specifically order HIV-positive soldiers to have sex with as many people as possible.

And here I was, typing away on my phone, making plans for Friday night, finding myself in the position of ignorant consumer, silently sitting pretty atop the evil international supply chain. Again.

In the past four years at Colby, I can say I've learned one concrete thing: there is too much bad in the world. And too many causes to care about. And I'm responsible for it, but there really isn't much I can actually do about it. I hear about issues and sense that I should care. And fleetingly, I do. But the issues seem to build up and roll over me, like a series of waves. All I can do is feel powerless.

With only a few months left in my college career, I want to prove myself wrong. Initially, I was skeptical of Ensler and her video documenting her time in the Congo. She was just another idealistic American, convinced that she could "save" Africa, right? I've heard this story before.

What struck me most about Ensler's

speech was the sense of agency she ascribed to these women. She called them strong, beautiful, empowered, fierce. These are women who danced ferociously for hours in the hot sun to regain possession over their bodies, who spoke out to their communities about the atrocities committed against them and their families, who now work to rebuild their own communities.

The least I could do was check out the website: vday.org.

I've been so fortunate to never have had to think about gender as an issue. My life, as a woman, has been one filled with opportunity, where I've taken it for granted that I have the right to be whoever I want with whomever I want, where I've been told that I can be equal (even superior) to any man.

One in three women worldwide will be beaten or sexually abused over the course of her lifetime.

Sitting next to two of my best friends and hearing this was a slap in the face.

I'm not just a consumer, ignorantly typing away on my rape phone. I'm a woman and I'm empowered. So I visited vday.org. I read a bit about the Congo. I submitted my picture to the "V-Wall for Congo," to show my support. I wrote some letters to

government representatives, to the president of the Congo. It took maybe an hour of my time. I'm hoping to get more involved (Any ideas? Send me an e-mail).

Maybe I can't single-handedly change the world, or make the Congo a better place. And it's probably not my right to do so. But I can empathize. I can be aware.

Ensler's speech was by far the best I've heard since coming to Colby. And I've heard a lot of speeches. So my plea here, my abuse of power as editor of this paper in messing up Kris' budget for columns this week is to ask you to take a second and visit the website: Vday.org.

Ensler spoke about how we're in a special moment, after Obama's election. This moment's sense of hope is so powerful, some women began to spontaneously lactate during the campaign. I don't think she was kidding. That's enough of a sign for me to start actively caring about something.

One in three women worldwide will be beaten or sexually abused over the course of her lifetime. Sitting next to two of my best friends and hearing this was a slap in the face.

S.H.O.U.T.I ENDNOTE SPEECH, 8 MARCH 2009

Finding freedom in an ugly world

JASON OPAL

Editor's Note: Assistant Professor of History Jason Opal gave the endnote speech to close a weekend-long campus event, S.H.O.U.T.I., which centered around diversity, last Saturday afternoon. Opal spoke about the topic of freedom, sharing with the audience some of his personal experiences and observations that had shaped (what I thought to be) an incredibly perceptive and nuanced understanding of the term. Freedom, according to Opal, was supposed to be, and often is, "decent and gentle" and "peaceful and beautiful."

His insights prompted me to request a printing of this speech in the Echo.

Only a few dozen people were present to hear the endnote on Saturday. But I hope that with this somewhat abridged transcript, more students will benefit from a first (or even second) reading, and walk away with a more peaceful, a more decent, and a more beautiful understanding of freedom.

—Jessica Chang, A&E Editor

November 2005: a dark time, in my estimation. New Orleans was in ruins, Iraq was falling into chaos, and the economy was ballooning on the hot air of speculative fantasy. But on Election Day that month, Maine voters rejected a proposal to overturn a recent ban on discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in housing and employment. (The campaign was called "No on One," in the sense of No to Discrimination.) This was a very cautious and modest law, one that simply made it illegal to deny someone an apartment or job because they were (or seemed) gay. And yet it was something, a small flicker of decency in a dark night. [...]

As it became clear that No on One would prevail, the scene at the campaign headquarters in Portland became increasingly joyous—not wild, mind you, but joyous. People were cheering, dancing, hugging, shaking hands. By Maine standards, it was a mixed crowd—old and young, people of color, gay, lesbian, transgender, straight. And, when victory was at hand, I recall that one of the organizers—a woman who had been working on basic rights for gay Mainers for a quarter century—simply said: "It's over, guys. We won."

I remember watching that, and intuitively thinking: freedom. I thought so because many ordinary people in Maine would no longer have to lie to themselves and others about an essential part of themselves when they went to get an apartment or a job. I thought so be-

cause ossified hatreds and bitter prejudices would no longer have the same legal traction. I thought so because no one—not even the "Yes on One" activists—had received a meaningful injury. Instead, they would awake the next morning and go about their lives, much as before. And I thought so because beneath the joy in Portland that night there was a quiet calm, a pleasant retinue of goodwill—which, in the final analysis, might be the only thing that is truly and unequivocally good.

So, here was a freedom that was decent and gentle, that was peaceful and beautiful. Our culture has impoverished the notion of beauty, stripping it down and selling it so that it only means physical attractiveness, often in a sexualized sense. I mean beauty in a different sense, as something that agrees with and nourishes our better nature.

So, am I here to simply cheer for freedom? To call for liberation from all restraints and traditions? To cheer the fall of inhibitions, be they legal or cultural, on any form of self-expression? Am I here to say that freedom is the stand-alone, end-all-be-all, independent virtue that stands above and defines all else? No. I will not say that, I cannot say that. Neither my mind nor my heart will do so. For the letter, if not the spirit of freedom, carries other meanings in our world, meanings that I find anything but beautiful. Let me talk a bit about two of those meanings.

Consult any pundit or talking-head on TV or radio, look at any blog or editorial, or simply soak in the overall, ambient message of a consumer society based on what we desire at the moment, and you will hear a concept of freedom that is both enticing and comforting. Essentially, this freedom is about throwing off restraints or regulations on what we as individuals want in the most narrow, shallow, materialistic sense of the term.

This freedom says and demands that the self is both sovereign and isolated, both in charge and alone. It says that you should get yours, and as much of it as you can—money, profit, sex, fame—and denounce anything in the way as an imposition on your freedom.

Recently, I head a radio personality expressing this view while denouncing plans to expand health care coverage to (who knew?) sick people. This concept offended him, for it interfered with what he called "the perfect system," in which everyone "unleashes" the tiger within. That, apparently, is freedom: the dissolution of all social ties and public obligations in favor of the sovereign Me. Predictably, this man went on to say that the demands and desires that have to be repeatedly "unleashed" are "God-given." In this rendering, worldly pursuits obtain sacred authorization. The Golden Rule is subtly but entirely transformed. No longer "Do unto others what you would have them do unto you," it now reads, "Do what you want, look after yourself and perhaps your immediate family, and screw everyone else. That's Freedom!"

At Colby a few years ago, this conception of freedom took an especially unsavory flavor, when a graduating senior offered this opinion about the ongoing genocide in Darfur: "Who gives a shit?" We ought not to be shocked by such words, for they follow logically from a prevailing definition of a dominant idea. This student knew what he wanted, and it had nothing whatever to do with mass killings in western Sudan. Why should he care? It's a free country, isn't it?

So, you want me to celebrate freedom without qualification? To celebrate freedom alone, as-is, independent and supreme? I will not, I cannot.

If this strain of freedom is closely akin to selfishness, there is another, even less admirable form in our society, one that aligns very well with bullying. We might define bullying in a wide and general sense, as the calous exercise of power over others for the purpose of self-aggrandizement. This can take many forms, some of them quite subtle, as when a good-looking person disdains a less attractive one in order to feel all that more exalted, or an intelligent person uses his wit to silence a less talented peer.

In our society, though, the most common model of bully-freedom comes when white, straight, untalented men, alarmed that being white, straight, and untalented might not carry the privileges it once did, hide behind the First Amendment and then say appalling, pathological things to audiences who applaud those who "tells it like it is." Would you like some examples? On August 14, 2007, the syndicated talk-show host Neil Boortz noted that Muslims fast during the day and eat at night during Ramadan, "sort of like cockroaches." He quickly coupled this remark with an absurd insinuation of his own bravery—it takes guts, he would have us believe, to dehumanize whole swaths of humankind in the shelter of your own studio. On April 17, 2006, another shock-jock, Michael Savage (his given name is Michael Weiner) had this to say about the one billion Muslims in the world: "So, kill 100 million of them. Then there'd be 900 million...I mean, would you rather us die than them?" At least Mr. Weiner got his arithmetic right.

Such intrepid uses of the First Amendment find their collegiate analog in Islamofascist Awareness Week, held on a campus near you

since October 2007. From what I can gather, this is an occasion in which people who know nothing and want to know nothing about Islam or Muslims make loud noises with their mouths and bully women wearing headscarves. Ah, the First Amendment at its finest.

Here is a freedom rooted in inequality, in a brutal view of the world and a degraded sense of our fellow humans. Here is a freedom that is cruel, aggressive, invasive, and very, very ugly.

So you want me to celebrate freedom alone? I will not, I cannot.

At first glance, it might seem that this leaves us...nowhere. It might appear that all we can say is that freedom, like life, is more complicated than we prefer to think. [...] Freedom to some people might be to see gay couples in Maine celebrate a modest victory over institutionalized prejudice, while freedom for Neil Boortz is to call over a billion people cockroaches. Or, in a less dramatic light, freedom for some might be to have a Senior Steps celebration at which binge drinking is the order of the day, while freedom for others might be to worship in the chapel without being picked on for their piety.

But I don't think that this should be our conclusion. Instead, I think that we need to stop imagining—and celebrating—freedom alone, as if it were an independent and transcendent virtue, as if it can or should exist in isolation of other values. Instead, I want to suggest that it is precisely by living amidst other principles and other values that freedom is refined, humanized, and ultimately realized. I want to suggest that no matter how much we long to unleash the self and bid adieu to limits, to announce freedom now and forever and let things go from there, we should embrace this contrary truth: that there is no freedom without fairness, no liberty without equality, no democracy without decency.

Much as the individual self can be made more ethical, more honest, and more compassionate when living in a society in which it has duties as well as rights, freedom can become better, more worthy, and more beautiful when it lives in the good company of other virtues: equality, fairness, sympathy, charity, modesty. These virtues are every bit as elemental and self-evident as freedom, every bit as worthy of celebration and sacrifice. Freedom ought to live in creative tension with them.

Let me conclude with a quick look at one value that might serve as liberty's guide—a way to navigate freedom towards the higher ground of morality. That value, that guide, is peace.

In the most basic sense, peace simply refers to the absence of war and violence. (Obviously this is a worthy goal in itself.) Yet peace can and should evoke much more than the absence of bloodshed. It can and should speak to the positive presence of goodwill, of the basic recognition that other people inhabit the earth, that you are part of something bigger, that you are born with inherent value but not for yourself alone.

In many religious and moral traditions, peace—shalom, salam—is a constitutive part of everyday social relations. When we say, reverently, "Peace be upon you," or when we say, jokingly, "Peace!" instead of goodbye, we are longing for a setting in which peace is the standing rule of everyday life.

To live in peace means that we are free to convey who we are and to thrive in our own skin, to speak to who we want, to love who we want, to read what we are interested in, to explore the world around and within us.

To live in peace means that we not only let others do this, in a negative, hands-off way, but also that we positively celebrate their doing so, that we help them do so, that we extend ourselves to them.

To live in peace also means that we keep our peace, that we moderate our desires for things and attention, that we check our ego, and that we know when to hold our tongues and say nothing at all—to listen, that we might understand.

To live in peace is to reject the rigid dichotomies of the Pharisee and the holier-than-thou stone-thrower, to strive instead to improve ourselves and to help others. To live in peace is to live in the moral tensions between justice and mercy, love and virtue, self-realization and self-denial. It is to be strict with the self and generous to others, to pursue, as Seyyed Hossein Nasr writes, freedom from the self as well as for the self.

How, then, are we to cope with those forms of freedom that offend, frighten, and disgust us? How are we, on campus and beyond, to deal with those whose freedom runs over others, who are aggressive and powerful and ruthless? In extreme cases—say, when a group of skinheads want to use their First Amendment rights to call all Mexicans illegals or all Muslims terrorists—we should work together and cooperatively to stop them, to prioritize basic peace over hateful license. But only in the most extreme cases. Any sort of suppression makes me nervous. I would prefer, instead, that we pursue and realize peace within ourselves, that others might be free; that we constantly recalibrate and reflect on freedom, that others can live in peace.

