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Burnt PPD van still a mystery

PPD vehicle used for recycling caught fire, cause under investigation

By ALLISON EHRENREICH
NEWS EDITOR

Flames engulfed a Physical Plant Department (PPD) van on the evening of Saturday, November 14, burning the vehicle to an unusable shell. The cause of the fire is currently under investigation.

During Security's rounds that evening, an officer saw a bright light emitting from the Athletic Center's parking lot; the light's source was the fire.

The officer on duty called the Waterville Fire Department to put out the fire. The van was unsalvageable; it had already been on fire some time before it was noticed. Surrounding vehicles and lampposts were unscathed.

The Waterville Fire Department did not uncover the source of the fire, and has passed the case on to the State Fire Marshall, who is still investigating the fire.

"We don't really know what happened," Director of the Physical Plant Pat Murphy said.

"I'd like to think it wasn't arson, and there's really nothing to lead us to believe that it was arson at this time," Pete Chenevert, di-

rector of Security, said.

The most plausible theory, both Chenevert and Murphy said, is that the fire was electrical. That Saturday saw heavy rains, and the fire appears to have started near the front of the van, by the engine, according to Chenevert.

According to Don Zavadil, assistant director of grounds and custodial services, the vehicle—a 2001 Chevrolet Astro—was used that very morning for routine recycling and trash collection. It "was parked around 10 am," he said, and it sat for the rest of the day until it caught fire.

Insurance covered the loss, and "we'll be replacing the vehicle, hopefully in the next week or so," Murphy said. In the meantime, PPD has been sharing another vehicle for recycling purposes.

The burnt van is currently in what is called the "boneyard," an eerie graveyard of sorts for discarded furniture and vehicles, located in the woods behind the Athletic Center parking lot.

Assistant News Editor Michael Brophy contributed reporting to this article.

BLUE LIGHTS MANIA



James O'Brien '12 and Toreyan Clarke '11 solo in the Blue Lights a cappella concert Tuesday, December 8 to a full crowd in the chapel.

Admissions works through recession

By KELSEY CONROY
NEWS STAFF

Despite rough economic times, the College has not seen a significant downturn in application numbers.

The total effects of the downturn are still unknown, however, because as the deadline for regular decision applications is not until January 1. Using data from early decision applicants and regular decision applications that have already submitted, the number of applicants this year compared to last year "indicates that we should come in at or around last year's total," Director of Admissions Steve Thomas said.

The College has received about 10 percent fewer applications than it had at this point last year. Similar declines in applications have also occurred at many of Colby's peer schools, including Amherst, Williams and Bates. It still remains unknown whether this is directly a result of the economy or rather that there are simply fewer high school seniors than in recent years in the United States.

While the economic recession

has not considerably altered the number of applicants thus far, there has been a slight shift in the demographic of applicants. Thomas notes the change is an increase by "a percentage point or two of applicants who live closer to Colby and not from farther away." This suggests that students are placing a heavier weight on travel cost than the expense of college itself when applying. By the application deadline, the College will be able to discern whether this proves true.

In light of the recession, applicants' decisions to apply and to enroll at the College may be partially based on financial aid. "Colby's no-loan policy receives much thoughtful praise and makes a difference, I think, in many applicants' decisions," Thomas said. The continuation of the grants policy helps reinforce the positive perception of the College for parents concerned about how the downturn of the economy has affected Colby. It also lifts the burden of worry about piling up student loans off of applicants' shoulders.

Thomas also points out that

"the dollar's plunge in overseas currency values makes us a less expensive alternative to many international students. Colby's measurable niche in the international student market helps us in this regard." If this prediction proves accurate, the College may reach its goal of embracing

diversity more so than it currently does.

The economic recession should not impact the admissions decisions themselves, and as far as one can tell, the College's applicant pool will not be adversely affected by the current economic situation, according to Thomas.



The 2001 Chevy Astro, pictured above after the fire, was burnt to a crisp on the evening of Saturday, November 14 around 7 p.m. Its remains sit in the "boneyard," located behind the Athletic Center. The cause of the fire is still unknown.



Applicants' eyes turn to Lunder House, the admissions office, each application season.

ECHO EXCLUSIVE: Q&A

SGA officials wrap up semester

By MICHAEL BROPHY
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Assistant News Editor Michael Brophy sat down with the entire Student Government Association (SGA) Executive Board to discuss the organization's accomplishments and failures this past semester, as well as its goals for the rest of the year after SGA's final meeting of the semester on Sunday, December 6.

DURING SGA'S OCTOBER 4 MEETING, YOU DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF TAKING ACTION TO MAKE SECURITY'S NEW ROLE MORE TRANSPARENT. THAT HASN'T HAPPENED, AND MANY STUDENTS STILL HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT SECURITY'S NEW ROLE ON CAMPUS. WHY DIDN'T YOU FOLLOW UP ON THIS IDEA?

SGA President Jake Fischer: That's one of the things that's just sort of slipped through the cracks; it just didn't happen. As far as the

actual rules [that govern Security] go, there is no "allowed" or "not allowed." As for protocol, nothing has changed. They've just decided not to go into dorms until last rounds.

SGA Vice President Katie Unsworth: This is an issue where we didn't know where it was going to go because of the new implementation system; it's a new approach. We are going to talk to [Community Advisors] CAs and other student leader groups to figure out what's going on, what the problems are and confront it as student body and student leaders as opposed to mandated policy from Security.

ONE OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S MAIN GOALS IS TO CHANGE THE CULTURE OF JANPLAN AND GIVE STUDENTS MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTELLECTUAL ACTIVITY IN AND OUTSIDE OF THEIR CLASSES. WHAT SORT OF ROLE DO YOU SEE SGA PLAYING IN THIS PROCESS?

Unsworth: Because of our budget surplus [of \$11,000 this semester], SGA will be operating in JanPlan for the first time ever this

SGA will be operating in JanPlan for the first time ever this year and we are going to offer clubs funding for the first time ever as well.

Katie Unsworth
SGA Vice President

year and we are going to offer clubs funding for the first time

ever as well. We are looking to do our part to make sure there will be more student events going on and we expect to see some really positive change.

Publicity Chair Ricky Schwartz: One thing that I've noticed that the administration has done is that a lot of classes are starting earlier. For example, I'm taking a class that starts at 10 a.m., when in the past I don't think I've ever taken a JanPlan class that started before 1 p.m. I think that in itself will play a big part in helping kids take their time on campus in January more seriously.

LOOKING BACK, WHAT ARE YOU, AS AN EXECUTIVE BOARD, MOST PROUD OF HAVING ACCOMPLISHED SO FAR THIS YEAR?

Unsworth: I think everybody in SGA is really happy with the HFAC [Housing Facilities Advi-

THIS WEEK'S ECHO

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Human rights through history

Amnesty International presents talk on the legacy of the Iranian Revolution



Professor Turner delivers lecture, explaining current human rights issues in Iran through the lens of the country's history. He spoke in Diamond 122 on Thursday, December 3.

By ANNA KELEMEN
SENIOR NEWS AND
FEATURES EDITOR

The beginning of this week was marked by bloody clashes, as students across Iran protested their government. According to *The New York Times*, which cited these protests as the most violent in months, "Monday's protests marked a striking escalation in direct attacks on the country's theocratic foundation and not just on the June presidential elections, which the opposition has attacked as fraudulent." Although the protests continued Tuesday, the government has warned that its response will become even more repressive if the opposition continues.

According to the Mehr news agency, 204 people were arrested on Monday. Clashes continued on campuses across the country despite the government's efforts to repress their opposition. The protests took place on National Students Day, a traditionally anti-American celebration which commemorates the killing of three Iranian students in 1953 by Iranian Police in the Pahlavi era.

Before this violence began, students of the College and members of the community came together to learn more about the history of

Iran's volatile atmosphere.

"I am going to begin by telling a story," Assistant Professor of History John P. Turner said at a lecture he gave on Thursday, December 3.

During the summer of 1998, Turner traveled to Iran to study at the University of Tehran. He had been invited as a part of Mohammad Khatami's proposal for a "Dialogue Among Civilizations." While Turner was there, he saw a prisoner taken, presumably to jail, by a soldier. Although the soldier had no visible weapon and even used public transportation, the prisoner made no attempt to escape. "This can only happen if the government has legitimacy and authority," Turner said.

Thursday's lecture, hosted by Amnesty International, was intended to facilitate a more complex understanding of the human rights issues currently occurring in Iran. According to Turner, in order to understand the Presidential Election that took place in 2009, it is necessary to understand the broader development of the Iranian government and national identity.

"It is good for people to know more about the historical infrastructure and the effects that has on the population," Turner said in an interview before the lecture. In Iran, this means understanding

the continuing effects that the Revolution of 1978 still has on the current population. "Despite what people on the outside perceive, while the government in Iran is flawed and has its difficulties, it has had a measure of authority because it is a product of the people's revolution," Turner said. "It may be flawed, but it is distinctly Iranian."

That authority was severely diminished, however, by the contested re-election of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, Turner said. "This summer, the election - or the stealing of the election - meant that the government lost a tremendous amount of authority." The effects of that loss of authority are still unclear.

"In the past, there has been just enough openness [in the elections] for them to be believable." Because of this credibility, according to Turner, Iranians have traditionally voted in higher numbers than citizens of the United States. However, he believes that, those numbers will rapidly decline, in the coming years.

Part of what Turner focused on in his lecture was the Revolution of 1978. On Black Friday, the Shah's security forces, or Jaleh, fired on protesters in Tehran. "Black Friday forced people to make a choice. People who were

on the fence had to decide whether they felt the violence was justified or not," Turner said.

The election in 2009, however, did not provide the same sort of catalyst to overthrow the government. Although people did protest the election, Turner noted that the government remains strong enough to hold control. "This summer was a pretty bald-faced exercise in brutality, and people were rounded up in large numbers," Turner said.

In addition to the violence and the subsequent loss of jobs for a large number of people, the government has also proposed a reduction in subsidies for products such as gas and some food. "The government withdrawing those subsidies will, in an economic sense, get its economy more in line with the rest of the world, but it will deeply penalize the middle class." Not surprisingly, it was the middle class that was most supportive of and active in the demonstrations and protests following the 2009 election.

When asked why the stealing of the election did not provide the same tipping point that Black Friday did, Turner cited the shooting of Neda. A video of her death was posted on YouTube. "That could have been the tipping point, and the government was clearly scared that it would be, but it wasn't," Turner said. He noted that it is possible that enough people still remember and are deterred by the violence of the Iranian Revolution.

As for the future, Turner does believe that reform will come. When it does, however, he thinks it will take the form of change from within rather than a violent overthrow of the government. "Most of the people in Iran are under 25," Turner said. "The young population will overwhelm the current regime and the reform movement is an example that there are those who see that demographic and are looking to adapt the system to be less repressive." It remains to be seen what the future of Iran will look like.

echo news in brief

Vandalism focus of community talk

"This sucks," SGA Vice President Katie Unsworth '10 said, describing the ongoing vandalism problem on the Hill.