Surely that is something worthy, something good, something beautiful.

March 18, 2009
Wednesday, March 18, 2009, is the day we recognize that our tuition dollars have run out. How could that possibly happen, you might be wondering? Don't we all pay tens of thousands of dollars a year for our Colby education? Yes, we do, either out of

Tuition Runs Out, Philanthropy Begins

March 18, 2009

The Silent Scholarship

If you're a senior, you probably have already been informed about how everyone at Colby is on a silent scholarship. If you're not aware of that, we want to bring it to your attention. Every year, each Colby student receives a silent scholarship of approximately \$17,380. This scholarship money is made possible because of revenues that include yearly contributions to the Colby Fund from alumni and parents who recognize the value and importance of philanthropy. This money supports operating costs for the overall Colby experience. The thousands of alumni and

parents who give back know that to make Colby accessible to as many students as possible and to provide those students with the best possible collegiate experience, funding needs to be provided above and beyond tuition dollars.

Know the Facts

In the past, Senior Pledge made seniors aware of the importance of giving back to Colby as alumni. But everyone should be aware of how alumni and parent giving affects each and every one of us on a daily basis.

Think About It

Today we ask you to think about how Colby alumni and parents have contributed in this monumental way to your Colby experience. Further, we ask that, when given the opportunity to give back to Colby through either Senior Pledge or the Colby Fund, you remember the day each year on which tuition ran out—and, more importantly, the day philanthropy kicked in. Remember that even a gift of a dollar makes a positive impact on those of us here now and those to come.

2009 Senior Pledge Co-Chairs: Molly Corbett '09 and Joel Pitt '09
Committee members: Qiamuddin Amiry, Todd Boertzel, Christine Gardner, Maxime Guillaume, Whitney Lynn, Melissa Martin, Henry Sears, Jeremy Steed, Elissa Teasdale

FEATURES

YOUNG ALUM PROFILE: JOHN WALLER '07

Journalist advises creativity, flexibility



A writer and cross-country runner during his time at the College, Waller moved to Bennington, VT the summer after his 2007 graduation.

By ELLEN LONDON
FEATURES EDITOR

When it came time to find a job after his 2007 graduation, John Waller '07 remained calm. "I just kept reminding myself to enjoy the summer, and that it would work out OK," he said.

Of course, this was after the former *Echo* sports writer and *Kennebec Journal* intern had sent applications to 25-30 jobs at newspapers "as far away as Alaska and as close as Maine." By the time summer recess began, he had heard back from only two. And in July he moved from his home in Lexington, Mass. to Vermont, where he took a

position as a staff writer for the *Bennington Banner*.

Waller conceded that the move from Massachusetts to the small town of Bennington, Vermont was a "huge adjustment," mainly due to the town's lack of people his age and relatively quiet after-work life. However, he added that "working at a small paper has its advantages, and even though there is less to do [in the town] I also have fewer distractions from my work." As a writer for a small publication, Waller said that he has more leeway as to what he writes about. "My stories aren't usually directly assigned," he said. Rather, Waller follows his own beats by talking

with people throughout the town and surrounding areas to discover what is important to write about.

When the New England Press Association announced the winner of its 2008 "Rookie of the Year" Award, it was clear that Waller's hard work and personal initiative had paid off. "I was really surprised that I won," he said of the award, which was announced in late November. Waller returned to his Boston-area roots last month to officially receive the award at a banquet in the city.

The application for the award consisted of a letter of recommendation from the candidate's editor along with five stories that displayed his or her journalistic talent. Waller's portfolio included a profile on a high school student who used education to raise herself up after a difficult childhood and teenage pregnancy. Also with his application was a "fun and unusual" story about a man who races up skyscrapers and an investigative piece about the controversial closing of a local elementary school.

"Features writing and profiling is what I've become most interested in," Waller said. He has found that Bennington and the surrounding areas are "so interesting to cover, and the people are so much more complex and candid than I would have expected them to be." His main responsibilities for the *Banner* are covering education and working on his independent features projects.

While he hopes to do similar work in a larger, more urban area in the near future, Waller is grateful for

the job he has at the *Banner*, especially in light of the current national economic crisis. "It's a really tough time for journalists," he admitted, noting that the number of resumes that come into the *Banner* office for every job opening has grown exponentially since he began at the paper. "One job opening will see 100 applicants," he said. A recent opening for a sports writer at the paper received resumes from several Major League Baseball reporters, and he said that "that's when I knew it had gotten really bad." Waller is currently on a newspaper-wide job furlough in which he is required to take one day off per week in order for the newspaper to cut its salary costs. The furlough is scheduled to be lifted next week, but "with the current economic situation, it's always hard to tell."

Still, Waller reminds aspiring journalists and pending graduates from the College to remain positive. "It may take a bit longer [to find a job] than when I graduated, but there are definitely a lot of jobs out there for Colby grads," he said. He urged students to be willing to take on unpaid work in order to gain experience, likening the initial costs to a comparable investment in graduate school. He also encouraged students to get creative, especially in up-and-coming industries like online publications. "It's kind of nerve-wracking, graduating without a job in place," Waller said, an experience he went through just a few years ago. "But it can also be exciting. So enjoy the summer until something comes up. It's going to be OK."

FACULTY PROFILE: L. SANDY MAISEL



Professor of Government L. Sandy Maisel has served the College for 38 years.

Passion for politics inspires student fund

By COURTNEY YEAGER
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

As a former candidate for the United States Congress, Director of the Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civil Engagement and William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of Government L. Sandy Maisel is one of the most politically experienced faculty members on the Hill.

Maisel, a Harvard University alum, has been intrigued by politics for the greater part of his life. "When I was at a very impressionable age, President Kennedy was running for office...[which was] an important part of our everyday existence."

Maisel's father also shared a strong interest in politics and once attended a dinner with President Truman, which only served to further Maisel's interest in government affairs. Politics, however, was not Maisel's sole aspiration for his future.

"There were three [other] things on my list: One was to be a rabbi; the second was to be a lawyer; and the third was to be a professor." Fortunately for Colby, only one of these careers panned out for the young man from Buffalo, N.Y.

For the past 38 years, Maisel has shared his passion for politics in the classroom with hundreds of Colby students and now several alumni have made sure that Maisel's dedication will not be forgotten. At a recent birthday party for Maisel, a small group of alumni announced that they had created the Sandy Maisel Student Research and Internship Fund to honor a professor who had a lasting effect on their lives.

"You taught us how to think critically, how to examine and challenge assumptions, how to engage in life, whether in the political process or just in our careers," 1978 alum Daniel Hoeffle told Maisel, when the group announced the fund. "We are so appreciative for all that you've done for us that we've started a fund in your honor. We hope you'll take this gift in the spirit in which it's given—with great love and affection."

A leading expert in American politics who is often contacted by reporters seeking comment or counsel on state and national political issues, Maisel was first offered a position on the Hill while writing his doctoral dissertation in Political Science at Columbia University.

He preferred to finish his education before accepting a job, but was asked to interview for the Government Department again the following year. Although he applied for positions at various institutions, Maisel was sure that he would be exceedingly happy at a small liberal arts school.

"I was hired here on a three-year, non-renewable contract. At the end of the third year, two other people in the [Government] Department left, so they gave me another three-year contract and then after that I was given tenure." This lucky sequence of events has shaped the majority of Maisel's life and uniquely influenced his political career.

Although, Maisel began his career as an educator, he nurtured a dream of becoming involved in politics.

"By the time I was in college, I really decided that what I'd like to do more than anything else was be a member of Congress," Maisel said.

He had earned internships and worked on campaigns when he was younger, but did not vie for a position in Congress until 1978. "My whole campaign was run by Colby students. They were terrific. It was a great experience for all of us."

This inclusive act demonstrates Maisel's high regard for his students. A handful of seniors relinquished the majority of their time in order to run a campaign for a candidate and professor that they believed in. Although their efforts were unsuccessful, Maisel had the time of his life, yet he admits, "I would never do it again. Anyone who runs for Congress twice is crazy."

A former chair of the Government Department, Maisel began focusing his talents on directing the Goldfarb Center in 2003.

"The Goldfarb Center is set up essentially to bridge the gap between what people learn in the classroom and how they're going to take that into everyday life," Maisel said. He strives to bring two programs per week to the College, with the goal of intellectually stimulating students in a new way at each event. Maisel utilizes the connections he has formed over his 38 years as a professor of government to aid students in pursuing their interests.

"It's an incredible network and I think that a lot of what students will be doing after here involves networking, especially in this economy," Maisel's role in these particular endeavors is never difficult, since nearly everyone he knows is eager to assist a Colby student. "In five years, I have never made a phone call that the person didn't say, 'Yes.'"

Although Maisel's work keeps him busy, he also has another excuse to never leave campus: His wife, Patrice Franko, is the Grossman Professor of Economics and the Director of the Oak Human Rights Institute.

Both enjoy cooking, and "it's a rare weekend when [they] don't have someone over."

Maisel's most recent honor, the Sandy Maisel Student Research and Internship Fund, is a testimony to the profound effect he has had on generations of students. "I think it's the greatest honor that I've ever received, because it was done by former students," Maisel said.

Class of 1978 alumni Richard Abrams, Alan Donnenfeld, Daniel Hoeffle, Douglas Kaplan, Susan Kenyon and Jeffrey Shribman created the fund and guaranteed \$100,000, which will be matched by Trustee William Goldfarb '68, P'00. The money will fund programs at the Goldfarb Center that focus on student internships and research.

The tribute surprised Maisel, who was grateful to have been a part of the former students' educational experiences. "I think that what they're saying is that Colby has been very important to them," said Maisel.

Of all that Maisel has achieved in his life thus far, his dedication to his students has been the most beneficial to his successful career. "The Colby community becomes very much a family to the people who spend their lives here."

Campus Relay for Life: looking back, striving forward

By RACHEL GOFF
NEWS STAFF

In May 1985, Dr. Gordy Klatt, a colorectal surgeon, spent an exhausting 24 hours circling the track at Baker Stadium at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington. Throughout the night, family and friends came out to support him, paying \$25 to run or walk 30 minutes with him. By the end of the night, he had run 83 miles and raised \$27,000. He donated the money to the American Cancer Society, thus creating the first Relay for Life and proving that one person really can make a difference.

This year will mark the 25th anniversary of Relay for Life, an event dedicated to raising money for American Cancer Society's research, as well as various programs designed to help cancer victims, survivors and their friends and family. It is an overnight event, during which teams of people gather at schools, fairgrounds or parks, and take turns walking or running laps, trying to keep at least one team member on the track at all times.

This spring will mark the fifth annual Relay for Life at the College, which will begin Friday, May 1 at 6 p.m., and last until 6 a.m. the following morning. Similar to the independent efforts of Dr. Gordy Klatt, Kristi Boman '08 single-handedly undertook the planning and organizing of the first event, which she brought to the College in the spring of 2005. This year, there are four event chairs, Jessica Snyder '09, Christina Mok '09, Kelly Brooks '09 and Annelise Wiersema '10.

Mok, reflecting on Boman's efforts, said, "I don't know how

she did it by herself—with four chairs it's even hard to do everything." It was, in fact, Boman who prompted Mok to get involved with the event in her sophomore year. "I had actually never heard of it before," Mok said. Snyder also had no recognition of the event before coming to the College, but said that once she learned more about it she thought, "Okay, now I definitely need to get involved."

As upperclassmen, the event chairs have been involved with the Relay for Life committee for several years and have watched the event grow from year to year. Their goal for this year is to raise at least \$50,000, ambitiously adding to the \$40,000 they raised last year. There are many promotions and incentives designed to increase participation in the event, including competitions among sports teams with a prize for the team with the highest percentage of athletes involved, the possibility of a benefit concert in conjunction with the Student Programming Board, and a pub night.

The chairs are also happy to announce that the Pantene Beautiful Lengths Program, which was present at the event for the first time last spring, will be there again this year. The program gives students the opportunity to donate their hair to make wigs for cancer patients and relies on the support of several local hairdressers, who trim and style students' hair rather than just cutting off a braid and leaving them to deal with the choppy result. "It's surprising how many people are interested in it," Mok said, citing that she and the other event chairs have already been contacted by several students who are eager to participate.

Last Tuesday, the Relay for Life



Every year, the College joins the nationwide efforts of the American Cancer Society to raise money for and awareness about cancer research.

Committee held a rally in Pulver to raise awareness about the event and encourage participation and donations. The rally was successful, according to Mok, as online contributions went from \$700 prior to the rally to at least \$1,200 later that night. As college students, "we're all kind of broke," Wiersema said, but added that most of the donations they receive come from family, family friends and church groups who are more than willing to donate to such a worthy cause, and that the online donation form online makes it convenient and easy to raise money.

Though raising money is the main goal of the event, the sense of community it fosters is perhaps equally rewarding. "I feel like pretty much everyone has been touched by cancer," Snyder said, and Wiersema described the amazing feeling of "everybody surging forward," united in the cause at the start of the walk. There's "such energy," Wiersema said, though Snyder jokingly noted that, "it varies as the time goes on," and when, nearing dawn, the lack of sleep finally catches up with you.

To further increase this feeling of unity, the committee is working to ensure that Relay for Life is the only event going on the night of May 1. They said that last year, Broadway Musical Review was scheduled to have a performance on the same night as the relay, but moved it to a different weekend instead. The community feel of the event is enhanced by the fact that "everyone camps out together," Wiersema said. "A lot of the campus does it," Mok said. "I just don't understand, if you don't do it, what are you doing? There is nothing else going on."

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WHO'S WHO: PAT BAGLEY '10J

Climbing, writing with a sense of humor

By ALLISON EHRENREICH
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Pat Bagley '10J has found a passion, or several for that matter. He likes to rock climb. He likes to write. And he has managed to meld what interests him into his life, almost seamlessly to an outsider's eye.

Bagley, a biology major and creative writing minor from Weston, Mass., first started rock climbing recreationally at summer camp, but "it wasn't until high school that I really started getting into it," he said. In free periods Bagley would drive to a neighboring town to go bouldering, generally short climbs

without rope. "I like rock climbing because I enjoy being active and being outdoors," he said. Climbing, in particular, appeals to Bagley because it "is also a very mental activity."

"The best way I can explain it is that a cliff face has a random assortment of hand and foot holds that are all different shapes, sizes and orientations. It's chaotic, but by using this random assortment of 'data' to get to the top of the pitch, it is almost as if you have made order out of chaos," he said. "I suppose it's the same sense of satisfaction you get cleaning your room, except I've never heard of anyone dying from cleaning their room."

After graduating high school,

Bagley took a year off to intern at AMC Outdoors. During his time off he got to do "quite a bit" of rock climbing, falling into "a good group of people"—older, more experienced climbers—in places like New Hampshire. And as an added bonus, "it was fun!" he said, "and helped me pay for [climbing] trips."

His new friends and mentors taught him the more serious skills and shared their equipment, and Bagley was able to go with them on several big trips.

Toward the end of the summer, more students his own age joined him. "It was really nice to climb with people my age," he said. In the fall of 2005, Bagley came to the Hill. For a

while, he put rock climbing on the back burner while he settled into college life and academia. "It took me well into sophomore year to find balance between things Colby has to offer and [taking the time out] for rock climbing," he said. Then, Bagley took time off from the College again. In the spring semester of his junior year, he drove his mom's mini van to Carbondale, Col. and interned at *Rock and Ice* magazine, a nationally respected climbing magazine, where he did proofreading and some writing of his own. And, of course, some more rock climbing. *Rock and Ice* published several of his full-length stories, including "America's Top 10 Climbing Towns" as their cover story in August 2008.

On the Hill, Bagley keeps his connection with his two places of internships, working as a freelance writer and seeing his articles periodically in print. He also writes for *insideColby* and as a sports writer and columnist for the *Echo*. He says his favorite writing assignment is columns because "I get to cut loose and tell some funny stories." He spends so much of his time climbing, he said, and the columns he writes let other students have a little window into this other world.

"I tend to find humor in things... it's fun to see if I can't get someone to laugh or smile," he said. His interest in biology stems from his track days in high school. "If you run really hard...you feel it in your body and it's fun to know it on a molecular

I suppose [climbing has] the same sense of satisfaction you get cleaning your room, except I've never heard of anyone dying from cleaning their room.

Pat Bagley
Class of 2010J

level," Bagley said. On the Hill, he has certainly had time to explore that and to pursue a range of classes: "The beauty of a college like Colby is... you can really pursue an academic interest for the love of it."

This summer, he plans to climb in Yossarian National Park in California, the climber's "center of the universe," he said. After graduation next winter "I'd be psyched to just hop in the car and climb a bit," he said, and then eventually settle down with an editorial job. With the creative writing minor, "I feel much more suited for editorial writing than I do for, say, poetry, but I really enjoy it all and I think the best writers are adaptable to all forms of the craft," he said.

One thing that he has personally learned "from all the time I've taken off" from school is that "things like jobs and real world stuff" can be figured out in the real world, "when the time's right."

Bar Night still booming



Local bars sponsor weekly events including karaoke and drink specials.

Event benefits local bars, rallies senior class

By JOHN WAGNER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Most will agree that the College's social institutions are in a state of flux. With Champagne Steps called off by the trustees, budgetary concerns curtailing club activities and considerable pressure to reform directed at the Student Programming Board (SPB), many seniors are feeling that the College today may not be quite the same school they signed up for four years ago.

As the social scene changes, an old tradition gives seniors the chance to gather once a week to not only share memories of their time at the College, but also make some new ones.

Each Thursday, Senior Class Presidents, now Scott Zeller and Mae Orgozaly, tell one of Waterville's bars to expect a crowd, and the '09ers head down from the Hill for a night in town. Senior Bar Night has been a favorite of upper-classmen for years as a great excuse to break the monotony of life on campus. This year is no exception; each Thursday as the *Jitney* runs a seemingly endless loop from the Pugh Center to town, taxis are seen all over campus and Security takes a bit of a breather.

By midnight the bar is fairly full, and to find a non-Colby face is unlikely. Mainly Brews and Tavern and Midnight Blues Club & Restaurant are the most frequented, with You Know Whose Tavern receiving an occasional turn. When the taps are cut off around quarter to one, groups begin to huddle in heat-preserving circles on the sidewalk until the cabs show up, and if it happens to be an especially good night, Franklin Davison '09 will serenade the crowd with a *Louis Armstrong* classic on the way out.

While providing students with a weekly escape from campus, Thursday nights also present an opportunity to support local restaurants and bars. Zeller and Orgozaly have begun to include Blues Bar/Cancun combination nights, encouraging a meal downtown with a famous Cancun margarita before heading a few doors down to Blues. "It's nice to get away and go downtown and support the local bars,

restaurants, etc.... I think it's a great tradition and a great tool in unifying the class," Zeller said. The class reps met with Waterville's bar and restaurant owners before the fall semester, and only those businesses expressing interest were added to the rotation. In exchange for the College filling up their bars, the owners offer cheap drink specials, from cheap pitchers at Blues to \$2 Pabst tall boys at Mainely's.

In addition to offering a change of scenery, nights in Waterville seem to have a different vibe than those on campus. Says Jess Vogel '09, "Bar nights are great because everyone is social and having fun, but also completely in control. When you're paying for each drink, you realize exactly how much you're drinking."

Vogel's point is well taken—while senior bar nights offer slightly more exotic atmospheres and equally sketchy dance floors as do on-campus events, it is very uncommon to hear of such a night ending at

It's nice to get away and go downtown and support the local bars, restaurants, etc.... I think it's a great tradition and a great tool in unifying the class.

Scott Zeller
Senior Class President

wait for drinks, most are secretly excited to see some fresh faces. When asked if he felt at all out of place attending the Thursday evening festivities as a junior, Toffer Noering replied with a definitive "No." One tip to those making their first excursion to Mainely's or Blues in the coming weeks—do not expect to impress any of the bartenders by ordering a Manhattan. A Pabst will do.

As strong proponents of senior bar nights, Zeller and Orgozaly are determined to keep the tradition going, but also to spice the coming Thursdays up as much as possible. Keep an eye out for Hafford's and Champs to be thrown into the mix after spring break, and for the chance to catch some of Colby's home-grown bands performing at Mainely's. Thursday nights in Waterville are here to stay, and the city's businesses certainly want all the customers they can get these days. Sheryl and Lisa sure need a night off once in a while, so take a night off from the pub this week and head down to Main Street.



Bagley has documented his extensive climbing experiences during various internships for AMC Outdoors and Rock and Ice magazines.

CAMPUS BAND PROFILE

Joint Chiefs rock Battle of the Bands

Six-man tour de force wins local contest with alternative rock sound

By ANNA KELEMEN
NEWS EDITOR

Energy, musicality, chemistry, pandemonium! Not the buzz on the streets of D.C. in reference to the Joint Chiefs. However, walk into a Waterville practice session of our own College band by the same name and sweet pandemonium reigns. Here, the six members communicate verbally much as they do through their playing—with the fast riffs and harmonies that fly back and forth between them.

The Scene: lead singer, and arguably the most on-task member, Mark Phillips '09, studies song lyrics on his computer, guitarists Zach Mitchell '11 and Alexander Koallick '11 demonstrate their impressive musicianship through playful improvisation, bassist Eben

Witherspoon '09 mixes music with jokes as he and keyboardist Alexander Kotsatos '09 discuss musical arrangements and drummer Sam Carter '11 sits patiently waiting for rehearsal to resume. Witherspoon and Kotsatos also sing backup.

"That is not productive," Phillips reminds the group at one point in an attempt to bring the band's focus back together. "It is productive for musicianship," Mitchell responds cheerfully. Koallick agreed. When they start playing, however, they transform that chaos into what is now a well-rehearsed and cohesive sound.

The Sound: "Preparing for a show was good for us because it got us to really learn songs instead of just getting together and playing," Mitchell said. In performance, that more rehearsed sound does not come at the expense of their love for the music they are playing or respect for the art of just jamming. At least from the audience, it certainly seems like they are having fun.

Their cover of m.o.e.'s "Captain America" showcases the group's talents, with the soaring tones of Phillips' voice moving seamlessly

over the tight rhythm the band holds throughout the song. Any moments of hesitancy or rough transition are covered by their energy and quickly fixed by their liberal use of visual cues. And those visual cues aid the Joint Chiefs in their instrumental solos. In these, they showcase individual talents without wandering so far from the song that the forward motion gets lost in the exploration of exotic riffs. Perhaps most notable, however, is the final chorus in which Phillips and Kotsatos bring the piece to a climax through their harmony. Here, the clarity and range of Phillips' voice are accentuated when he sings above Kotsatos, who provides a sweet and steady harmony.

While the group has been playing together in various forms for almost a year, the band only recently decided on its name. "We have been working on our name for a while," guitarist Mitchell said. "Whenever one of us got an idea we would call or text each other to get opinions." The group finally settled on the Joint Chiefs after Phillips got the idea while watching President Obama deliver a speech. "The camera panned over to the Joint Chiefs and I just thought what a great name that would make."

Phillips said. "Luckily, it just so happened that all six of us were in two rooms at the time, so we could have a band conference call," Kotsatos said. Previous group names include but are not limited to Furious George, Fucks McCain, the Wobbly Pirates and the Burning Dinosaurs. The Joint Chiefs, however, quickly out-

ranked and outflanked all other titles. "We're sticking with this one," Witherspoon said.

Since their debut at the first annual Winterfest celebration last year, the group has burst onto the music scene at the College with several successful performances already this semester. Recently, the Joint Chiefs clinched the title at the Battle of the Bands that took place in the Waterville Opera House on February 28. "Battle of the Bands was a lot of fun because unlike last year, none of the bands were bad," Phillips said. In addition to the bragging rights that come with the win, the Joint Chiefs will play at next year's Hill 'N the Ville and will receive free publicity from Bull Moose Music for an as of yet unnamed demo. Additionally they are now in contact with a representative of Comfort Arts Productions.

The Joint Chiefs also took the stage at this year's Winterfest '09, where they played to a packed and rowdy crowd. "Since we were a very new and less experienced group at last year's Winterfest, it was really nice to come back this year as a polished band with an established identity," Kotsatos said. "We feel like we've been able to help create the Winterfest vibe and we hope, along with the free skiers, that we've been able to leave a lasting legacy that will continue at Colby for years to come. With the recent popularity of hip-hop, it's nice to see that a party can still revolve around a rock and roll band playing live music."