Unsworth was one of several speakers who addressed a crowd of students and faculty in Lorimer Chapel on Tuesday, December 1, for a discussion on "what it means to be in community at Colby." Other speakers included SGA President Jake Fischer '10, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Jim Terhune, CA of Woodman Elizabeth Eaton '11, Assistant Catholic Chaplain Brother Rex Anthony Norris and Professor of Biology and AMS faculty resident Paul Greenwood.

The meeting was called after the custodian who tends to the chapel discovered that the organ cover had been broken off and an unwrapped, but unused condom had been left on the floor. The custodian went outside at 4:10 a.m. on Saturday, November 21 immediately after she made the discovery, and saw a group of students who, upon seeing her, scattered. She was unable to identify any of the students.

Terhune, Fischer and Unsworth all aimed the focus of their talks towards what it will take for College students to take ownership of their space: the grassroots level at which they hope to see students hold each other accountable for their actions.

Norris and Greenwood echoed the other speakers' sentiments, but also stressed the importance of students making a positive mark on their time on the Hill and understanding the long-term effects of what they can do here.

"When you joined on at Colby, Lovejoy's history became part of your history; beer die became part of your history," Norris said. "Now we will have a history that we will leave for the young men and women who will come after us. What we want to pass on is not broken pipe organs or graffiti, but what we want to pass on is what we've learned, something that will be good for the community that comes after you."

No students have reported any suspects to the administration, nor have any students come forward to accept responsibility.

"We've seen some things that have troubled us," Terhune said in summary. "But there has also been a lot of positive things happening in the community. This is part of a continuum, part of a process."

While the financial cost of dorm damage is roughly the same as it was at this point last year, there have been several examples of extremely destructive behavior this semester, including a bench in front of Miller being torn out and a couch being thrown off the roof of Heights.

- Michael Brophy, Assistant News Editor

New shipment of H1N1 vaccines arrive

In an email sent December 7, 2009 to students on the H1N1 vaccine waiting list, Medical Director of the Health Center Paul D. Berkner announced that the College had received an additional shipment of the vaccine. Earlier this year the College received only a portion of the vaccine requested.

The vaccine will be made available to students at a clinic on Friday, December 11, 2009. The clinic will take place from 8 am to 3 pm in the Lower Programming Space of Pulver Pavilion.

Those students on the waiting list are able to receive their vaccine prior to the clinic. Those on the list who would like their vaccine before Friday are able to do so at the Health Center. Some students have already done so.

- Anna Kelemen, Senior News and Features Editor

Q&A with student government execs

From SGA, Page 1

sory Committee] proposal that we just passed. I'm impressed by the committee, in particular Julie [Achenbaum] and Justin [Rouse]'s leadership on the project.

Parliamentarian Julie Achenbaum: I think the document we finally passed is really concrete. We got a ton of student input and we got a chance to bounce it back and forth among PC for over a month. We really worked hard to pass something that we had student support behind.

We worked on it in the fall and we will put it into affect in the spring.

Schwartz: [Proposals like HFAC's] have helped us gain a lot of traction with students and faculty. I believe that there is a lot of positive belief in SGA. Students have been turning more to SGA [this semester] because they believe in SGA and we are really getting back to having a positive impact on this campus. The more that people believe in SGA, the more we can create change...I

think we've created a fabulous framework this semester and, if we leverage it correctly in the spring, I think we will have tremendous success.

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS YOUR SHORTCOMINGS THIS PAST SEMESTER AND HOW DO YOU HOPE TO CORRECT THOSE MISTAKES MOVING INTO 2010?

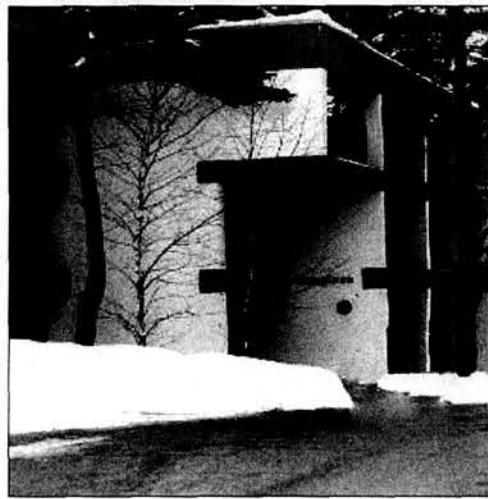
Fischer: One of the biggest challenges I faced early on was prioritizing things. There were so many things that I wanted to look at and try, and I had a really hard time picking one at first and following it all the way to completion. Also, we could probably do a better job being more transparent about what we're doing at all times.

One of our big projects for next spring is to complete and approve the Statement of Student Rights. We showed a draft to Bro [Adams] in the fall and he told us that the content is good and idea is good, but not written in a way that the school could approve. Basically, the language wasn't consistent.

Unsworth: It's going to take a lot of drafts to figure out what our role [as students] is, how we see ourselves on campus and what expectations we have for each other and what expectations the college has for us.

Ricky Schwartz
SGA Publicity Chair

PIPE LEAK IN HILLSIDE



Marriner was affected by the recent pipe break in Williams. Water was shut off briefly for repairs in the Hillside Complex.

Pipe leak in Williams basement finds quick fix

Due to a pipe break in Williams Basement, a residence in the Hillside Complex, the water was shut off briefly on Thursday, December 3.

Katrina Danby, Assistant Director of Campus Life and faculty resident of Williams, notified Security and PPD that the pipe was broken.

The pipe broke in the trunk room, and while some of Danby's belongings were damaged, PPD and security were able to save almost all of the students' belongings before anything was seriously damaged.

PPD shut off the water in all Hillside dorms for over three hours while they fixed the pipe. Campus Life sent out an email advising Hillside residents to use the facilities in AMS, Averill and Heights and extended their keycard access into the dorms until 1 am.

"It was very inconvenient because I couldn't take my shower and the water was then brown when it came back on" Meghan Kelly '12.

PPD fixed the pipe and restored water to all Hillside dorms that same night. There have been no other major problems since Thursday.

- Michael Brophy, Assistant News Editor

Colby College Department of Security Incident Report Log

Nature:	Date:	Time:	Location:	Disposition:	Comments:
Drug Violation	12/4/09	10:31 p.m.	11:50 PM	Maine General	Smoking Marijuana
Alcohol Violation	12/5/09	11:39 p.m.	12:02 AM	Deans Office	Open Container, Underage
Medical Response	12/5/09	12:50 a.m.	12:33 AM	Maine General	Alcohol, Transported by Ambulance
Drug Violation	12/5/09	1:01 a.m.	1:57 AM	Deans Office	Smoking Marijuana
Drug Violation	12/5/09	1:05 a.m.	2:11 AM	Deans Office	Smoking Marijuana
Vandalism	12/5/09	1:04 a.m.	2:59 AM	Deans Office	Broken Light
Vandalism	12/5/09	9:27 p.m.	4:03 PM	Deans Office	Exit Light Broken
Vandalism	12/5/09	10:29 p.m.	5:40 PM	Deans Office	Fire Extinguisher Glass Broken
Vandalism	12/5/09	11:30 p.m.	9:10 PM	Deans Office	Graffiti on Back Wall
Medical Response	12/5/09	11:45 p.m.	11:04 PM	Maine General	Alcohol
Alcohol Violation	12/5/09	1:33 a.m.	11:46 PM	Deans Office	Underage Drinking
Alcohol Violation	12/5/09	2:17 a.m.	11:46 PM	Deans Office	Underage Party
Medical/Drug Violation	12/6/09	3:32 a.m.	1:25 AM	Maine General/Deans	Alcohol, Paraphernalia
Medical Response	12/6/09	3:42 a.m.	1:28 AM	Maine General	Alcohol

Course based on BMI sparks debate

By LAURA EATON
NEWS STAFF

Faculty at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania voted to repeal the fitness requirement that the University had planned to enforce on the class of 2010 on December 4. In 2006, the historically black university decided to require all students, beginning with the Class of 2010, who have a body mass index (BMI) of 30 or more to complete a fitness course before graduating. A BMI of 30 or more is considered clinically obese.

The course, called "Fitness for Life," meets for three hours each week, and tries to implement entertaining ways to stay fit, such as water aerobics, dance and Tai Bo. As the last course registration period for the class of 2010 draws to a close, students and interested outsiders have raised questions about the ethics of the requirement.

James DeBoy, chairman of the University's Department of Health and Physical Education, argues that it is the responsibility of the University to prepare its students for success in their futures and, as part of this responsibility, the faculty of the school is obligated to alert students to problems that they believe will inhibit their future success.

The school believes that it is their responsibility to educate obese students about how to be healthy and active in their adult lives. Obesity severely affects the health of an individual, and increases risks of heart disease, type two diabetes, stroke, certain types of cancers and other illnesses.

The school used BMI and waist measurements to indicate whether or not a student was required to take the course. A BMI

between 18.5 and 24.9 is considered to be normal, and a BMI of 30 or higher is considered to be obese. Waist measurements are used as a follow up because a person with a very high muscle mass could have a high BMI and not be obese.

Lincoln University expresses a greater concern about obesity because of statistics indicating that, as of 2007, African-Americans are 1.4 times more likely to be obese than non-Hispanic whites, and that about four-fifths of African-American women were overweight or obese.

In recent weeks, Lincoln University has received local and international scrutiny for its fitness requirement, causing the faculty to vote on Friday, December 4, to get rid of the requirement.

Some critics had expressed concern about the imposition of "Anglo-European" weight expectations on the students. Others said that the course should be a graduation requirement of all students because, in a school that strongly stresses equality, it is unethical to require some students to take the fitness course and exempt others. One student challenged the University to change its dining hall options before requiring students with a BMI of 30 or higher to take the fitness course.

However, more than any other concern, the situation raises the question of how far a college should take its responsibility toward its students. It asks which areas of a student's life should a college be involved in, and if it is more important for them to foster independence or to ensure that each student is behaving in accordance with the institution's idea of a model student.

School urged to divest from mountaintop removal companies

By NICK CUNKELMAN
DIGITAL MEDIA EDITOR

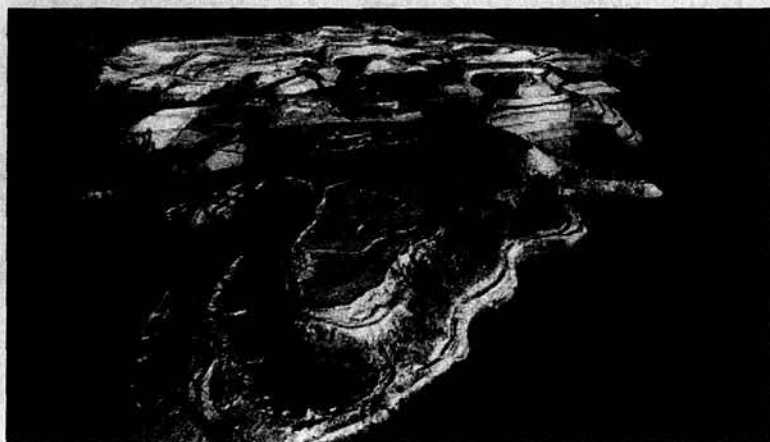
When examining the College's environmental initiatives, its investment portfolio might seem like an odd place to look. But that's exactly where a group of students have focused their attention in a recent effort to make the College more environmentally conscious.