Continuing their streak of recent shows, the Joint Chiefs will be playing at Mainely Brews and Tavern for Senior Bar Night this coming Thursday, March 12. After that, the group's plans are still under discussion. While they hope to record a demo, they reported differing amounts of enthusiasm about the prospect of recording rather than practicing for live shows. Regardless, students at the College can look forward to a Joint Chiefs show with the Wounded Soldiers in LoPo as well as an outdoor concert this spring.



The Joint Chiefs, left to right: Alexander Kotsatos, Alexander Koallick, Sam Carter, Eben Witherspoon, Zach Mitchell and Mark Phillips.

FORUM

WEDNESDAY

Foss Farewell to Lucille

Foss Dining Hall
5:00 p.m.

A going-away party for Lucille, the beloved friend and Foss card checker who is moving to Arizona. Cake, and Wili and Lucille. What could be better?

HIV Is Right Here at Home

Cotter Union — Page Commons
7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Reflections, Refractions, Interactions

Art Museum — Schupf Wing
5:00 p.m.

Musicians Kelli Kathman and Bill Soloman present a fifty-five minute work for alto flute and percussion by Ryan Vigil, Colby Faculty Fellow in Music. This performance will feature a new video component by Kate Sirianni.

Ambiguous Loyalties: Indigenous Celebrations of the Spanish Monarchy in Bourbon Lima

Alumni Center — Parker Reed Room
5:00 p.m.

The Department of Spanish and Latin American Studies Program invites you to hear a lecture by Professor Marisol Barbón of University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

The Economy Revisited Under the Obama Administration

Diamond 142
7:00 p.m.

A discussion with Professors Anthony Corrado and David Findlay about the recent economic situation as it pertains to the new administration.

Lipman Lecture:

"Just Say Nu: A History of Yiddish from the Jewish Shtetl to the American Heartland"

Cotter Union — Page Commons
7:30 p.m.

Michael Wex — novelist, playwright, lecturer, performer, and author of the best-selling book *Born to Kvetch* — will give the annual Lipman Lecture.

FRIDAY

Moving Groups Together: Social Psychology and Interpersonal Coordination

Diamond 122
3:00 p.m.

Visiting Scholar Lyndon Miles of the Aberdeen University discusses social psychology.

International Coffee Hour

Mary Low Coffee House
4:30 p.m.

Powder & Wig's Spring Show: Spring Awakening

Runnals — Strider Theater
7:30 p.m.

Mr. Colby!

Cotter Union — Page Commons
9:00 p.m.

SATURDAY

Women's Lacrosse vs. Tufts

Bill Alford Field
12:00 p.m.

Music At Colby Concert Series: Colby Symphony Orchestra

Lorimer Chapel — Chapel, Rose and Lounge
7:30 p.m.

"There's Something Slightly Weird Goin' on Here!"
Conducted by Jonathan Hallstrom

Powder & Wig's Spring Show: Spring Awakening

Runnals — Strider Theater
7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

WMHB Spring Elections

Lovejoy 100
5:00 p.m.

MONDAY

Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission Meeting

Alumni Center — Parker Reed Room
1:00 p.m.

Colby - Waterville Poetry Event

Cotter Union — Page Commons
5:00 p.m.

Lovejoy Visiting Fellows in Journalism Lecture: "News Literacy in the Digital Age"

Diamond 142
7:00 p.m.

Lecture with David Shribman, Pittsburgh Post Gazette, and Cindy Skryzcki, Bloomberg News.

TUESDAY

Careers in the U.S. Department of State Consulate Gen. of Canada - David Fetter

Diamond 141
7:00 p.m.

Lecture with Professor Cheryl Gilkes

Diamond 142
7:30 p.m.

SELECTED SOUNDWAVES



The Anecdotalist, a.k.a. Coline Ludwig, '12, DJ's the second broadcast of her radio show, *The Utopian Mixtape Society*.

DATE: 3/11/09; THE COLBY ECHO

This week online

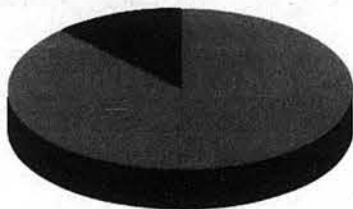
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THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION

Are you relaying for life?

LAST ISSUE'S RESULTS

Head Resident
OR
Community Advisor?



Head Resident (88%)
Community Advisor (12%)

STUDENTS IN THE STREET

What will you doing at 4 A.M. this Saturday?



"Eatin' goldfish."

— Brandon Pollock '10

"Sleeping in bed like a newborn babe."

— Sören Craig-Muller '09



"Probably pissing on myself."

— Guy Sack '09

"It's a bit hazy right now..."

— Kevin Mahoney '12



SKI TRICKS AIM SKY-HIGH



Tom Nicol '09 treads the skies off of a student-built ski jump on Runnalls Hill.

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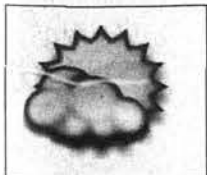
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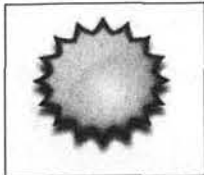
www.weather.com



Partly Cloudy

HIGH 35 LOW 8

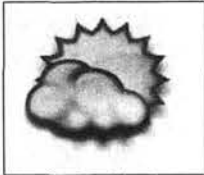
THURSDAY



Mostly Sunny

HIGH 31 LOW 15

FRIDAY



Partly Cloudy

HIGH 38 LOW 16

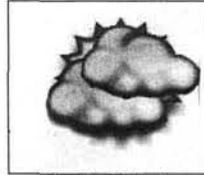
SATURDAY



Sunny

HIGH 36 LOW 22

SUNDAY



Mostly Cloudy

HIGH 41 LOW 26

MONDAY



Showers

HIGH 43 LOW 26

TUESDAY

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

VISITING ARTIST: ARNOLD CHANG



Chang described the aesthetic techniques used to create his paintings, Tuesday.

Renowned artist displays innovative techniques

Traditional Chinese painting demonstration

By STEPHANIE BERGER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Tuesday March 4, the renowned artist Arnold Chang gave a demonstration in which he detailed the materials, techniques, and traditions that make up the literati ink paintings of traditional Chinese culture. Recently, Chang was invited to create a traditional Chinese painting inspired by a classic piece at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. This invitation was an even greater honor, as he was the only American-born artist to participate in this special exhibition.

While most other artists found inspiration in classic Chinese artwork, he modeled his painting after a piece by the iconic abstract expressionist Jackson Pollack. Chang's decision to model his painting after Pollack's work reflects his unique perspective on how to approach traditional

Chinese art.

During his demonstration at the College, Chang spoke of his fastidious devotion to achieving the look and feel of the traditional style without embellishment. When he painted a mountain landscape, for example, his brushstrokes reflected an unadorned outline of the mountain landscape while still maintaining the essence of the terrain. As an added demonstration of his deep and very personal identification with Chinese culture, Chang also made a point

[The] demonstration proved to be a wonderful opportunity for Colby students to develop an appreciation for the complexities and aesthetics of a remarkable culture.

of limiting himself to the tools and techniques available to the ancient masters while he painted for the guests.

Chang certainly impressed all of the guests through his ease and steadiness of hand while painting. His traditional Chinese painting demonstration proved to be a wonderful opportunity for Colby students to develop an appreciation for the complexities and aesthetics of a remarkable culture.

Sarangi, tabla, and harmonium harmony

A voice of mystical Islam: an evening of Qawwali

By PETE KIRN
STAFF WRITER

The regular seating in the front rows of Lorimer Chapel on Saturday night was replaced with a carpet where lucky members of the audience sat to listen to "A Voice of Mystical Islam: An Evening of Qawwali."

Qawwali is a style of Arabic vocal music from the 7th and 8th centuries that has since developed into a genre all its own. A three-piece ensemble mesmerized those in attendance, many of whom were perched on top of their seats to get a good look at the performers, who sat on a carpet set up on stage.

The group of musicians included Colby's current Artist in Residence Dhruv Sangari, a celebrated Sufi singer from New Delhi, on vocals and harmonium (which works like an accordion, but looks like a tiny upright piano). His special guests, Ramesh Mishra on *sarangi*, a two-foot tall, 40-stringed bowed instrument, and Samir Chatterjee on *tabla*, traditional Indian drums, were award-winning musicians in their own rights, and it was quickly obvious to see why.

Sangari prefaced the show by saying that while he figured most of the audience would not understand the words he would be singing, he hoped they would enjoy the music just the same. The program distributed at the door printed translations of the songs, each of which was either 13th or 18th century poetry from the Sufi tradition of Islamic mysticism, and Sangari took the time before each song to explain its lyrical content and musical nuances.

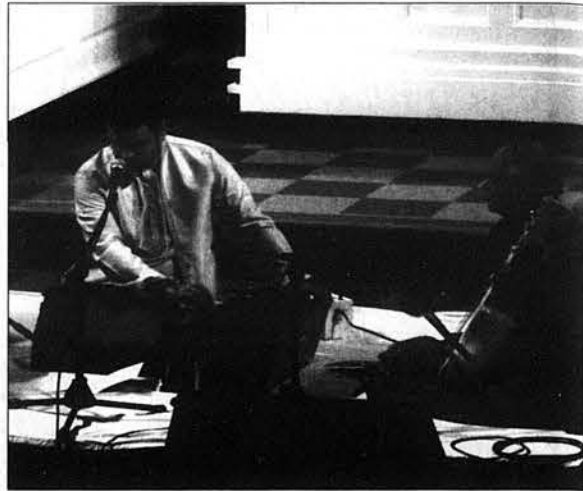
While it would certainly have been interesting to understand the words as they were sung, the music was more than enough to hold one's attention.

The droning lower strings of the *sarangi* and the harmonium set a tonal groundwork, which Sangari navigated deftly with unbelievable vocal control and range. The music was responsive and as Sangari made his vocal runs, Mishra highlighted them on the high pitched strings of the *sarangi*. The music moved in swells and fits, some-

times gliding on vocal and *sarangi* changes. Other times, it rattled as the tempo picked up, with Sangari singing a burst of rhythmic syllables and Chatterjee responding on the *tabla*. At times, Chatterjee played so fast and cleanly that it wasn't clear what part of his hand was making the sound come out of the drum.

The changes in the music seemed subtle at first, but when the ensemble prompted the audience to clap along several songs into the performance, it became very clear just how often the music flowingly sped up and slowed back down again. As the musicians explained, the clapping is normally a job for the pros and a regular performance usually features a chorus of clappers who are in charge of this task. The Colby audience wasn't exactly cut out for the job, running out of stamina from time to time during the two-hour show, but to be fair, two hours of clapping is a tall order.

And to be frank, to this admittedly untrained ear, the music sounded better when it was just the



Sangari and his special guest musicians delighted the audience with their music Saturday evening.

three musicians doing what they do best. The musicians were visibly enjoying their time onstage, Sangari drawing his vocal motions in the air with his hand and Chatterjee smiling widely. Given such a wonderful performance, it wasn't surprising to realize that by the end of the performance, the

audience had sat comfortably through a four-hour show. The trio walked off the stage to a standing ovation, and it was an impressive sight to witness the audience of Saturday-night Colby students ready to stick around all night long to converse about the great performance they had just seen.

HIPNOTIK



Hipnotik performers dominated the stage as they danced to the music in Strider last Friday and Saturday.

Recycle your way to fame: that's how they did it

By RACHEL GOFF
NEWS STAFF

Sparks shot out over the crowd in a vibrant arc as grinding power tools collided with fifty gallon metal barrels. "Did anyone get burned?" the drummer shouted, maintaining a steady pounding rhythm. "Yes," a guy from the first row responded sarcastically. "OK, good," the drummer replied.

The band, Recycled Percussion, came to the College on Saturday, March 7, and students ventured into Lo-Po, curious to see what the show would entail. The event was a joint effort on behalf of SPB's Concert and Live Music Committee and the

Sports and Leisure Committee, though Margaret Fasel '12, a member of the Concert and Live Music Committee admitted, "I didn't really know much about them other than that they drummed on buckets, which sounded interesting."