On November 20, four members of the Colby Environmental Coalition met with President William "Bro" Adams. The group's proposal, which listed the top 16 mountaintop removal coal mining companies in Appalachia in 2008, urged the College to disassociate from such corporations which "[profit] from the exploitation of the earth and its people."

"This form of resource extraction is devastating and inexcusable," the proposal states, "the College should divest [from these companies] immediately."

Mountaintop removal coal mining is an extreme method of strip mining that involves clear-cutting forests on hills and mountains before leveling these sites of high elevation in order to access fossil fuel coal below. Often, such practices result in filling rivers with coal mining waste and polluting water sources with toxic runoff, essentially sacrificing the safety of people living in the region.

According to the divestment proposal, this form of mining has already leveled more than 470 summits in states such as West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee.



EnviroCo petitioned the College to stop purchasing coal mined via mountaintop removal.

"It's an inexcusable and extremely destructive practice," EnviroCo president Rachel Baron '11 said. "It ruins communities, it ruins habitats, and it's completely unsustainable."

Those Coalition members involved—Baron, Michelle Russell '11, Robyn Wardell '11 and Katie Lebling '10—expect to follow up with another letter addressing the subject before the Board

of Trustees meets in January to discuss it with President Adams. At the November meeting, Adams emphasized he was aware of the issue, although he stressed to the students that topics like this are often tricky in their own way.

"He said it's kind of like fly paper, once you start touching it, it's hard not to get involved with surrounding issues as well," Baron said.

Still, there is precedent for such ethically motivated divestment. In

the past, for example, the College has stopped supporting corporations funding the genocide in Darfur as well as those funding the South African apartheid. However, as Adams stressed at the November meeting, in those cases the line between right and wrong was painfully clear.

Nevertheless, the proposal—which features horrifying stories such as the Buffalo Creek disaster as well as numerous telling statistics and six images of mountaintop removal—will certainly be considered at the January meeting. In addition to EnviroCo, students Andy Smith '11, Sarah Sorenson '11 and Kelly Roche '11 have also pushed for the proposal.

"The ball's in their court now," Baron said.

Mountaintop removal coal mining is an extreme method of strip mining that involves clear-cutting forests before leveling these sites of high elevation.

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Smithsonian honors Lunders

By ALEX MURRY
NEWS STAFF

Peter and Paula Lunder, long-time supporters of the College, were honored by the Smithsonian Institution at the November 15 Smithsonian American Art Museum "Celebrating 21st Century Leaders" dinner.

The Lunders have strong ties to the Smithsonian. Mr. Lunder is a national board member of the Institution and commissioner emeritus of the Museum, and the Lunder Foundation has endowed the Lunder Conservation Center and the Lunder Education Chair at the Museum.

The Lunder Conservation Center, which opened in 2006, is the first facility of its kind in the United States. It gives visitors the chance to watch, through glass walls, the intricate restoration process of many of the museum's works of art.

The dinner at which the Lunders were honored was a part of the Smithsonian's Creating a 21st Century Museum Symposium, which brings together artists, museum curators, educators and scholars to explore trends in art and new opportunities and developments for museums around the world.

Peter, a College graduate of the class of '56, and Paula Lunder have contributed a great deal to the College over the years, most recently giving the Colby College Museum a gift of over \$100 million worth of art—an endowment that made Colby's one of the most important

collections of American Art at an institution of higher education in the country.

In 1998 the Lunders each received an honorary degree from the college, and both are life overseers as well as generous and active participants of the museum's Board of Governors.



Sandy Maisel

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LOCAL NEWS

Local Events

Happening in town

Opening Day: The Nutcracker Ballet

Waterville Opera House
1 Common Street, Waterville

December 11, 2009
7 p.m.

This weekend only, Bossov Ballet Theater will be presenting a holiday season classic. Featuring the music of Tchaikovsky, graceful dancers and a spellbinding set, the Nutcracker will attract an audience of both young and old.

In addition to the opening show, there will be performances on both December 12 (2 and 7 p.m.) and December 13 (2 p.m.)

Community Holiday Workshop

Freshwater Arts
74 Main Street, Waterville

December 12, 2009
10 a.m. 12:30 p.m.

Members of the community are invited to visit the Colby Museum of Art on Saturday for free tours of all current exhibitions.

Afterwards, participants will go down to Freshwater Arts to design and create their own ornaments and dreidels.

The event is free and open to the public, however, preregistration is required. If you are interested in attending, please contact Kim Brennan at 207-859-5613.

LOCAL FOOD TASTING



Last Thursday, Barrels Market hosted a forum on the local food movement, featuring samples of products grown in the community.

Cocaine trafficking ring arrested

Seven locals involved in town drug bust

By BENJAMIN COOK
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Seven people were arrested last month in connection with a local drug trafficking ring that has allegedly sold more than 100 grams of cocaine, which has a street value of at least \$10,000. Waterville Police suspect that the Bob-In, a bar on Temple Street, served as the cocaine-ring's home base.

Michael Pedini, the alleged ringleader, as well as Jamie Barker, Laurie Labonte, Kelly Eno, Jason Lombardo, Luke Adams and Rose Varney were apprehended over Thanksgiving recess. They are charged with various counts of Class A felony Aggravated Trafficking in Schedule W Drugs [cocaine], Class B felony Conspiracy to Traffic in Schedule W Drugs and Class C felony Possession of Schedule W Drugs.

If convicted, those accused of Class A crimes will face up to 30 years in prison and fines up

to \$50,000, while Class B crimes carry a punishment of up to 10 years in prison and fines up to \$20,000.

"Class A felony is the most serious criminal classification in the state of Maine except for murder," Charles Rumsey, Waterville deputy police chief, said in a press release. "So these are very serious crimes, potentially punishable by lengthy prison sentences, and they're serious charges as befits the serious nature of the offenses and the time and effort that went into preparing this case for prosecution."

The arrests were a result of a four-month long joint investigation by the Waterville Police Department, the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency (MDEA), the Maine State Police, the Maine Computer Crimes Task Force and the Madison Police Department.

"Without question, there are two reasons this investigation has become so successful, and those reasons are the skills brought to bear by the investigators...and the high level of cooperation between our two agencies," Joseph Massey, Waterville police chief, said.

"Our officers have worked

closely with MDEA's agents over the past months and this close working relationship has again resulted in the successful disruption of a large-scale drug trafficking operation."

This drug bust is the largest in Waterville's recent memory. "I personally cannot remember such a large seizure of cocaine in the central Maine area, going back to 1989 when we arrested an individual from Alaska in a local motel that had a kilo of cocaine," Massey said.

Members of the community were shocked to hear of the accused leader Pedini's involvement in the recent drug ring. He was active in the nearby town of Athens as a former volunteer firefighter and a basketball coach at the elementary school.

"I knew the guy and I always thought he was a wonderful person," Jamie Stafford, Athens' fire chief, said in a press release. "When he lived in Athens, he'd do anything for anybody. I don't believe for a minute when he lived around Athens that he was into any of that. Even now, I have a hard time believing he was doing anything."

Pedini was charged with four counts of aggravated trafficking

in cocaine and one count of conspiracy to traffic cocaine. He is a member of the Outlaws motorcycle gang and has a previous criminal record, with prior charges of assault and kidnapping in Massachusetts.

Waterville authorities said that their investigation is ongoing. Police are still looking over a lot of paperwork, records and electronic storage media that was seized after four separate search and seizures at the suspects' homes.

"There's a network of people that have been selling quantities of cocaine in the Waterville area," Kennebec County District Attorney Evert Fowle said in a press release. "I would expect there will be more arrests in the days ahead."

Bob-In, the bar where the illegal activity was allegedly taking place, was also searched. Gibryne "Gubby" Karter, the owner of the bar, has not been charged in this case. Karter did receive two minor summonses for administrative liquor law violations that were observed while searching the Bob-In.

All seven members of the ring are expected to appear in court in January.

Maine sparked by stimulus package

By LINDSAY PUTNAM
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

After the Senate passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, over \$722 million of the proposed \$787 billion national economic stimulus bill has been invested directly into the state of Maine alone. Of those funds, \$27 million has been used for projects in Kennebec County, ranging from road repairs to education grants to several area colleges.

As promoted by its website, "the Recovery Act has three immediate goals: to create new jobs as well as save existing ones, to spur economic activity and invest in long-term economic growth and to foster unprecedented levels of accountability and transparency in government spending."

The Recovery Act is to achieve these goals by "providing \$288 billion in tax cuts and benefits for millions of working families and businesses, increasing federal funds for education and health care as well as entitlement programs by \$224 billion and making \$275 billion available for federal contracts, grants and loans."

Maine, which only represents 0.43 percent of the population of the United States, is currently scheduled to receive 0.59 percent of the total funding provided by the national stimulus package. So far, the funds that have been directed to the state of Maine have been used primarily by the Department of Transportation

(DOT) and the Department of Education (DOE). Highway maintenance on I-95, bridge reconstruction and resurfacing in local communities and on I-95 have all been projects generated by the stimulus package.

"We are also making sure that agencies work closely together on all of the proposals in the legislation," Ryan Low, commissioner of the Maine Department of Administrative and Financial Services, said in a press release. "For example, making sure that DOT doesn't pave a road on Monday and the [Department of Environmental Protection] tears it up on a Friday for a new sewer project."

Of the funds received by Kennebec County, much of the money has been used to aid several local colleges in an effort to lessen the financial strain on the schools and the students.

The Pell Grant, a federal grant program, provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduate students to promote access to post-secondary education.

The stimulus package granted nearly an additional \$700,000 in Pell Grant funding to Kennebec Valley Community College (KVCC), \$330,000 to Thomas College and \$2,475,000 to the entire University of Maine system to allow these institutions to provide students with proper financial aid during this difficult economic time.

Additional funds have been provided to the schools to increase their work-study award

grants. KVCC received an additional \$12,000, Thomas \$26,000 and the University of Maine system \$51,000 for this purpose.

This year, the College received an additional \$167,000 in Pell Grant awards and nearly \$50,000 for increased work-study funds.

Additional projects in Kennebec County include a \$914,000 grant to the Maine Department of Human Services for supplemental nutrition assistance, a \$2 million grant to the Maine Department of Labor for unemployment insurance funds and a \$103,000 grant to the Maine Department of Agriculture for an Emergency Foods Assistance program.

Locally, the Waterville Housing Authority received a \$445,000 grant for the Public Housing Capital Fund and the DOE granted Waterville over \$1 million in Title I grants to local educational agencies.

In addition to the promotion of a postsecondary education, "the main focus of the stimulus plan has been to get funds into our communities—to make the critical investments that will create jobs—as soon as possible, in an appropriate manner that ensures maximum

accountability and transparency, both inside and outside of state government," Low said.

To date, 1,613 jobs have been created and/or saved in the state of Maine since the enactment of the stimulus package. In total, the United States has seen the creation of 640,329 jobs as a result of the stimulus package.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is putting thousands of Mainers to work, improving vital state infrastructure and helping families through the toughest economic period since the Great Depression," Governor John Baldacci said in a press release.

Maine's progress with its award money shows that many of the state's projects are underway at the moment. Forty-five of the projects have been completed and

50 are more than halfway finished, while almost half of the total projects, 224, are currently less than halfway finished. 143 projects are yet to be started.