The band consists of four members—two drummers, a guitarist and a DJ—and classifies itself as junk rock, which, according to the group's MySpace page, is "powerful industrial drumming backed by metal grinding guitar and hip-hop/funk DJ Pharaoh." The "industrial" aspect of the drumming comes from the fact that, true to this era of increasing environmental consciousness, the band members replace the

conventional drum with plastic buckets, metal barrels and various other recycled objects.

The band's performance, which began as an act at a high school talent show in Goffstown, New Hampshire, is as much a display of theatricality and athleticism as it is of musicality. Different-colored lights flashed in and out in time with the beat, and the drummers frequently tossed their sticks into the air like batons. At one point in the show, one of the drummers stuck extra drumsticks through the laces of his sneakers and played the cymbals with his feet while still drumming on plastic buckets with his hands, successfully creating music with all four limbs.

Recycled Percussion's style is a unique blend of rock and hip-hop, with the interesting addition of a DJ contributing a techno melody, remixing the lyrics of popular songs from virtually all genres. The band displayed its wide variety of styles at one point during the show, as they performed a medley of song clips that ranged from the progressive rock of Rush's "Tom Sawyer" to the hip-hop stylings of Sir-Mix-a-Lot's "Baby Got Back." With spiked hair, tight T-shirts, and body piercings, the band resembled an edgier, grungier version of a boy band, which made their performance of N'Sync's "Bye Bye Bye," coupled with an embarrassingly accurate interpretation of the group's infamous dance moves, oddly appropriate.

Nonetheless, the group's talent and enthusiasm was undeniable. The band

is often grouped into the category of unconventional percussion, which includes acts such as the Blue Man Group and Stomp, but while the Blue Man Group departs from its drumming to include short skits that experiment with other mediums, Recycled Percussion's main focus is on its drumming. The band announced during the performance that one of the drummers, Justin Spencer, apparently holds the title of "World's Fastest Drummer" for his ability to do twenty single-strokes per second, and his hammering drum solo was extremely impressive.

"The drummer was so good [that] I forgave him for taking off his shirt early on in the performance, which had seemed to me a bit unnecessary," Fasel joked. "Overall, I enjoyed the concert, and the crowd seemed pretty into it. They were good performers, and they put on a good show."



Recycled Percussion, true to its name, performed with the aid of recycled instruments.

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S.H.O.U.T!



Students made Chicken Tikka Masala as part of the S.H.O.U.T! events last Saturday.

This is how they S.H.O.U.T!ed

Cultivating diversity through cooking and dance

By TENDAI MUTUNHIRE
NEWS STAFF

Saturday's S.H.O.U.T! workshops were a major thrill. The martial arts workshop, for example, lasted about two hours with twelve participants, and was only one of the wide array of afternoon workshops that were part of S.H.O.U.T! The afternoon workshops were meant to be more active and engaging than the morning's discussion-based workshops.

After the event, I had a chat with a friend about how Saturday's series of activities helped promote diversity on campus. Though she enjoyed the range of fun activities and meeting some other students through the workshops, my friend felt that there really was not much diversity to talk about in terms of participants. The concern about the true value of the "fun" activities is worth addressing, since S.H.O.U.T! in fact hoped to promote diversity in how people explore their different "freedoms" on campus. These included the freedom of speech, freedom of identity and other basic freedoms.

Saturday's afternoon events, how-

ever, with the wide range of activities to choose from, formed the high point for S.H.O.U.T! The cooking workshops, for instance, involved participants in an intensive cooking course on how to make Chicken Tikka Masala. Other workshops included Slam Poetry and Taiko Drumming. The sense of excitement about the workshops added to the joyful atmosphere that characterized the duration of the activities. Another enjoyable workshop that was included in the list of Saturday events was Salsa Dancing, in which the Dynasty Steps did a dance tutorial for anyone who wanted to participate.

Learning some karate with other Colby students over the course of S.H.O.U.T! was also definitely a unique experience; I bumped into some nice people doing it. The true value of the afternoon workshops was the way they enabled students with all sorts of different interests to be involved.

Having the interactive workshops all Saturday afternoon gave people a chance to share diversity through some very simple group activities. At a quick glance, there might not seem to be an easily identifiable link between, say, cooking and diversity. But learning to cook international foods enabled the S.H.O.U.T! participants to better understand the importance of multiculturalism on campus.

Next destination: Singing in sunny Argentina

Chorale plans to head south for spring break

By QAINAT KHAN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This spring break, Colby College's Chorale students will join the mass of students escaping the snow by traveling to Argentina on their tour overseas. "We'd [already] toured a wide swath of Europe.

I thought it was time to do something quite different," said Paul Machlin, director of Chorale and the Arnold Bernhard professor of arts and humanities.

By traveling to Argentina, Machlin hopes that Chorale will have a chance to hone its performance skills in front of an "agnostic" audience...an audience that has no opinion or knowledge about the group's ability

Chorale will have a chance to hone its performance skills in front of an "agnostic" audience...an audience that has no opinion or knowledge about the group's ability

Chorale will be spending the week in both Buenos Aires and Tandil. Its repertoire will feature sacred music,

a variety of South American and African-American traditional music, and the premiere of [untitled], written by Colby's own Faculty Fellow in Music, Ryan Vigil. "We want to do something of the country we go to and we want to bring them something of ours," said Machlin of one of the reasons for organizing a trip abroad.

Although the destination will be new, Menya Hinga '09 explained that there are advantages to going abroad to Argentina. "More of us have a basic command of Spanish than we did Italian...and the culture of Buenos Aires—though it's sometimes called the 'Paris of South America'—will be much different than Italy," he said. Geri Morris '11 looks forward to "connecting with an audience even though we may speak different languages...because the emotions of a piece are something we can all relate to."

Although Argentina represents a departure in terms of location, Catherine Woodiwiss '09, who has traveled with Chorale before, noted that much would remain familiar. "I expect a lot to be the same this time around—we'll be traveling in a big group, we'll form some closer friendships, we'll see an amazing country, and we'll get a chance to sing in incredible settings!" she said.

REVIEWS

food A questionable triumph over the fiery Wild Wing

By Peter Johansson, Contributing Writer

The rumors of Hafford's Wild Wings had been going around campus for some time. No one's quite sure what led to their creation, but legend has it that one day a man stumbled into the Hafford Saloon for a drink. The man reeked of whiskey and smoke and held no reservations in use of foul language or in the manner in which he treated women. He seemed to have no moral restraint at all as he was seen night after night in the saloon drinking, chasing women and fighting any man he could.

Finally, one night, an old monk came up to the man and said, "Boy, if you knew the fire that waits for you in Hell, you would see fit to live a better life!" The drunk simply responded, "You're probably right, old man, but I don't know about the fire and no man does!" The old monk then went back into the kitchen and came out a half-hour later and lay before the man a plate of eight chicken wings. The monk told the man, "If you want to know the fire of Hell, boy, just try one of these wings." The man laughed at the monk and said, "One of these little things?" as he proceeded to take a bite. But after one bite, the man ran out of the saloon screaming, never to be heard or seen of again. So some have rumored that was when the Wild Wings were first made.

After hearing stories of many failed attempts to eat the wings—of students vomiting and dry heaving for four hours, of other students breaking into coughing fits and crying from just tasting the sauce—I naturally felt the call and challenge to attempt the Wild Wing challenge at Hafford's Saloon. The challenge is simply to eat eight of the wings; you're given water, some bread, celery and a small dish of blue cheese to aid the attempt. So Dan Heinrich '09, Joel Pitt '09 and I entered anxiously into the Hafford Saloon on the night of Wednesday, March 4, ready to take on the Wild Wing challenge. The energy at the table was high, and the spectators who came along to witness were equally anxious as they placed their bets on who would be able to pull it off.



Johansson claims victory as he consumes the last wing.

The arrival of the wings was finally announced, and we were all confident as we laid our eyes on the wings. This confidence soon shriveled as the first bites were taken. The initial wave of spice was bearable, but the buildup of the raging firestorm in my mouth soon caused panic as it escalated uncontrollably. Hell hath no fury like the wrath of a wing!

The emergency protocol measures were immediately put in place—water, celery, bread, and blue cheese were consumed in rapid succession to combat the fire that raged. In the crazy panic, I managed to get through three wings in the first 5 minutes, but soon after, the real pain began. Not only was the searing pain of the spice waging war against my mouth, but the wings had created a second front in my stomach. My body began to convulse and spasm as I entered a state of delirium. I slowly got through one wing at a time, fighting desperately the reaction to explode at each bite. My vision had blurred considerably as I approached the eighth wing, and despite my failing consciousness, the pain in my gut was all too prevalent. Yet, I managed after 40 minutes of war, to finally claim victory as I swallowed that last bit of the eighth wing.

My friends cheered and my picture was placed on the wall with the only seven other men who had ever succeeded at the Wild Wing challenge in the history of the saloon. It was a brief, momentary feeling of relief to know I had done it; unfortunately, the war was not over. I attempted to leave the saloon and get into my car, but as I neared the door I called out to Joel, who was ready with a garbage bag, and proceeded to purge my body of the fire that was in my belly. Once recovered, we drove off and Dan asked me, "So what's the quote for the night Pete?" I reflected on the night for a moment and simply replied, "Get me eight more Dan!"

film Jack Skellington: "I scoff at Coraline's copy-cat endeavor!"

By Jessica Chang, A&E Editor

A black, metallic claw thrashing out from the crevices of a haunted door; an other-worldly sterile world that is inhabited by a vicious Other Mother with eerily sewn-on gleaming button eyes; in the background, a choir of ghost-children whose voices sing a whispering lilted Hungarian melody; and finally, an array of creepy and spindly-appendaged creatures that clanging pots and pans scream, "I AM A TIM BURTON CREATION AND I LIKE TO EAT LITTLE CHILDREN—ALIVE!"

Can the lady please kindly announce the title of this fantastic little film? ...Why yes, I believe *Coraline* is his humble name.

Well, perhaps this time around *Coraline* wasn't exactly the product of the wildly imaginative and oftentimes squeamishly unsettling explosion that is Tim Burton's mind. Yet the film, under the direction of Henry Selick (who also directed *The Nightmare Before Christmas*), surely echoed the delightfully horrific tableaux characteristic of Burton's filmography. Jack Skellington's delicately long and spider-like legs were resurrected through Mr. Bobinski's (Ian McShane) spindly own. And the festering extravagance that shadowed the evil Oogie Boogie was reincarnated forcefully through the two vaudeville octogenarians, Miss Spink (Jennifer Saunders) and Miss Forcible (Dawn French), who happily allowed their unending rolls of fat to writhe and squirm under an almost non-existent spandex attire, bouncing to a sea-sickening circus choreography as they did so.

In some ways, *Coraline* seemed to be akin to a mangled collage of folk tales and movie classics re-envisioned through a spooky narrative. Recall the old folk story of Hansel and Gretel, who, abandoned by their parents in the woods, happened upon a secluded cottage made entirely of delectable chocolates and sweets. Likewise, *Coraline* (Dakota Fanning), with two real-world parents who have their hands, feet, and toes tied to their

jobs, all-too-willingly strays off into the depths of the Other World, only to run into her Other Mother, the candy-witch-reincarnate, who entices her to stay with false displays of kindness and many food offerings.

Popular children's television also somehow crept its way into the film. The eerie "adventure" that *Coraline* engages in to find the glass eyes of the soulless children exclusively evoked the image of a bouncing cartoon character on a mission of discovery on either "Dora the Explorer" or "Blues Clues"; this is far more than any genuine creepy thriller would ever permit. Will the culprits of this great evil make the claim that the extended dip into juvenile simplicity was an olive branch to the small children expected to be in attendance? Perhaps. Well, *Dora* and *Blues* can fight for the crowning title for all I care, but point-blank: Mr. Selick, this was a bad call.

Yet, I cannot in good conscience (or more accurately, out of fear for my personal safety against a soon-to-be wrathful friend) end here. The animation and accompanying score fit the spirit of the movie like

a well-made glove. But, one scene will remain permanently embedded in my mental movie-bank forever: the incredibly unsettling scene, in which a role-reversal in the parallel world is taken quite literally to mean that the piano plays the Other Father (John Hodgeman). As if possessed by some demon-spirit, the button-eyed Other Father airily slurred, "This piano...plays me." And with that, the mechanical gloves fitted themselves over his hands and jerked the father from one side of the piano to the other, forcing his body to move in unnatural convulsions as it played. The scene ends with the Other Father unable to release himself from the gloves and a realization of horror that creeps across *Coraline*'s slowly discolored face. "Now that was a great scene!" I thought. And then I remembered the twenty "Dora the Explorer" fans sitting in the theater around me...



Coraline was an impressive display of creativity in cinematography.

Students learn Russian culture through poetry

By NICOLE HEWES
NEWS STAFF

While other first-year language students struggle with verb conjugations and tenses, Colby Russian students memorize and recite traditional poems. The 8th annual Russian Poetry Slam, an event started to introduce students to an important aspect of Russian culture, oral recitation poems, was held on Sunday, March 8th in the Mary Low Coffee House. A sizeable crowd gathered to eat light refreshments and to listen to the presentations of poems by the students. Children in Russia frequently memorize favorite poems and recite them during their school years.

"Russian adults commit to memory line after line and can astound American guests with impromptu recitations as you're walking down the street talking about the cold weather or the good food. They

always have a snippet of famous poetry that applies," explained Associate Professor of Russian Sheila McCarthy.

For the event, each Russian student, ranging from first-year students to seniors, chooses a poem to recite and a bilingual program is given to the audience.

The students in the Russian classes had been working on memorizing their poems for about a month, and their practice showed, as they confidently recited their verses. A few of the famous poets featured during the poetry slam included A.S. Pushkin, A.A. Blok and Sergei Esenin.

The readings presented a survey of Russian poetic history, beginning with 19th century poetry and continuing to contemporary times, and even included some original work. Olga Stepanova '11 recited a poem she wrote about the snow that blankets Colby for most of the school year.

Also featured during the event were visiting students from a Russian university, native speakers and Russians from the local community. The highlight of the afternoon was the recitation of a lengthy poem by Kristina Plante, a third-grader at the

Waterville Montessori School. "Memorizing a poem is a great way to introduce the important ideas of Russian culture to our students," McCarthy said. Through their recitations, students brought a little bit of Russia to the Colby campus.



Students and faculty talked about Russian poetry around good food and drinks.

COLBY SOFTBALL SEASON PREVIEW '09

Mules return key players



Pitching and defense will be the '09 focus for a team with offensive power.

Look to build on 2008's 17-14 campaign

By SARAH KIRKER
STAFF WRITER

Although the Colby softball field may still be buried under a few feet of snow, the team has been busily preparing for the season for well over a month. "We've had a set lifting schedule and twice a week captain's practices for awhile, and for the last month we've been working on drills and mechanics in the field house," said Alyssa Lepore '11. The indoor practice gives the team time to focus on the little things. Skills like accuracy in throwing and batting mechanics can take a squad from being a good team to being a great one. That being said, while the players have enjoyed perfecting their mechanics, the team, especially the outfielders who face quite a challenge in the low-ceilinged field house, are looking forward to spring break when the Mules will travel to Florida and get out on a real field for the first time. Expectations are running high for the coaches and players this season.

The Mules ended last season with a solid 17-14 record, and with the return of many key players, hope to improve upon this in 2009. The team looks very young on paper with a roster made up of only four seniors and two juniors along with eight sophomores

Offense is really the difference maker in the NESCAC. Most of the teams are solid defensively.

Annie Wilson '11
Outfielder

and two freshmen.

On the offensive side of the ball, the Mules return the team leader in most offensive stats, Alex Essman '11, who led the team in home runs (10), total hits (39), doubles (9),

triples (tied with 3), home runs (10), RBI (36) and slugging percentage (.824) in her first year. In addition to her offensive stats, Essman ended the year with just one error in her time patrolling right field. Essman capped off an impressive first year by earning New England Small College Athletic Conference second-team honors and looks for a repeat performance in 2009.

In terms of pitchers, the team can look forward to the return of captain Alyssa Crowell '09, and Brittany Tsai '10 from last season, as well as the return of senior Randi Arseneault '09 after a year off. Crowell finished the season with a 7-2 record, leading the team in the wins and innings pitched with 71.0. Tsai finished the 2008 season with a 4-4 record and the team's lowest ERA at 1.93. Arseneault chose to take a year off last season, but is looking forward to her return to the diamond this season.

One major change the Mules look to see this season is an improvement on the offensive side of the ball. "Offense is really the difference maker in the NESCAC," Annie Wilson '11 said. "Most of the teams are solid defensively." Colby hopes that the addition of a new hitting coach and more attention to basic batting mechanics will help the team to be a more balanced competitor.

With such a sophomore-heavy roster, the main challenge the Mules will face this season is maintaining their mental toughness for the whole season. Players who were rookies last year will be expected to make more significant contributions this season. But overall there is a feeling of confidence on the squad. "If we play our game, we can compete with just about anyone in the NESCAC," Wilson said.

The two opponents the Mules are most looking forward to facing this year are Trinity College and Tufts University, historically the toughest NESCAC opponents. Tufts, well known for its above-average offense, goes into the 2009 season looking to three-peat as NESCAC champions. Colby, on the other hand, goes into 2009 hoping for a more balanced team armed with high expectations for improvement and perhaps, ultimately, an upset.

Baseball enters '09 with new swagger

From BASEBALL, Page 18

In regards to pitching, co-captain Robert "Slobbo" Whelan '09 truly believes that it should be a strength for the team. "This year, we have the most pitching depth in my whole college career," Whelan said. This claim comes in the wake of an offseason injury bug that has knocked out last year's electrifying closer Ryan Murphy '11, fourth starter RT Tourek '09 and reliever

Zach Helm '09 for the entire season. Whelan still believes success can be found in the arms of starters Matt Moore '10 and Justin Clark '09, who both started seven games and pitched a combined 72.1 innings to anchor the starters. Whelan, who had a collegiate-best 3.94 ERA last year, will look to have an increased role late in games with Murphy out. He will be joined in the pen by returning pitchers Nick Ruocco '10 and Tim Brettingen '10. Several first-years will also get a chance to contribute.

So circle your calendars, folks. A double-header with Middlebury looms ahead on March 22, marking the beginning of the season. The Mules will be playing their first 10 games over spring break, when they will travel to Phoenix, AZ to play in the RussMatt Greater Phoenix Invitational. Colby will play 10 games in six days. Last year the team's hot 8-2 start in Arizona propelled them to a successful campaign. Ultimately, with the new swagger this team boasts, can we expect anything less?

Fit tennis squads take aim

Spring into season with ethic and rosters for success

By ELLEN WILBUR
STAFF WRITER

This tennis season looks to be a strong start for both the men's and women's teams. Senior players Bryan Brown (who is also team captain), Alex Chin and Nick Rosen-Wachs have been playing for the men's team

even younger players, but to bring this energy into the upcoming season. First-years also contributing to the team this season are Phillip Zunshine, Tommy Kimball, Trip Smith, Robbie Yee, Than Moore, Sam G. Grant, Michael Johnson and transfer Peter Serafini.

The woman's team is also very young, having no seniors on its roster. Thus, it is up to juniors Tara Davidson, Caroline Reaves and Hilana Bernheimer to lead the team with help from sophomore players Katie Brezinski, Katie Muto and Anna Sieba. First-year players Kathryn Vergeyle and Sally

Meehan bring new talent to the team and "should help add some depth to our line-up," according to Wang.

In order to prepare for the upcoming season, both teams have done a lot of conditioning and fitness training. They both will continue to work hard, focus on daily successes and think about rebounds instead of focusing on defeats. This upcoming season should be an exciting one to watch for on both the women's and men's side as the Mules look to be a dominating force in New England Small College Athletic Conference play.

[The dynamic is] exciting because [the younger players] bring so much enthusiasm and energy.

Doanh Wang
Head Coach

for the past four years and bring experience to an otherwise very young team. Coach Doanh Wang explains this dynamic as "exciting because [the younger players] bring so much enthusiasm and energy. At the same time, this is where I really look to my seniors to help channel their energy to something positive and productive."

Sophomores Bobby Post and Matt Von Vogt are two of these keen young players who have been working hard and look to not only share this spirit with



The men's tennis team first home match is on April 3 vs. Bowdoin.

Men's lacrosse opens with big win

From LACROSSE, Page 18

ness to lose the 50-50 battles inspired us all over the field against Williams."

In addition to Bunker's play, Brooks and McCarthy led the team with 5 and 4 points, respectively. Todd Boertzel '09 and Mark Squicciarino '11 both had an assist in the win.

As for the rest of the season, Colby looks to be in great position to improve upon its 6-8 record from a year ago. Thompson's attitude is all about this season. As a first year head coach, there is nothing to look back onto. The goal for the season is "to improve ourselves every time we touch the field," Thompson said. "We have made significant strides in doing so in the preseason, and our goal for each and every game for the regular season is to try and out-compete

our opponent." With his focus on the present, Thompson sounds like Patriots coach Bill Belichick when he said that "I will not think more than one game ahead," when prompted about any games he was looking forward to playing, such as against Bates or Bowdoin.

As for the players, who makes up the 2009 edition of the men's lacrosse team? The Mules are built from a strong foundation on defense. Captains Brady and Forino team up with Weiss on defense, and Farmer in net to complete the starting line.

Colby is deep on defense with high-caliber players like Chris Healy '11, Collin Weiss '09, Geoff Parr '09 and Jack Vernamonti '11. Tommy Gianakos '10 will make Farmer fight for his starting position all season. Moving up to midfield, talented first-year John McIvor joins an athletic bunch. "In the mid-field, Boertzel, Squicciarino,

McIvor, Alex Boches, Russell

We have spent a great deal of time developing ourselves as men. We believe that the better quality human beings we are, the more successful we will be...

Jon Thompson
Head Coach

Clark, Craig Bunker and Stew Brown will all be major contributors this spring," Thompson said. The attack is led by Brooks and McCarthy. Coach Thompson had high praise for these two, highlighting Brooks's quickness and natural instincts for the game and McCarthy's toughness and coachability. Joining them on the starting line is either Pat Briody '10, Jamie Wallace '09 or standout first-year Scott Margolis.

The team has been preparing hard for this season. "We have spent a great deal of time developing ourselves as men. We believe that the better quality human beings we are, the more successful we will be on the field," Thompson said. "Much of our preparation has been creating a culture of togetherness and when we take nothing for granted, earning everything and expecting nothing." Clearly this approach has paid off for Thompson and the team, winning on the field against ranked opponents, and raising money off the field for the Marines and Pulmonary Fibrosis.



Colby's offense was crucial in Saturday's one-point win over the Ephs.

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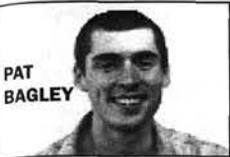
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HEAVY BAGS

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PAT BAGLEY

I was dreaming that a giant, pink, industrial eraser—the kind fourth grade teachers give to kids like me who never learned how to multiply—was grating on a giant school-boy desk above me. In this Salvador Dali-esque nightmare, a supremely large and rude hand, perhaps that of God, was casually brushing the dirty eraser fuzz onto my sleeping face. That goddamn hand didn't have a care in the world. It just kept snowing the blackened rubber shaving on me. For that and, the world was nothing but peaches and goddamn cream. But I, numero uno, could feel my sinuses percolating. My eyes were swelling, becoming ripe for an TV-advertisement with Ben Stein. Then my septum started twitching. And with that I was awake. Sneezing.

I suppose that my respiratory ejaculation disrupted the cat that had fallen asleep on my face, as the god-

Running the Pemi-Franks with Pop-Tarts, Apple Balls, and a few bowel movements

floor next to the couch. I debated whether or not to let him sleep for those last few precious moments when that fucking cat taunted me with a meow. Instead of kicking the cat (or warping its ass in the microwave) I gave Johnny H an affectionate swift kick to the ribs. "Dude. Time to get up."

We each ate one package of strawberry Pop-Tarts and got in my car. I know that we drove for an hour, but the only thing I remember about the trip is eating some fresh raspberries that John magically handed me before he slipped into another cumulus cloud of blissful sleep. When I parked the car at Lincoln Woods trailhead in Lincoln, New Hampshire, John emerged from his cocoon of sleep, looking like a million bucks. "Oh dude," he might have said, "how'd we get here?"

It was cold for an August morning, so the huge crap that I left in the parking lot's outhouse was actually steaming. I left the bathroom mildly pleased with myself, but I still wanted to firebomb that goddamn cat. John and I laced up our running shoes, had one last gulp of water and took off out

use it. Here is the East, however, we know how to use it.