The government is also promoting citizen involvement in the stimulus package consumption by providing the details of the package on its website.

The government currently requires recipients of recovery funds to "report quarterly on the amount of monies spent, the status of the project, the number of jobs created

and/or saved and other details, all of which are posted on www.recovery.gov so that the public can track where the total \$787 billion recovery funds are going and how they are being spent."

Maine plans to comply com-

pletely with these standards. "Consistent with the language in the federal bill, we will be looking for an unprecedented level of accountability, including where funds are allocated and for what purpose, a public announcement of all contract awards and a listing of all program managers," Low said.

"To date, our emphasis has been on process. To promote the transparency within government, we will be taking several steps to ensure appropriate levels of accountability and oversight. The governor believes it is very important that these funds are tracked from start to finish, to allow for the maximum level of transparency."

"In just its first six months, the Recovery Act has created thousands of jobs, saved many more and paid direct benefits to Maine families that have helped them through the most challenging economy of our time," Baldacci said.

"People are working today because of the Recovery Act and hundreds of thousands more have received tax breaks, received extended unemployment insurance and had their health insurance protected."

In just its first six months, the Recovery Act has created thousands of jobs, saved many more and paid direct benefits to Maine families.

John Baldacci
Governor of Maine

COLBY VOLUNTEERING HERO

Stifler inspires local girls

Waterville teens participate in Girls Circle program

By NICOLE HEWES
NEWS STAFF

While some students spend their weekends relaxing after a busy week, socializing with friends or catching up on homework, Julia Stifler '10 recently devoted her weekend to take a group of local girls on a once-in-a-lifetime trip.

Stifler, an international studies major and a Chinese minor from Massachusetts, serves as the program leader for the South End Teen Center (SETC), one of the many volunteer opportunities for students offered through the Colby Volunteer Center (CVC).

The SETC is a place for teenagers in Waterville's South End to go after school to hang out in a safe and nurturing environment. At the SETC, teens receive academic help, play video games, and get to know other people in their community.

As the program leader for the SETC, Stifler is responsible for recruiting volunteers, organizing the times when the volunteers go to the SETC and how they get there and working with the other program leaders at the CVC. She is also actively involved in a number of programs that are offered at the SETC.

One of these programs is a group for young women called Girls Circle. Stifler serves as a

co-facilitator of the group with fellow Colby student Kristen Nissen '11. The group is a place where girls from similar backgrounds can come together to discuss what is happening in their lives with a group of peers that can really relate to what they are going through.

Girls Circle runs for eight weeks and the theme of the session is "Who I Am." Throughout

at Camp Kieve in Nobleboro, Maine to see if they were willing to host an overnight trip for several of the girls in the group.

The Leadership School developed a curriculum, which focused on team building and group bonding through a series of trust activities and a high ropes course. The 24-hour overnight event took place during the weekend of November 14 and 15, and Stifler brought six

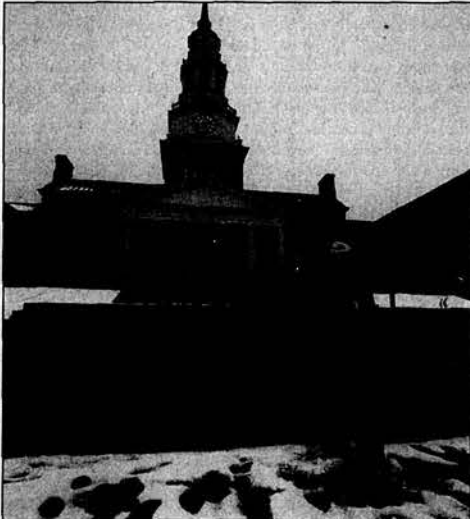
of the girls with her.

Stifler thought that the trip was a great success because "the girls got to push their limits and do activities that they've never had the opportunity to do before."

CVC Assistant Director John Perkins '11 commented, "Julia truly went above and beyond the responsibilities of the program leader position by organizing this trip for the girls. Her extraordinary efforts show just how much she cares about the teens at the SETC and a true recognition of thinking beyond oneself."

Stifler hopes to see the trip repeated with Girls Circle groups in the future, but for now, she is content to continue working on recruiting more volunteers for the SETC. Currently, there are about 10 students who go there regularly to serve as role models and academic mentors, and more importantly, to just hang out with the teens.

Stifler would like to see more students getting involved because she believes it is a great opportunity and says that "volunteering has been the best part of my Colby experience."



Julia Stifler led a weekend retreat to Camp Kieve with a group of six girls from the South End Teen Center. The girls worked on building self-confidence through group activities.

the program, the girls address issues regarding their identities, self-confidence and their interactions with other people. In previous years, the final meeting of the Girls Circle has been an overnight celebration at the Holiday Inn, which offered the girls an opportunity to bond with one another.

This year, however, Stifler wanted a way to further incorporate the mission of the Girls Circle into an overnight trip. She contacted the Leadership School



Children can share their holiday wishes with Santa at Kringleville, located in front of City Hall.

Waterville gears up for the holidays

Main Street businesses spread seasonal cheer

By ALEX MURRY
NEWS STAFF

Every year, the holiday season gives new life to the city of Waterville. It starts off on the day after Thanksgiving with the Parade of Lights, when dozens of festive floats proceed down Main Street and Santa arrives to light up the town Christmas tree.

"The parade is definitely the kick-off to the holiday season downtown," Shannon Haines, executive director of Waterville Main Street, said. "We had almost 30 floats this year, some of them run by businesses, some by Girl and Boy Scout groups and others by various organizations within Waterville. We also had some dance teachers have their classes participate in the parade."

After the parade, there are a slew of events that continue through New Year's Day. They include extended hours at Main Street stores for holiday shoppers and performances by local musi-

cians and artists.

One example of an event is the Annual Men's Night at Day's Jewelers, a night dedicated solely to male patrons. The store stays open late and offers refreshments, entertainment and sales to Waterville men.

Another event is a Friday night tradition at Jorgensen's Main Street Café. Jorgensen's has a live band play at the end of every work week. Similarly, several venues host open mic nights throughout the season and almost every store is known to dress their windows with festive ware.

Perhaps the most treasured yuletide tradition, however, is Kringleville. Located in front of City Hall, Kringleville is a sparkly, well-lit Santa-land that has been running for 40 years. Santa Claus sits in his house from Wednesday to Sunday, asking local children what they want for Christmas and taking pictures with them. Several thousand eager young boys and

girls come to Kringleville each year, easily making it one of Waterville's most popular holiday events.

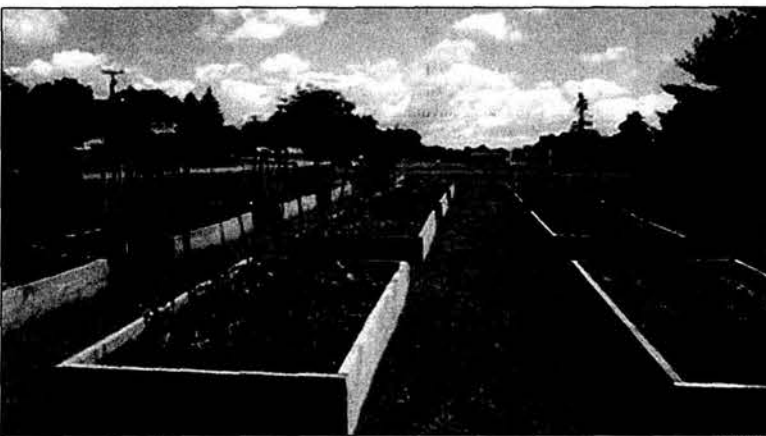
Also well-attended is an annual performance of the Nutcracker at the Waterville Opera House, presented this year by the Bossov Ballet. In conjunction with this performance, the Opera House will also present their own rendition of "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus."

Another interesting Waterville tradition is the Freshwater Arts' annual holiday workshop. The workshop collaborates with the Colby Museum of Art, bringing participants up to the Hill for free tours of current exhibitions. Afterwards, participants go downtown for a themed arts and crafts workshop. This year's theme will be ornament and dreidel making.

For a full list of holiday events in Waterville, as well as a calendar for Kringleville that shows Santa's schedule, please visit www.watervillmainstreet.org.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Campaign engages community in a sustainable future



On July 12, Sustain Mid-Maine's Local Foods group opened a community garden on North Street. Waterville residents can reserve a plot in the garden for a minimum donation of \$10.

Environmental major develops green initiative

By ALLISON EHRENREICH
NEWS EDITOR

Though it was just started in January, the grassroots campaign Sustain Mid-Maine is already making headway in the greening of Waterville.

Created to "conserve our resources, sustain a healthy environment and promote economic prosperity for the Mid-Maine region," Sustain Mid-Maine works to ensure a green future for

Maine, according to the campaign's website.

The group formed in January 2009 following a community conference entitled "The Community Catalyst for Energy Conservation and Sustainability." The three-day affair was designed to "engage area citizens in addressing their energy conservation and sustainability goals," and was put together by the Waterville Sustainability Committee. Over 60 participants—running the gamut from college students and professors to representatives from local businesses and nonprofit groups—developed a proposal and model for Sustain Mid-Maine. All attendees signed off on the vision.

The impetus for this conference, though, has its history a few years in the past. In 2007, several Waterville residents recognized that the town could be doing more to be green. Noting the wealth of knowledge on the Hill, the group approached City Manager Mike Roy '74, suggesting that Waterville hire a student to organize a sustainability committee and to develop an approach toward the greening of Waterville.

Steve Erario '10, an environmental studies major, was their man. "He's the brains of this outfit," Linda Woods, interim coordinator of Sustain Mid-Maine, said of Erario. He began a summer internship in 2007,

funded by an anonymous donor, and the internships have continued every summer since, with a few additional students participating each summer.

Everything came together at the January 2009 conference. The group walked away from the workshop with the fundamental structure for what would become Sustain Mid-Maine. The organization is made up of five teams: Energy, Education, Waste and Recycling, Local Foods and Transportation. Each team focuses on teaching and designing programs specific to their area of concentration.

"Each team has phenomenal accomplishments," Woods said.

The Local Foods group, for example, opened a community garden on North Street on July 12. Waterville residents can reserve a plot for a minimum donation of \$10.

The Transportation team is putting together a map of public transportation routes, park-and-rides—"a place where you can leave your vehicle while you car-pool,"—local hiking trails, and more, according to Woods.

In addition, the team is working with the Kennebec Valley Community Action Program (KVCAP) to bring a regular bus route to the area. They hope that this service will go into effect in 2010.

Perhaps the most exciting project, according to both Woods and Erario, is the Energy team's recent collaboration with the towns of Waterville and Winslow

to draft and submit a grant proposal asking for \$170,000 to help residents weatherize their homes. The money would come from federal funding that was allocated to Maine under the government stimulus package.

"This [grant] is an example of how a volunteer group can really make an impact," Erario said.

"We have, basically, no budget," Woods said, so a grant like

I want to reach out to the people who are either the naysayers [of climate change] or the people who...want to learn more.

Linda Woods

Coordinator, Sustain-Mid Maine

this is key. She is the only paid employee, and she is paid as a part-time worker; her pay comes from the anonymous donor who also funds the summer internships.