In a purely platonic way, John and I launched into this mission. The first few miles follow the Swift River and are easy. At mile five or so, we got to the business, some trail named after some exploited minority. Here dawn broke as if my 1980s cell phone was lighting up the wilderness and John was trucking. I mean,

he was looking strong. Behind varsity cross-country strides, Johnny H was chatting me up and making me feel good. And by good, I mean bad. I was hurtin'. I wanted to be back in bed. And my tummy hurt.

I didn't say anything, however, and we soon got out of the swampy, sticky trees and onto the exposed ridge of the Franconia Range. A wind blasted away any vestige of clouds and the sun poked out and rose like it does every morning. While bouncing from rock to rock on the ridge at a steady clip, John and I stumbled upon the first hikers of the day. The 35-mile trail we chose to do is regarded as a classic three- or four-day hike. If you were to do this hiking trip with Camp Firewood/Chawauk-Donkey/Gagged'n Bound/Pieve'd/Turdmeisters, the counselors would tell you (regardless of your gender): "Little Girl, this hike is the equivalent of a black diamond ski run." The point I am trying to make, I guess, is that hiking sucks and running wicked far without an overnight pack is a little better.

Anyways, the gaiter-clad backpackers waved their trekking poles at us we ran by. I think one of them took a picture of me and John with a waterproof disposable camera. From our vantage point, we were able to see a scenic vista of mountains disappearing into the blue void of the horizon. John told me he missed his girlfriend. I told him that those mountains waayyyyy in the distance were where we were going to have a granola bar for lunch. I think he puked a little in his mouth, but I'm not sure. You'll have to ask him.

We continued to punch it along the trail, beating feet. With each boulder we clambered over, every stream we forded, every peak we summited and every grizzly bear we killed just to watch it die, I began to feel stronger and stronger. At mile 20, I was feeling good. And by good, I mean good. John was just feeling bad. He perked up a little bit, however, when we got

to stop at a hut. We filled up our water bottles there and chatted with mildly attractive "hut-masters" that beamed with the self-satisfaction that they might look half-way decent to Appalachian Trail hikers with trail-names such as "Apple Balls" and "The Yeti with Lekis" who have been hiking through a tree-tunnel since leaving Georgia five months ago. Anyways, we thanked Hut Cru '07 for their hospitality and forged ahead as it were March 4th. (March [forth], get it? Thanks, Nick.)

The last eight miles of the trip were along that same flat railroad track we began on and I knew John, a few hits of melanin and EPO away from being a Kenyan track star, was going to pulverize me on the last stage of our death march. Fortunately, a descent of four or five miles, rugged and steep, descent lay between us and John's aerobic heaven. Being the stable-footed goatman that I wish I was, I booked it down these rocky, rooty trails, spend as much time in the air as I did destroying cartilage in my knees. I was laughing like a banshee when I realized John was yelling at me. "PAATTTT! PATTTT!" I eventually heard, "Dude, I gotta GO!" I yelled back, "So do I, that's why I'm run-ning! D'uh!" He retorted with a contorted face, "No, Man. I mean like go?" Oh.

Evidently, John did not take the same magnitude dookie that I had taken that morning and his bowels were taking retribution. John disappeared off the trail for nearly 20 minutes. I won't explain the details, but he came back looking like a new man. And lighter.

My moments of glory ended there. The steep, tricky downhill were over. John, relieved in more ways than one, hit the flat and dusty railroad track. He adjusted the tongue of his running shoes so that it sat nicely under his laces and then stood up. John then did this fancy shake of his legs, his quad muscles rippling in the still air. He turned to me, eyes penetrating like a diamond-studded drill. "You're mine now." And with an abhorrence ordained by the devil, he added, "bitch." John then bolted down the trail and I never caught up.

Women's lacrosse beat Ephs

From LACROSSE, Page 18

we already have a season together under our belts, and we know how to motivate each other," Sheridan said. "We know how to work together and are definitely in a different place than we were at the beginning of last season."

The team looks forward eagerly to the season that lays ahead, full of challenges to face. The team chemistry—as articulated by both Captains Sheridan and Finnegan—is really what makes the team unique.

"All across the field it is clear how much we love to play lacrosse with each other and I think that is what really separates us from other teams," Finnegan said.

"I've never been more amped for any season than I am for this one," Sheridan added, and agreed with her teammate. "I love playing with these girls, and I'm excited to see what we can do this season. We've all been working hard in the off-season, and as a senior I'm especially looking forward to the challenges we'll have to face as the season progresses. I've never felt more prepared than I do with these girls by my side, and I'm excited to see how the team will grow as the season progresses."

This coming Saturday, March 14, the team will compete against Tufts University. The game will be held at home at 12 p.m.

DEVASTATOR OF THE WEEK



ROB KIEVITZ, THE COLBY ECHO

Kate Sheridan '09

SPORT:

Lacrosse

HOMETOWN:

Hingham, Mass.

WHY: In Colby's 9-8

victory over Williams

on Saturday, co-captain Sheridan had two goals and two assists. Sheridan, a three-time All-American, has 149 goals and 64 assists for 213 career points. She is just nine points away from tying Colby's all-time scoring leader Ally King '03 (222 points) and 18 goals shy of reaching all-time goal scoring leader Margaret Mauran '91 (167).

213

Career points

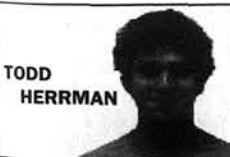
NESCAC ROUND-UP

Top-seeded Amherst won its first-ever NESCAC Men's Ice Hockey Championship last Saturday, defeating No. 2 Middlebury 5-2 at its home rink. The Lord Jeffs never trailed during the game and won the rights to the NESCAC's automatic bid to the upcoming NCAA Tournament. The Panthers, however, were not so lucky and did not receive an at-large bid for the second straight season...On the women's side the match-up was the same but the result was different as Middlebury defeated Amherst 4-3 in overtime to take the 2009 NESCAC Women's Ice Hockey Championship. It was the fifth conference title for the Panthers and its first since 2006. With the victory, Middlebury improved to 19-3-4 on the season and earned an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament, which they later discovered would host. The Panthers drew a first-round bye and will host the semifinals and finals on Friday, March 20 and Saturday, March 21. This will be the second time Middlebury has hosted the event, earning a 2-1 win over Wisconsin-Stevens Point in 2004...The two NESCAC teams in the 2009 Division III Men's Basketball Championship, Amherst and conference-champion Middlebury, were upended last weekend in each squad's first-round game. On March 6, the Lord Jeffs fell to the Gwynedd-Mercy College Griffins 68-62, and the next day the Panthers lost to the Bridgewater State Bears 78-76 before a sold-out Pepin Gym (1,200) in Middlebury, Vt...On the women's side, Amherst is the only squad left in the 2009 D-III Tournament, with Tufts and conference-champion Bowdoin each losing in the first round of play. The Lord Jeffs, however, defeated Emmanuel College 76-37 and will face New York University on Friday.

—Nick Cunkelman, Sports Editor

PLAYIN' THE FIELD

Throwin' money around



TODD HERRMAN

Any regular readers of my column (are there any of you? I hope so...) know that usually, I do not write about very serious matters. I use this space to poke fun at people and generally try to make smiles and laughter. And most of the time, I think I succeed. But now, I feel the need to actually write about something serious, something that has really been bothering me. In these trying economic times, the rampant spending on athletics and athletics is, quite frankly, nothing short of disturbing. Do not get me wrong, I love sports just as much, and probably more, than anybody reading my column right now. I watch them on TV, I play rugby here at Colby, and as the president of the team, I know it costs money to keep a team operating. But now, even I will admit that there are plenty of places that money could be better spent than on sports.

In the past few months, the New York Yankees have committed \$420 million to sign three free agents to multi-year contracts, pitchers C.C. Sabathia and J.J. Burnett, and first baseman Mark Teixeira. To put that into perspective, that money would cover close to Colby's

Tired of absurd team spending and rich athletes cheating? So am I.

entire operating budget for a four-year period. Or provide full annual tuition for over 8,000 students here. Or we could give 650 dollars to each of the 650,000 people in the United States who lost their jobs in February alone. That would do a

The money the Yankees spent in the 2008 off-season would cover Colby's entire operating budget for a four-year period.

lot more for the nation than, say, putting another Bentley in Manny Ramirez's driveway. Or, let's keep it incredibly simple. Pay the athletes a little bit less, and then, even in new, billion dollar stadiums, the rest of the nation who is not making tens of millions of dollars a year, the average person facing layoffs and pay cuts, can still afford to go to a baseball game every now and then. It is not

America's pastime if most of America can no longer afford the tickets. Is nobody else disgusted by this? These athletes are already multimillionaires, let the money go where it is needed!

Why are people not making a bigger deal out of this? Every time I turn on ESPN, I see the same shit...wow, Alex Rodriguez took steroids a few years back...I DO NOT GIVE A DAMN ANYMORE! That is a one-day story, not a multi-week saga like it has become. Do you know what I want to see? I want to see outrage over the fact that New York City is currently facing a \$1.2 billion budget shortfall for the current fiscal year, the same year in which the New Yankee Stadium will be opening at a cost of \$1.6 billion AND Citi Field, the new home of the New York Mets, will be opening at a cost of \$850 million. And I have not even talked about how outrageous it is that Citigroup gets to spend \$20 million a year for twenty years on the naming rights of the field (the most expensive stadium naming rights agreement ever) after receiving billions of dollars from taxpayers in a government bailout.

Great. Now I am ticked off even more than before. And I hope you are as well. I think next time I will go back to making fun of people.

STANDINGS

MEN'S LACROSSE						WOMEN'S LACROSSE					
	NESCAC	W	L	W%	OVERALL		NESCAC	W	L	W%	OVERALL
Bowdoin	1	0	1	0.00	1	0	1	0	1	0.00	1
Colby	1	0	1	0.00	1	0	1	0	1	0.00	1
Middlebury	1	0	1	0.00	1	0	1	0	1	0.00	1
Trinity	1	0	1	0.00	1	0	1	0	1	0.00	1
Tufts	1	0	1	0.00	1	0	1	0	1	0.00	1
Amherst	0	1	0	0.00	0	1	0	0	1	0.00	0
Bates	0	1	0	0.00	0	1	0	0	1	0.00	0
Corn	0	1	0	0.00	0	1	0	0	1	0.00	0
Wesleyan	0	1	0	0.00	0	1	0	0	1	0.00	0
Williams	0	1	0	0.00	0	1	0	0	1	0.00	0

FINAL 2008 OVERALL STANDINGS

MEN'S LACROSSE						WOMEN'S LACROSSE					
	NESCAC	W	L	W%	OVERALL		NESCAC	W	L	W%	OVERALL
Trinity	12	0	1	0.00	45	1	0.92	10	11	0.73	
Tufts	6	6	0	0.50	19	15	0.56				
Bowdoin	6	6	0	0.50	18	16	0.53				
Colby	3	9	0	0.25	18	14	0.56				
Bates	3	9	0	0.25	14	23	0.40				
WEST											
Williams	9	3	0	0.75	24	12	0.67				
Amherst	8	4	0	0.66	24	12	0.66				
Wesleyan	6	6	0	0.50	16	23	0.43				
Middlebury	4	8	0	0.33	14	16	0.47				
Hartford	3	9	0	0.25	10	23	0.32				

LEADERS

MEN'S LACROSSE						WOMEN'S LACROSSE					
NESCAC leaders, points per game						NESCAC leaders, save percentage					
		G	A	PPG				GA	Saves	Save%	
D.J. Hoeller	Tufts	4	6	10.0	Blair Bowie	Middlebury	4	10	0.71		
Ryan Mally	Tufts	4	2	6.0	Maggie Drovica	Wesleyan	8	18	0.69		
Mike Stone	Middlebury	5	0	5.0	Shayla Collins	Bowdoin	9	15	0.62		
Pete Smith	Middlebury	2	3	5.0	Bern Bloom	Tufts	9	13	0.59		
Snyder Hooker	Middlebury	5	5	5.0	Nancy Kozlowski	Bates	23	29	0.54		
Chris Bracke	Colby	4	1	5.0	Sarah Vandenkerk	Colby	8	10	0.55		
Harper Cullen	Trinity	4	0	4.0	Gina Driscoll	Trinity	15	15	0.50		
David Hill	Middlebury	4	0	4.0	Jenna Rose	Corn	18	12	0.40		
West McCarty	Colby	2	2	4.0	Liam Hark	Amherst	3	2	0.40		
Connor Huetten	Trinity	3	0	3.0	Caroline Burke	Amherst	8	3	0.27		

BASEBALL

Final 2008 NESCAC leaders, batting avg

	AB
Ryan O'Brien	COLBY 77
Eric Hood	Bates 89
Steve Ragoneese	Tufts 134
Mark Shirook	Middlebury 221
John Lenthorn	Middlebury 114
Ken Givens	Trinity 175
John Lefteris	COLBY 305
Nick McElroy	Middlebury 112
Nick Kaufman	COLBY 74
Max Pinto	Williams 120

FOOTBALL

Final 2008 NESCAC leaders, p/h

		W	L	ERA
Alex Cheng-Graham	Amherst	0	9	1.00
Brittany Neal	COLBY	4	4	1.03
Izzie Santoro	Tufts	9	3	2.00
Lauren Gelmetti	Tufts	11	2	2.31
Nathan Dancy	Wesleyan	11	6	2.36
William	Williams	7	4	2.40
John Lefteris	Bowdoin	10	8	2.47
Kevin Rani	Bowdoin	12	7	2.40
Alyson Crowell	COLBY	7	2	2.96
Stefanie Tong	Tufts	8	2	2.75



Softball brings back most of roster for 2009

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SPORTS

THE COLBY ECHO

Tennis fitter, better, and ready for spring

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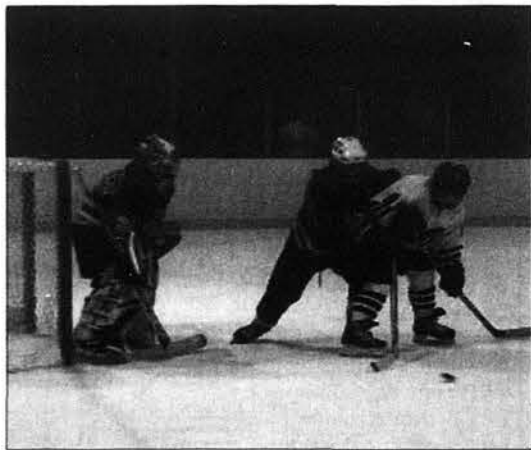


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March 11, 2009

WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY

Mules fall in semis to Midd



Andrea Fuwa '10 fends off a Middlebury player in Colby's 4-2 loss to the Panthers.

Eventual champion Panthers upend Colby 4-2 at Amherst

By LAURA BISBEE
STAFF WRITER

The Mules' season finally came to an end this past Saturday as they fell in their New England Small College Athletic Conference Final Four matchup, 4-2, to the second-seeded Middlebury Panthers. Overall, Mid-

dlebury barraged goalkeeper Lacey Brown '09 with 60 shots throughout the game, including 27 in the second period alone.

The Panthers took the early lead 1-0 after the first period, but Colby fought back to tie it on an impressive straightaway slapshot from Andrea Fuwa '10, assisted by Laura Anning '09. Middlebury then came back with two scores in the second period and another in the third. Anning scored off an assist from co-captain Colette Finley '09 with under seven minutes re-

maining, but that was as close as the Mules would get.

"This weekend's game against Middlebury was a hard fought one", co-captain Heather Nickerson '09 said. "Both teams came out determined to win, but unfortunately for us we didn't get a whole lot of bounces our way. I was happy with the effort and dedication that came from our girls as we pressured Middlebury the entire game."

The semifinal game was the last for Colby's seniors. This talented class is headed by Anning, who finishes with 60 goals and 58 assists for 118 points in her Colby career. Close behind her is Becky Julian '09, who totaled 66 goals and 45 assists for 111 points. Other noteworthy contributors were Amanda Comeau '09 (33 goals, 38 assists, 71 points), Nickerson (10 goals, 31 assists, 41 points), and of course the consistent shotblocking of Brown. Though the seniors didn't have the opportunity to play in the championship match this year—which was won by Middlebury over Amherst College in overtime on Sunday—they can be proud of the high standards they set for postseason achievement, having played in the NESCAC Final Four tournament three out of their four years.

"We have faced a lot of adversity this year and things didn't always go our way," Nickerson said, "but I'm proud to have been a part of this team."

COLBY BASEBALL SEASON PREVIEW '09



Despite an off-season rash of injuries that have plagued their pitching corps, the Mules will be ready to fire come March 22.

Great expectations coming off an 18-14 season in 2009

By WILL HARRINGTON
STAFF WRITER

After last year's successful season produced an 18-14 record and Colby baseball's first winning season since 1999, new expectations surround the '09 ball club. The go-is have changed accordingly for a team that has finally ascended from the basement of the New England Small College Athletic Conference. Indeed, the transformation in attitude can be seen through the simple act of walking into the locker room. Upon entry, one is greeted by a large poster proclaiming "Beat Middlebury." Clearly, the Mules are looking to win and already have a bulls-eye on their first opponent of the season. When asked about his goals for the team, senior co-captain Kyle McKay said, "I expect excellence and to ultimately be better contenders within the NESCAC. We have the most experienced coaching staff in the league and a strong core of players returning. There is no doubt in my mind we can be a great team."

These strong words have manifested themselves in another productive off-season. Many members of the team believe the strong turn-around last year was owed to this renewed sense of dedication. Captains' practices were run six days a week when

the field was playable and then moved indoors to the Alford Field House over the winter. Outfielder Ken Kaufman '10 believes that the demanding off-season was worth it. "The workouts promote competition for playing time which brings everyone's level of play up. It also shows the depth we

The workouts promote competition for playing time, which brings everyone's level of play up.

Ken Kaufman '10
Outfielder

have at each position." The new attitude is also fostered by Dale Plummer, who will return for his third year as head coach. The same staff will join him, including Tom Dexter, who has 17 years of experience with the team. "All the players speak highly of our coaches," McKay said. "We want

to work hard for them."

Moving past new attitudes and intangibles, there are other strengths on the team that will contribute to wins. The main reason Colby improved last year was due to a strong lineup, with depth top to bottom. Things shouldn't change this year as the Mules return seven batters that hit at a .300 clip or better. First baseman Ryan Conlon '10 returns after posting a league-leading .442 average (.714 slugging) to anchor a lineup that also includes John LaMantia '10 (.410 BA) and Kaufman (.392), who had the seventh and tenth best batting averages in the NESCAC, respectively. Kaufman has also established himself as a true lead-off hitter. He proved last year he has a special talent in laying down a bunt hit, and once he is on base he is a threat to steal. Kaufman was successful on 12 of 13 stolen base attempts. Captains McKay (.323 BA, 2HR) and Craig Cooper '09 (.306 BA) are also expected to bring a substantial jolt into the lineup. The depth of the Mule lineup will make it hard for opposing pitchers to escape with easy innings. Look for the whole lineup to hit for a high average and get on base. This should translate to a successful offensive season.

See **BASEBALL**, Page 16

MEN'S LACROSSE

Colby opens with big win

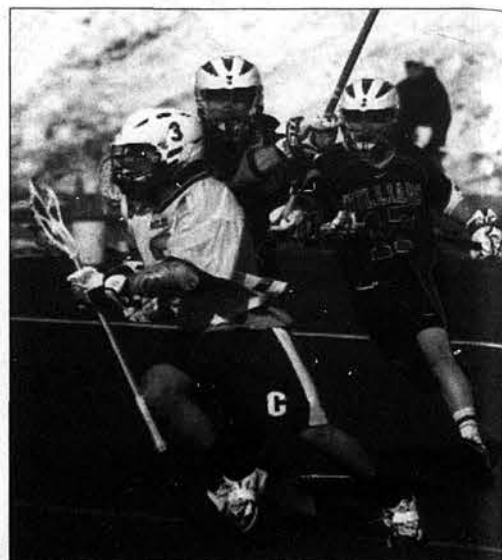
New coach, new attitude, and 9-7 win over Williams

BY DAVID LOWE
STAFF WRITER

The men's lacrosse team started off its 2009 campaign with a huge win on Saturday, dealing 15th ranked Williams College a 9-7 loss. Seven players had at least one goal or assist for the Mules and goalie Alex Farmer '09 played a strong 60 minutes in net. Head coach Jon Thompson continues to impress during his first year as coach. The lacrosse team has had several fundraising activities during the off-season, and now the impressive win versus a ranked team further Thompson's noteworthy start.

Saturday was unseasonably warm for Maine, making the game conditions better than expected. Whit McCarthy '10 tallied the first goal of the 2009 season, scoring in the fifth minute. Russell Clarke '10 kept up the pressure and scored the Mules' second goal with just under seven minutes to play in the first quarter. Williams responded quickly, winning the faceoff and making a string of good passes, leaving Matt Crenshaw open to score a minute later. Senior captain Caddy Brooks finished the strong first quarter for the Mules with a goal, to put Colby up 3-1. In the opening fifteen minutes the Mules outworked the Ephs, out hustling them to ground balls, and overall made them look as slow as the cows they represent.

Yet the Ephs came out rejuvenated after the intermission. They scored back-to-back goals and kept up the pressure in the first ten minutes of play. McCarthy turned back the tide in the 24th minute, scoring to break



Co-captain Caddy Brooks '09 charges past the Williams defense on Sat.

the tie, 4-3. Williams responded quickly, but Max Weiss '10 and Brooks scored twice more before the half to go up 6-4.

The second half was a battle of attrition with each team giving up two goals. Williams started the scoring out of the gate in the third quarter. Brooks stepped up when he needed to, as he did all afternoon, and scored his third goal of the game to keep the Ephs at arms' length. Jamie Wallace '09 got the other goal for the Mules halfway through the third. After this point, the Colby defense stepped up, led by captains Jason Forino '09 and James Brady '10. Indeed, the fact that the Mules D only gave up one goal in the last 20 minutes of play was the main reason the Mules

pulled off the upset.

The final quarter was tense. Williams scored on a long range shot in the 51st minute to pull the Ephs within one. The Mules played ball control the rest of the game until Brooks gave them some insurance with a goal in the final minute to bury the Ephs 9-7.

Craig Bunker '11 had a great game taking face-offs, winning 72 percent. Farmer played very well in the second half, making 9 of his 14 saves in the final 30 minutes.

"Craig Bunker is the spark that started our engine all day long," Thompson said. "He is an excellent athlete, no doubt, but his unwilling-

See **LACROSSE**, Page 16

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Overtake Ephs on the road

By CASEY SULLIVAN
STAFF WRITER

The Women's lacrosse team traveled to Williamstown, Massachusetts on Saturday and clinched a victory in the first game of the season, beating Williams College 9-8. Co-captain Kate Sheridan '09 led the team with three goals, marking her 150th collegiate career goal, while Kathleen Kramer '10 and Caroline Atwater '10 each scored two goals respectively.

Our defenders and goalie, Sarah Warnke '11, came up with some huge plays that enabled our team to keep the lead.

Cary Finnegan '09
Co-captain

Co-captain Cary Finnegan '09 also praised the defense on its ability to maintain composure throughout the game.

"Our defenders and goalie, Sarah Warnke '11, came up with some huge plays that enabled our team to keep the lead," Finnegan said.

While Finnegan and the rest of the team were less than content with the narrow one-point victory, the team showed a resiliency and an ability to operate well under pressure that kept them on top throughout the game.

"We worked really hard to go up by four goals on Williams but they never

gave up, and after some unlucky play they were able to come back," Finnegan added. "The narrow win was obviously not what we had hoped for but it definitely highlighted our team's ability to stay calm under pressure. The game also revealed some of the ways in which we are going to be able to improve for our game next weekend against Tufts."

While Williams was able to score the first goal of the game, Colby fired right back with six consecutive goals and held Williams scoreless for about

twenty minutes.

"After Williams scored the first goal, it definitely lit a fire under us," Sheridan said.

Sheridan is a three-time All-American who takes pride in playing with the defending New England Small College Athletic Conference championship team—the team that is bringing back most of its key contributing players.

"I think we have an advantage over a lot of teams in the sense that

See **LACROSSE**, Page 17



The women's lacrosse team hopes its win over Williams will bode well for the '09 season.