Additionally, the campaign draws from its highly talented volunteers for cheap or even free programming. "We kind of beg, borrow and steal anything we can that's free," she said.

This summer's interns put together a survey for Kennebec

County residents, which has provided the group with invaluable information on how actively green households are, and determining what people are interested in learning about.

Woods said that while past projects have been quite remarkable, she still wishes Sustain Mid-Maine was reaching a wider group of people.

"I want to reach out to the people who are either the naysayers [of climate change] or the people who, say, have read a little bit about composting but want to learn more," she said.

Even with its publicity in local newspapers and frequent public events, "we're having a hard time reaching a wider range of people." Right now, she said, "we're preaching to the choir."

Erario, however, sees the light. "The group was only started in January," he said. "It's just been fairly recently that there's been contact with the community."

He has seen progress. For example, after setting up the community garden, Sustain Mid-Maine started receiving phone calls from residents interested in getting more gardens around town, especially in their own communities.

Additionally, Erario has been pleased and proud of the College's involvement with the project. "I just think it's pretty cool how Colby has, in many ways, helped to drive this downtown," he said.

OPINION

EDITORIAL

Looking back on the fall semester

The *Echo* was established in 1877. Theoretically, we have had over a century to get it right. But like most student initiatives, we consider the *Echo* to be a constant work in progress. In turn, we try hard every day to do the best job we can for the College—to provide the best coverage we can for the community we love.

This semester the *Echo* has launched a new student-designed and student-maintained website. Our hope is that the site will help us engage in a more meaningful way with a broader audience, both on and off of the Hill. With so much excellent journalism taking place in an online forum these days, we decided to expand our coverage to include content made specifically for the web. This semester, we added a digital media team to our staff to help make this transition possible. Their videos, which can be seen on our channel at www.vimeo.com/thecolbyecho, are a representation of some of the stories we cover on campus, presented in a new and (hopefully) exciting way.

The launching of our own website and our creation of multimedia content both have no precedent in *Echo* history. Inevitably, our first attempts may not be perfect, yet we are committed to refining both projects each week as we strive to give our readership the best online experience possible. In addition, after the January semester, we will be able to re-launch our online archives, as well as provide readers with an opportunity to subscribe directly from our website.

On a separate note, we would like to take our final editorial space to acknowledge that the *Echo* has had some business problems throughout this first semester, but we have taken important steps to rectify these shortcomings. We are committed to growing as a small business and we will do our best to work with the College and the surrounding community in an efficient and professional manner.

Yet, in order to achieve our goals for this school year, we need your support. If you are looking to give to a cause this year, consider supporting student journalism and purchasing a subscription to the *Echo*. The full-year subscription price is at a discount for the holidays at \$50.

Editor's Note: Happy Holidays! The Echo has finished its printing cycle for the fall semester and will break for January term. We will resume printing again for the spring semester in February. Until then, please check out our blog at www.thecolbyecho.com/blog for updates on news at the College.

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. The *Echo* also 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 emmarzul@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.

ADVERTISING & SUBSCRIPTIONS

For more information on publication dates or advertising rates contact Kira Novak, ad manager, at echoads@colby.edu or (207) 872-5430. To obtain a subscription contact Peter Rummel, business manager, at psrummel@colby.edu.

TOTAL CHAOS

Diversifying *The Colby Echo*

MY TIEN HUYNH



Reporters must be objective and there is no room for subjectivity in news. Every potential journalist has these principles ingrained in his or her mind. The philosophy is flawed, to say the least.

I interned in Lewiston, ME, last summer for the *Lewiston Sun Journal*. Over the past decade, the largely white community has seen its demographics shift due to the surge of Somali immigration into Lewiston. The relationship between these two groups has been dicey at best. Throughout my duration at the paper, the *Journal* reported on two stories concerning the Somali population. One was a preview on the Somali Independence Day Festival and the other was a thoroughly investigated front page news story of an FBI raid of a Somali business that spanned over several days. The front page of the paper showed a picture of an FBI agent, suitcase in hand, questioning a Somali man. Great, I thought, just another reason for the white residents of the city to blame their recent setbacks on these "dishonest" Somalis who aren't "grateful" for the opportunities they're "given" in America. The comment boxes were filled with hostile messages from white residents who couldn't understand why Somalis choose to engage in criminal activity instead of making a greater effort to integrate into the community.

This story became yet another microcosm of how the entire Somali community "must be" in the eyes of the, already resentful, white residents. Yet the story was put on the front page. Another minority face engaged in criminal activity, a white FBI agent present to reclaim justice, a story reported on by a staff of all white journalists—this scenario was getting old. Although the writing may be objective, the kinds of stories a staff reports on, the information one can get from interviews despite a language barrier and a questionable level of trust between a white journalist and a Somali resident (who more often than not is painted negatively in the

paper), and where these kinds of dramatic stories are placed in the paper are subjective.

This example brings me back to Colby College and *The Colby Echo*. I've debated long and hard whether to write this Op-Ed, knowing that the *Echo* staff is likely the most overworked, dedicated and kind group of students on campus. I also didn't want to be the minority student who consistently brings up issues of race and diversity in the paper and I'd rather these issues be brought up by a white student who presumably has "less stake" in the issues. That being said, I feel there are some issues that should not be silenced. America's newsrooms are mainly white and the *Echo* staff is no exception. As reporters, students have complete power as to how other students are portrayed on this campus. We also have the power to decide what and who we choose to report on. The kindness and the silliness of the *Echo* staff put aside, when we report on a news story, we try our best to report on it objectively. That means we put aside our subjectivity, our kindness and our empathy in return for apathy and "getting the facts straight." What we fail to realize is that our objectivity is still based on our upbringing and biases, the people we hang out with, what we're taught objectivity is and what facts we're taught to view as important. In the case of the *Echo*—it is a white, middle to upper class objectivity. It is an objectivity that caused me to feel that I needed to bite my tongue in certain instances.

When we cover important or controversial news events, when does the ongoing debate between right and wrong and which facts to include and which to not, give way to the FACT that human suffering is at stake? Should that not be the focal point? Reporters are often so enthralled in our objectivity that we lose sight of our empathy. In certain stories, my objective voice and the facts I viewed as important differed from the facts highlighted by our news staff or other editors. Can a paper truly be objective when covering sensitive subjects including race or class when the majority of its staff is white and upper class? Future reporters get cues from a disproportionately white media that paints minorities and poor people in a largely negative manner and calls itself "objective."

We learn our objective writing styles from a white academia that has no intentions of vilifying itself.

When covering news, most people don't make a conscious effort to mentally break down who we've chosen to interview, what we chose to quote, our inability to understand that we, as reporters, (especially as privileged or white reporters who will be shaping these stories about students who may not be like us) hold the power to make certain interviewees feel uncomfortable or unable to trust and be fully honest with us.

My opinion about how the *Echo* has handled controversies aside, the *Echo* is still not diverse enough, in class, in race, in religion, in sexual orientation and so forth, to be the voice of students on campus.

Again, I reiterate that I adore the paper and its members and am probably one of its biggest proponents. But our lack of diversity has inevitably bled over into who and what we've chosen to cover. As idealistic as we are about America as a melting pot, the reality is that it is more often comprised of a variety of niches made of people with similarities. At the basic phenotypic level, the majority of our staff is white and are (likely) members of white niches. Thus, it is not a stretch to suggest that members of certain niches know more about the accomplishments of their own members than they do about members of outside niches. This has led to outstanding minority faculty members and students who are artists and musicians or who serve on SGA, SPB, PCB and numerous other campus clubs and organizations who have not been highlighted in the paper this year, except when it was through their own accord.

This article doesn't aim to highlight the negative aspects of the *Echo*. Rather, it urges my favorite club to look at how we can improve ourselves and truly be representative of student news at Colby. It also suggests that it may do the *Echo* good to include different voices in the paper and I urge other students who can bring a unique voice to consider joining the *Echo*. The bottom line is that objectivity is shaped by our education and upbringing, thus we need more than one kind of "objective" voice to truly be "objective" when reporting news.

Eliminating irresponsible spending

ATHUL RAVUNNIARATH



Colby is in the middle of a financial crisis. Our endowment took a fairly strong hit that vaporized a couple of hundred million dollars. And like any other organization, we've cut back, heavily, on both the student and administrative ends. At one end of the spectrum, the construction of the new psychology building, the Robert's Row renovation and other projects have been postponed. On the other end, cutbacks have intimately affected the student life on campus. The night hours of the Health Center were cut, endangering student health, especially with respect to alcohol. Weekend dining at Foss was stopped and there have been complaints about the declining quality of the food served in all dining halls. On a more minute detail, the Student Government treasurer, who allocates funding to *The Colby Echo*, WMHB, Colby Outing Club and just about every other club, promised to underspend the SGA budget in an attempt to reflect the realities of the challenges facing our school. As any club leader on campus knows, a request for a mere one hundred dollars is scrutinized in depth before approval. In some ways, it's all part of the game—we all tighten our belts, skim the fat and get more efficient.

But have we actually done that? Last weekend, after an array of movie screenings that each cost \$1,000+, the Student Programming Board spent close to \$5,000 on prizes for the Bingo night. Prizes ranged from televisions to expensive headphones and ski passes. Now, I understand that the SPB is mandated, constitutionally, to organize alcohol-free campus-wide events and that organizing events costs money. But is the key to organizing fun, successful events bribing students with extravagant gifts? Giving away airline tickets and iPods to the first person shouting BINGO is gluttonous when we have no money to spare. In a convoluted way, the administration is essentially paying students NOT to drink. It is important to keep in mind that Bingo night is just one example and that irrelevant, unnecessary spending is rife across the board, not in any way limited to the SPB.

Now there is an argument in saying that \$5,000 is not enough for anything substantial. But it is important to keep in mind that certain improvements that students have been lobbying for for ages can be achieved by curtailing such frivolous spending. According to research conducted last year, it will cost the school around \$15,000 to keep Pulver Pavilion open 24 hours a day, something many students would like to do. On a recent SGA survey about Pulver Pavilion, a common response was the need for more comfortable couches to make the space homier; something achievable with \$5,000. There is currently a plan to tear down the climbing wall in the field house because Campus Life feels that the cost (\$10,000) to renovate the climbing wall is unaffordable in the current economic climate. With a little over \$5,000, two more treadmills can be added to the gym. Last year, the Colby Outing Club requested a little over \$5,000 to fund its annual spring break trips.

Going to enhance the quality of student life on campus in any way. In fact, I question whether the quality of student life is an institutional priority at Colby. Compared to the Admissions Office (Pre-Colby) and the Alumni Relations Office (Post-Colby), the Office of Campus Life (Now-Colby) seems understaffed and overworked. Nevertheless, there seems to be a lack of strategic long-term financial planning within the administration regarding how the quality of student life should be handled. I think that budgeting for 'Student Life' should be reformed. The SPB constitution should be re-written in order to remove its puritanical mandate to organize non-alcoholic campus-wide events every weekend. It should be allowed to program earlier in the week and the focus should be shifted from chemical-free to the actual quality of the event. It is important to note that SPB is not the only organization responsible for student life and the budgeting should reflect that. I think Campus Life, like the SGA Treasurer Audell Scarlett's Finance Committee, should start to focus on maximizing the fun:money ratio. Campus Life must also reconsider whether certain events should be planned at the cost of student infrastructure development. I urge all student leaders including, but not limited to, the SPB, PCB, CA, COC and SGA to sit down with the administration and discuss how money is spent for Student Life on campus. We as a student body need to prioritize what is more important for [our] 'Student Life.' In essence, we need to take a long look at ourselves and question whether the money spent on our behalf is money wisely spent.

Athul is the President of the International Club and serves on the SGA.

Problems with complacency

SONIA
MAHABIR

We are a complacent generation. We accept things as they are explained to us and we are hesitant to challenge the norm. All the opportunities that we have allow us to be comfortable. Yet we would be lying to ourselves if we honestly said that we believed that everything was fair and we lived in a completely just society. Everywhere you look you will notice discrimination. One of the biggest revelations I've had this semester is that women (as a group) are treated poorly at Colby College and no one cares (hell, no one notices a lot of the time).

Earlier in the semester, I watched one of my friends declare herself a feminist in a room full of people. I saw faces cringe, eyes roll and an occasional smirk. She then continued to ask students to raise her or his hand if they believe in equal rights for men and women—because if she or he did, then that person is a feminist. Feminism is normally associated with negative connotations—hairy legs, overly aggressive crazy women that hate men. But it is a social justice term seeking equality for every gender.

Take a look at the college and you'll become aware of the ridiculous amounts of sexism that exists here. On the weekend, did you attend a party where men are placed in dominant position (pimps, Santa, G.I. Joes) and the women took on subservient roles (hos, Santa's sexy little helpers, Army Hos)? Think of sporting events—men's games are largely advertised and more likely to be attended than women's games, why? Our academics are gendered as well, as men and women are

expected to pursue certain majors and the popular female majors are considered 'soft.'

What about sexual harassment—women are more likely to be harassed, expected to face harassment and then blamed, ignored or accused of lying. In the dining halls and the gym—women more than men are forced to be self-conscious of their appearance. Concerning appearance in general, a female's wardrobe provides more pressure as it can send messages about sexual availability or gender conformity.

And if you want to talk about sexual availability, what about men and women who have a lot of sex? Usually it's the women that are labeled "slut." Negative labels are always placed on women—loud women are thought of as "shrews" and aggressive women are called "bitches."

Language alone has male biases; day-to-day words (such as freshmen) always represent males. Men, how many times has a decision you've made, a response you've had, a way you looked been questioned depending on what time of the month it is? I feel pretty confident saying never. This list can go on forever and when you're dealing with this on a daily basis you really become aware of mistreatment and the overall inequality.

Awareness is the first step in challenging complacency. Women as well as men need to be more observant of the world around us. What stereotypes are we allowing perpetuate? We need to speak out against inequalities and stop settling for "just enough." We also need to get angry when we are denied respect when we address these issues and stop being so complacent. If you are sitting there and thinking a) this occurs everywhere, we can't change it or b) this is bullshit and not true; well then you're BEING COMPLACENT and that's a problem.

The hottest places in Hell

PETIE
BOOTH

One thing is certain: Vandalism is a huge problem in our community. A bench ripped from the concrete, smashed windows and looted vending machines, couches thrust off roofs and balconies and then set aflame—all as typical to a Colby semester as hospitalized first-years and late night fire alarms. You'd think we were protesting the rigged election of our president but, lucky for us, our desire for destruction more likely derives from a combination of boredom and childish privilege than from deep-rooted frustration over political and economic exclusion. But when I read the forlorn and pithy note from the Office of Chaplains in the November 22 Community Civil Discourse regarding members of our community breaking into the chapel and damaging the pipe organ, I really got to thinking; what lies at the heart of Colby's vandalism problem? Is it the psychology of a relatively small percentage of individuals when they are intoxicated? Is it the fact that belligerent collegiate drunkenness is glorified and condoned? Or perhaps the problem really lies in the act of condoning itself. Most people disapprove of observed acts of cruelty or irresponsibility, shaking their heads, throwing looks of disgust or thinking to themselves, "Wow. What a jerk." But is that enough?

Remember when we were in middle school and community first started to really matter? There was "the group" and in it a few people were terribly cruel to one person who was half included, half ostracized. Then there were several others, neither actively mean nor actively nice, who didn't have the courage, energy or incentive to stand up for the ridiculed kid. While socially these dynamics tend to disappear as we grow, the human problem of silent complicity persists. It is an age-old question, first experienced in a very intimate way when we are young: the question of the bystander.

The bystanders of history have sanctioned heart-grIPPING tragedies and while many were in it for their own gain, being complicit was also about survival. If you spoke up, you weren't just replaced at the cafeteria table. You and your family were dead. Heroic? No. Understandable? I think so. Even from the state perspective, ques-

tions of culture, sovereignty, public opinion, tangled objectives and heartless economics can complicate seemingly simple human rights questions. While morally reprehensible, a bystander's role in destructive acts is harder to judge in the real world.

But guess what guys!? We live on a little private college campus where putting on your big kid pants and telling the students drawing penises all over the walls that you are going to call security will have absolutely no repercussions. You might look a little uncool, but you graduated from high school, remember? Our fear is not a legitimate reason to refrain from voicing expectations for our community to friends and peers. We are adults, we are safe, and we need to get over it.

Complacency and disillusionment are also to blame. Yes, we have to pick our battles and I know many "activists" at Colby see individuals breaking windows on the weekends as a lost cause. I understand why people view getting into grad school or raising money for cancer research as a better use of their energy. I just don't think we should be in the habit of allowing destructive acts to happen under our noses, especially when there is no question, even to people who are vandalizing, that they are in the wrong. We all agree that breaking into a place of worship and destroying an instrument is despicable. So why is it so difficult to tell people we disapprove of their actions? What does this mean about our abilities to voice concern over larger issues when we become leaders in business, government, medicine, and education?

I believe peer pressure is incredibly powerful. We shouldn't underestimate our ability to intimidate people with some calm, mature disapproval. If 10 percent of the college (faculty, staff, students, whoever) each wrote one sentence of condemnation on the Civil Discourse after the vandalism of the chapel organ, if Heights residents responded in uproar about the dorm damage they were accruing, if one kid witnessing a couch torching said, "Dude, the whole school pays for this," vandalism would be less pervasive and expensive at Colby College. Dante said, "The hottest places in hell are reserved for those, who in times of great moral crisis, maintain their neutrality." Maybe if individuals take it upon themselves (which, by the way, is the only way anything is ever done) to foster an active and vocal community NOW when it is easy, we will have the strength and energy to create a world community we can be proud of when faced with the truly difficult moral issues of our time.

Au revoir, language requirement

MICHAEL
BROPHY

In theory I get it.

Liberal arts colleges like Colby pride themselves on producing well-rounded, well-versed human beings. With that aim in mind, it makes perfect sense for students to study a foreign language; it broadens their horizons by giving them an insight into another culture, while simultaneously providing them with a whole new perspective on the structure of their native English.

Maybe there's a student out there who initially had no desire to study a foreign language at Colby, but, thanks to the language requirement, discovered a rich fountain of joy and knowledge in their first three semesters in whichever department he or she chose.

I haven't met that student yet.

By no means am I suggesting that there isn't any value in studying a foreign language. I would like to argue by using myself as a prime example, however, that language is not for everyone, and for some students, the three semesters needed to fulfill the language requirement is not the most constructive or rewarding use of their short time on the Hill.

In general, I like the distribution requirements. I think it encourages intellectual diversity and curiosity. The problem with the language requirement, however, is that students are offered very few ways to fulfill it. Other requirements offer students all sorts of different options, while the only way to fulfill a language requirement, aside from placing out, is to take 125, 126 and 127. For example,

if a student is not interested in an intense science experience, that student can take more pedestrian class like Chemistry for Citizens. The foreign language requirement doesn't offer that sort of flexibility, however. Where is French for Closed-Minded Americans? I want that class!

To get into Colby, or any other school of comparable academic rigor, applicants are strongly encouraged (i.e. required) to have completed at least three years of a foreign language in high school. For me, the four years of French and two years of Latin that I took before coming to Colby was more evidence

My point is, this is a great school and there is a broad curriculum. If I had an extra couple hundred grand and a few more satisfactory/unsatisfactory credits lying around I'd stay a few more years. But I don't, so why can't students like me, who have already decided that they are not interested in studying a foreign language, foster their intellectual curiosity in three different classes of their choosing, instead of the three semesters of a foreign language required by the distribution requirement.

In all fairness, I will admit that I am fervently biased on this subject. Foreign

languages have never come easily to anyone in my family. My older brother, who is an otherwise very intelligent young man, took Spanish 1 four times (God bless his perseverance). I myself am currently limping through my last weeks of French 127. Once this class is over (oh Lord, I hope my Professor doesn't read this until JanPlan), I will sincerely try my best not to speak French again.

To me, forcing students to suffer through something they dislike so strongly to the point that they develop a closed-mindedness as stubborn as my own is not what the liberal arts collegiate experience is about.

Maybe that's not what this is about, though. Maybe my journey through French will teach me some invaluable lesson about life that is well worth the damper this class has put on my spirits and my GPA and I've just been too thick-headed to figure that lesson out yet.

Maybe I should've studied a little harder for that placement exam. C'est la vie.



than I ever could have wanted that the study of other languages was neither my passion nor my forte.

Nevertheless, I find myself again unwillingly immersed in the French language for four days every week. For Pete's sake, put a fork in me, I'm done! I think we've all figured out that I am no good at this language. I definitely am past the point where I derive any sort of pleasure from my French studies and if I can't even order a Big Mac in Quebec without the cashier letting me know, "it's ok, we can speak English," then I would confidently classify any future career paths that involve me interacting with any Frenchman (or woman) on their terms as "unwise."

Today's national economic problems

RALPH
KETTEL

The Obama administration finally received some positive news on the economy last week. Though the unemployment rate remains at a 25-year high, the number of job losses in November slowed to just 11,000 nationwide. This represents a sharp drop from earlier this year, when the ranks of the unemployed rose by hundreds of thousands of people each month.

Nonetheless, Americans have grown increasingly frustrated with the nation's economic situation and have begun to train their fire on Washington. Obama's approval rating has dropped below 50 percent and support for his legislative agenda has been in freefall. When Obama was sworn in, it appeared likely that health care reform would pass without serious resistance and that a bill would earn the support of a majority of the American people. Unfortunately for Democrats, support for their health care plan among the public has collapsed. A poll released earlier this week by Ipsos/McClatchy shows that just 34 percent of Americans are in favor of "the health care reform proposals presently being discussed." In all likelihood, a health care bill will still pass, but only because it would be political suicide for Democrats to do nothing.

A major factor in the declining support for health care reform and Obama's agenda as a whole is the extraordinarily poor performance of the economy.

Americans have simply lost confidence in the ability of Democrats to effectively govern.

When the \$787 billion stimulus package was proposed in February, Obama's

advisers promised that unemployment would not top eight percent if the bill was signed into law.

In an ironic twist, the unemployment rate has risen above 10 percent, but the administration is still hailing the stimulus package as a great success. Obama claims that the stimulus package has resulted in 640,000 jobs being "saved" or created. Even if we take a big leap of faith and accept these numbers as true, this is hardly something Obama should be proud of. Since his inauguration, the unemployment rate has risen by more than 30 percent and the ranks of the unemployed have swelled by 3.7 million. At the same time, the projected budget deficit for the coming year has risen to an astounding \$1.4 trillion. It is no wonder that the American people have lost confidence in Obama and congressional Democrats.

Here is the real kicker, though. Obama, in a speech earlier this week, proposed the passage of a new "jobs bill." Using unexpected savings from the TARP program (i.e. the financial industry bailout) the president proposed that Congress approve nearly \$200 billion in new spending to help boost the economy. The remarkable thing about Obama's proposal is that only 20 percent of the current stimulus package has been spent so far. How does it make any sense to have another stimulus program when most of the money from the first stimulus package has not even been doled out yet? Sadly, the answer lies in the stupidity of our elected officials. In their minds, all of the nation's economic problems can be solved by massive increases in spending. The stimulus package has clearly been wasteful and ineffective and yet congressional Democrats want more of the same. These Democrats insist that we need to spend more on infrastructure, but of course they conveniently fail to point out that only three percent of the original \$787 billion stimulus package was allocated for such infrastructure projects.

As Americans have grown increasingly uneasy about exploding budget deficits, Obama has stated that he will fight hard to restore fiscal discipline in Washington. Like many of his promises on the campaign trail last fall, this pledge is nothing more than lip service. When the federal government unexpectedly recovered \$200 billion from the TARP program, Obama could have shown his commitment to fiscal discipline by setting these funds aside to pay down the deficit. He has, instead, decided to reallocate that money to pay for a "jobs bill" that promises little in the way of helping the economy. In nine months, the government has only spent 20 percent of the \$787 billion stimulus package, so why should the American public believe the funds for this new "jobs bill" would be distributed any quicker?

The young people of this country need to take a stand against all this wasteful spending! For years, we heard Democrats rail against massive budget deficits accrued under President George W. Bush, but now as even larger budget deficits threaten the future fiscal solvency of our nation, these same people say nothing. In his eight years as president, Bush ran an average budget deficit of around \$400 billion. Assuming he is re-elected to a second term, the Congressional Budget Office projects that the average annual budget deficit during Obama's presidency would be \$725 billion. What Bush did was unacceptable and what Obama is doing is worse. This country is accruing debt at a pace unseen before in world history. By the final year of Obama's second term, the federal government will be spending \$640 billion annually just to pay the interest on the national debt. Unless this reckless fiscal situation is addressed soon, the young people of this country will be left footing the bill. We will never see a dime from the Social Security system and we will be stuck with massive tax increases.

FEATURES

JanPlan tips for first-years



A student falls on the ice trying to prevent a goal during a particularly intense broomball match.

By COURTNEY YEAGER
and RACHEL GOFF
FEATURES EDITOR AND ASSISTANT
FEATURES EDITOR

While it's tempting to wake up, trek to class and crawl back into your cozy bed by noon every day during JanPlan, students on the Hill never let the lack of daylight hours get them down during this month of leisurely fun. If you find yourself going slightly stir-crazy during the upcoming month, here are a few things to keep you occupied.

iPlay Broomball

When the fields are covered in snow, iPlay moves indoors to the hockey rink. Get your friends together and start a broomball team. Broomball is essentially hockey without skates, and if you are worried that you have no experience or athletic ability, take comfort in the fact that no one does. All you need is a positive attitude and the ability to laugh at yourself when you fall on your butt on the ice.

Skiing and Snowshoeing

Have you ever explored the arboretum on campus? Did you even know that Colby has an arboretum? The area beyond Runnals Field is beautiful in the wintertime, and boasts many trails for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Stop by the Outing Club office during office hours

(Monday-Thursday from 7-8 p.m.), pay \$20 to become a member, and enjoy unlimited access to cross-country skis and snow shoes. You can also rent ice skates and go skating on Johnson Pond or get a group of friends together for a game of pond hockey (but wait for the school to announce that the ice is thick enough!).

Invite Your Friends

JanPlan requires you to be back on campus long before the rest of your friends from home, but instead of being jealous of their extended winter breaks, take advantage of this great opportunity to have your friends come visit you! Your workload won't be as heavy as it is during a normal semester, so you'll have plenty of time to bring them around campus, venture into the surrounding area,

and show off your ability to withstand below freezing temperatures and heavy amounts of snowfall.

Visit Freeport

Freeport is a fun, nearby destination for a weekend day trip, as it is only an hour away and boasts many restaurants and outlet stores. Spend the morning checking out Patagonia, Ralph Lauren and Mexicali Blues, then head to Gritty McDuff's Brew Pub for some comfort food and homebrewed ale (or delicious homebrewed root beer for the under-21 set). It is also important to note that the Freeport L.L.Bean is open 24 hours...spontaneous 2 a.m. trip, anyone?

Inspirations Workshops

Want to learn how to cook Chinese food, juggle or ballroom

dance? JanPlan Inspiration workshops offer the perfect way for you to explore new hobbies while you're not bogged down with homework. Sign-ups are going on now outside the Campus Life Office, but you'd better hurry...positions are limited and they fill up fast. Most classes are free, but it's hard to complain paying \$10 for a cooking class when it's all-you-can-eat-and-carry-back-to-your-dorm. Inspirations are a great way to meet people that share your interests, and you're bound to bond even if it's only about how terrible you are at your new skills.

Sledding

Although the weather outside may be frightful in January, students at the College make the most of it. Sledding down Chapel Hill is a must-have winter experience. It's free, fun and the best part is you don't have to buy a real sled to do it. Grab a bunch of friends and race each other to the bottom. If the competition really heats up, relocate to the lawn in front of Averill to have a snowball fight with intricately designed forts—please, we're in college.

Movies and Food

If you're looking forward to an afternoon wrapped up in a stylish Snuggie with a cup of hot cocoa, don't forget to check out Miller's movie collection. It contains everything from seasons of *Sex and the City* to *The Godfather*, so there is something for everyone if you want to have a movie-marathon on a day off. Don't forget to stock up on popcorn, soups and tea packets in town. And if you're still being asked by Grandma what you want for this holiday season, an electric water kettle will definitely help you make it through the days when it's -10°F.

If you're feeling overwhelmed about your first winter in Maine, don't worry about it! JanPlan is a much-deserved break between the stress of semesters, and you can kick back and meet some great new people. And once it gets so cold, you really can't even tell the difference between -15°F and -25°F!



Cross-country skiing is great exercise during the winter months.

Life after college: the struggle to find health insurance in a troubled economy

By RACHEL GOFF
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

Many students in college speak of a "bubble" that shelters them from the harsh realities of the outside world. One of these realities is the state of the American health care system.

Upon graduating, young adults enter the real world—no longer covered by their parents' health insurance. Because of this, recent graduates become involved in the health care system when they are forced to seek coverage elsewhere, with varying degrees of success.

For Jamie Warner '09, health insurance played a major role in her post-college plans. "I didn't even consider jobs that didn't offer solid health care plans," she says. She is currently working for a research company called Forrester Research and is covered under a Blue Cross Blue Shield plan with great benefits, including dental and vision.

Warner acknowledges that she is very fortunate to have good health insurance, or even any health insurance at all. She was "definitely worried" about finding adequate coverage after graduating. "I probably would have

gone to grad school immediately if I couldn't get a job because I can stay on my parents' insurance as long as I'm in a school program," she says.

A major reason recent college graduates are anxious about health insurance is because many of them cannot find jobs due to the economic recession. Chris Van Alstyne '09 is still covered under his parents' health insurance, which is good, he says, because "like many members of the Class of '09, I still don't have a real job, just an internship." His internship does not provide health insurance.

Sarah Stevens '09 parents' health insurance did not cover her after she graduated, so she purchased a cheap short-term plan with an incredibly high deductible while maintaining a summer job. She is now working as an environmental educator at the Institute for Applied Ecology in Oregon, which offers a health insurance plan through AmeriCorps.

"It was great to be able to cancel my short-term plan," Stevens says. "I suppose I'm satisfied with the coverage....To be honest I haven't made a single claim on it yet, so I haven't really looked into the details," she says. "Fingers crossed to remain

healthy."

This seems to be the mindset of many college graduates, who don't have to deal with the difficulties of navigating the American health care system because they are in good health. Stevens says that while the health insurance issue is "definitely something that I consider to be important," her good health has allowed her to remain somewhat distanced from the current national debate, and she admits to living in sort of a "bubble."

Jeff Ruhl '09, who will still be covered under his parents' plan until the end of 2010, shares similar sentiments. "I am pretty unconnected at this time, and I don't know a whole lot about the debate."

Van Alstyne acknowledges the unfortunate reality that "for those with health care, few are happy with the treatment they receive and the high premiums they must pay." The time may come when even healthy young adults will need to make a claim, and their experience will most likely be a frustrating one.

While not all recent graduates support the universal health care plan backed by the Obama administration, many recognize that something needs to be done

to fix the current system. "I'm not sure the current plan being proposed is actionable," Warner says, "but I'm positive changes need to be made." She stresses the upsetting truth that "in the current economic climate, many people do not have access to basic health care."

Van Alstyne reiterates this point. "I believe everyone should have the right to health care, regardless of race, sex, age, pre-existing conditions or current employment status," he says. He is strongly in favor of Obama's universal health care plan because "people shouldn't be denied care because they are already sick or too poor to afford the treatment they need. No one should live in fear of bankruptcy due to unexpected medical emergencies."

Van Alstyne and other recent college graduates feel strongly about this issue, because "as a society, we should build a health care system that prioritizes our health and well-being, not the profits and dividends given to the insurance industry and their wall-street investors," he says. "When we go to a hospital, the first question asked shouldn't be 'What provider do you have?', but rather 'What can we do to help?'"

ALUM PROFILE: TIM CHRISTENSEN '91

Potter embraces the natural beauty of Maine

By COURTNEY YEAGER
FEATURES EDITOR

As a South Berwick, Maine native, Tim Christensen '91 always intended to remain immersed in the beauty of his home state throughout college.

"Colby, Bowdoin and Bates were the three really good schools in the state...but Colby had more of the qualities [that come with] living in Maine that I liked," Christensen says. His love for the outdoors not only influenced his college decision, but also lured him back to Maine in his post-college years, where he maintains a permanent residence.

Before beginning his first year on the Hill, Christensen was unsure about his academic trajectory. He enjoyed forestry and journalism and hoped to study them at Colby, but neither subject is offered as a major at the College. At one point he aspired to be a fishing guide, and was an avid member of the Colby Fishing Club. Ultimately, however, he decided to embrace his creative side instead.

Christensen became an English major, with a concentration in creative writing. He cites Zacamy Professor of English Peter Harris and Professor of English Jenny Boylan as people who greatly influenced his academic career.

"Jenny Boylan was my advisor for an independent study I did...I [completed] creative writing assignments across the country and I sent them through the mail," Christensen explains. During his semester away from campus, Boylan "really helped me a lot," Christensen says. "I remained registered [at Colby] and Jenny sponsored my program."

Following his graduation from the Hill, Christensen worked at

paint to reveal the white surface of the ceramic structure. "I have galleries all over New England that carry my work," Christensen says, but he also travels across the country to present showings of his pottery.

Living in the tranquility of Roque Bluffs, Maine, a town with a population of 250 "almost up where the Canadian border meets the coast of Maine," inspires Christensen artistically. "I'm making things that are describing the world around me," Christensen says. "I live in the middle of the woods and by the ocean," two elements of nature that inspire his work immensely. His artwork often depicts animals such as birds and fish, which are the primary foci of broader, more intricate designs that epitomize his work.

In addition to his successful

I have galleries all over New England that carry my work....I'm making things that are describing the world around me.

Tim Christensen
Class of 1991

career as an artist, Christensen and his girlfriend, Jenna, have recently finished building their own house in Roque Bluffs. "When we moved up here we had 11 acres, and [Jenna] really wanted a farm...We built the house last year and put in some gardens," Christensen says.

Although their farm only currently consists of chickens and ducks, they expect to acquire donkeys and sheep within the next year. The duo also plans to increase the size and quantity of their gardens in order for their land to start turning more of a profit. "In the next couple of years, [the farm] is going to end up being a pretty large part of our income," Christensen says.

Even as he works to develop a successful farm, Christensen has no intentions of abandoning his artwork. As it turns out, artistic ability runs in his family: Christensen's mother was an art teacher. Art influenced Christensen from a young age,



Tim Christensen's '91 black-and-white pottery often incorporates aspects of his northern Maine surroundings, including fish and birds.

Sugarloaf during the winter months, continuing a tradition that he began when coming to the College. "I also had a house painting company that I started in high school...I did that during the warmer months." After following this employment pattern for three years, Christensen decided to try his hand in the corporate world. He worked at the Little, Brown and Company publishing house in Boston before realizing his true passion: pottery.

Christensen employs the sgraffito technique when creating pottery, a method that entails scratching drawings into black

but he did not take any art classes at the College. "I never got into any art classes because I never got my course selection sheet in on-time," he admits, although he was able to enroll in a photo class for one of his JanPlans.

Christensen is grateful that he dabbled in various different fields before settling into his career as a potter, which proves to be frustrating at times. "I don't think I was ready to be an artist when I was younger. I had a lot of lessons to learn about how to work hard and how to stick with things. Now I apply [those lessons] all the time."

DECEMBER BACHELOR AND BACHELORETTE: DASH WASSERMAN '12 & ANIKA LINDEMANN '12

WHO'S WHO: COLLIN JENKINS '11

From Colby to the army

Mr. and Mrs. December

Happy Holidays

Dash Wasserman '12

He's the best thing to come out of New Orleans since Lil' Wayne. Dash Wasserman, a self-proclaimed "southern gentleman" and ex-vegetarian, is an artistic guy and also a safety hazard. When he's not downloading music illegally or watching *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*, he can be found searching for his dream girl in the Waterville Wal-Mart. Lucky for you ladies, he hasn't found her yet, but if you're a haunted shell of a girl, give him a shout at dnwasser@colby.edu.

Better catch him quick, though. He lives life in the fast lane, goes 95 on the 95, and has only one aspiration—to make it

to graduation. Some of his faults include being too caring, being too passionate and spurning the helpful hands of friends. When not theorizing about the meaning of his life, Dash can be found trying to sweet talk you in one of the four languages he has half-taken a class in, just to woo your heart.

Bumper sticker of choice: "New Orleans: Proud to swim home"

Title of his biography: *This is Why We Can't Go to Nice Places: The Dash Wasserman Story*

Fun fact: "You don't know me. You don't know my struggle. You don't know where I've been or what I've seen."

Written by Anika Lindemann

Anika Lindemann '12

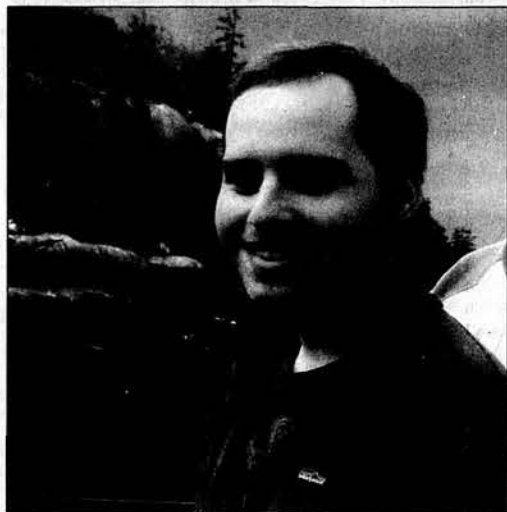
Hailing from modest beginnings in the suburban town of Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ, Anika Lindemann exemplifies the other average Colby student—she's from Colby's "third home" (meaning: she's that girl from Jersey). But what could be modest about an almost seven-foot tall heartbreaker from just outside of NYC? Unless you're something special, you might lose her attention to a mirror. But don't kid yourself, she's "hopelessly desperate" as the day is young (please e-mail ajlindem@colby.edu for her number). A Physics, Economics and Mathematics triple threat, Anika knows how to hold her own with over a decade of experience in Tae Kwan Do.

But what is she looking for in a man? Blond, dimply, sarcastic and somewhat of an athlete. This Nordic beauty most importantly wants a man who relishes—nay, cherishes—her home state. Rewards include Martha Stewart-like kitchen savvy and overbearing maternal instincts. Bored with Foss' desserts? She's the McGyver of the kitchen. Let her whip you up an apple streusel from a cookie, a toothpick and a dream.

What's the most number of doughnuts you've had in one sitting? Eight Boston Cream

What would you name your first born child? Princess Diana "Lady Di" Lindemann (regardless of gender)

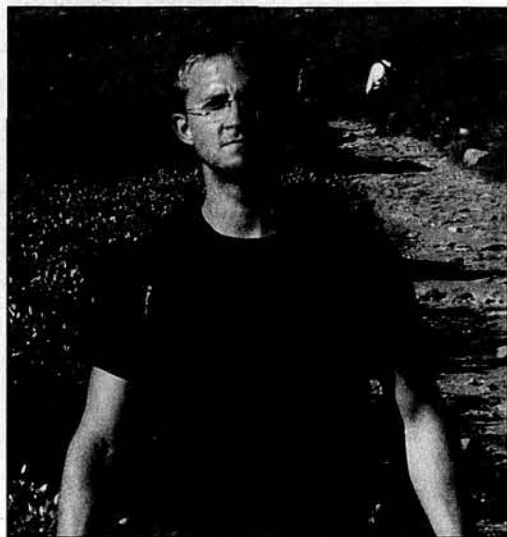
Written by Dash Wasserman



New Orleans native Dash Wasserman '12 has attempted fluency in four different languages in an effort to woo women.



Anika Lindemann '12 is looking for a man who will understand her Jersey pride and appreciate her innovative cooking.



Collin Jenkins '11 is in ROTC and teaches Arabic to students on campus.

By RACHEL GOFF
ASSISTANT FEATURES EDITOR

"Joining the military is a life experience; you learn a lot about the world and about yourself," Collin Jenkins '11, a member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), says.

Jenkins' plan to join the military reflects not only a family tradition—his dad and brother were in the army—but also a genuine interest in politics and the Middle East. He can see himself working for the State Department one day, or another career where he can utilize the knowledge of the Arabic language that he developed while taking summer classes at Georgetown University and studying abroad in Oman last spring.

Jenkins, a native of Alexandria, Va., admits that, like so many Americans, all he really knew about the Middle East was what he had seen on the news prior to spending a semester abroad. He says that Oman is "very traditional and very conservative," explaining that he wasn't even allowed inside the main part of his host family's house because he was not supposed to see the women. "But at the same time," he explains, the people in Oman were "very tolerant" and accepting of his Western appearance and views.

Jenkins is currently an international studies major, but he plans to design an independent major in Middle Eastern studies. He is president of the Arabic Language & Culture Club on campus, and spends one night a week teaching Arabic with Tommy Tessier '10 to any students on campus who are interested in learning the language.

While Jenkins admits that he was initially "a little worried about attendance," a surprising number of students frequent these weekly lessons for which they receive no academic recog-

nitition, despite Jenkins' best efforts to make the class count for one academic credit. Nevertheless, "my goal is to have every new student [in my class] learn the alphabet," he says.

"Whether you agree with the wars or not," Jenkins says, "knowing Arabic is important... and it is a great career tool to get a job." He believes that knowledge of a language is essential to understanding a culture, citing the possible implications of the fact that Arabic "doesn't even have a verb for 'to be.'"

In the future, Jenkins hopes to publicize and expand the Arabic Language & Culture Club, "so that people know we're there," adding that he didn't even know the club existed when he first came to the College. "My ultimate goal is to get an Arabic department," Jenkins says, but he knows it will be at least a couple years before this idea can be fully addressed by administration.

On campus, Jenkins is also an athletic trainer assistant, a certified emergency medical technician and a member of Colby Emergency Response. He finds learning how to treat and prevent injuries interesting and helpful, as he maintains an extremely active lifestyle by training with ROTC and rock climbing as much as possible. He admits that he hasn't been climbing much lately because the ROTC program is particularly demanding during his junior year.

After graduating and joining the army, "I really want to fly helicopters," Jenkins says, "but I feel like I should do something where I can use my Arabic." As for life after the army, he is keeping an open mind. "The army can be a stepping stone to joining something else....I just don't know what that is yet."

these expose the need to address the implications of scientific progress and determine if there are boundaries that science should not cross. While any clinical application of this study on mem-

ory enhancement is not yet feasible, Zhong and his colleagues have provided biological proof behind the common wisdom that cramming is less effective than spacing out study sessions.

ECHOSCI

Why cramming for exams won't get you an A

By BEN KEYSER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

All students on the Hill have heard that cramming for exams is not an effective study method. Instead, professors encourage them to study for tests over a long period of time in order to effectively master course material. But what is the basis for this advice?

The answer lies in the spacing effect, a common phenomenon in the animal kingdom. The spacing effect is defined as increased memory formation caused by repeated training sessions spaced over time in comparison with an equal number of training sessions all at once. Psychological hypotheses attempting to explain the spacing effect have been proposed, but until recently no molecular basis for the phenomenon has been determined.

A study recently published in *Cell* by Yi Zhong and his colleagues has started to unravel the molecular mechanism underlying the spacing effect. Their work started with the search for a gene involved in memory formation.

In order to find this gene, the researchers used fruit flies as their model organism. Fruit flies

are often used in genetics research since they are easily bred and mutated in the lab, and have many genes that are the same or closely related to humans. Therefore, studies using fruit flies are applicable to humans but do not raise the ethical dilemmas associated with studies on humans themselves.

Zhong and his colleagues used fruit flies that exhibited symptoms of Noonan Syndrome (NS), a disorder that causes learning disabilities and decreased memory formation in humans. In these flies, they determined that NS was caused by a mutation in the corkscrew gene that prevents the production of the normal Corkscrew (CSW) protein. Thus, they focused on the CSW protein and its role in the spacing effect.

To understand CSW's role in memory formation, the researchers mutated the CSW gene and tested the memory of these mutant flies using an odor electric shock association technique. This technique involves the presentation of two distinct odors where only one odor is paired with an electric shock. Trained avoidance of the odor paired with the shock is measured.

Based on these experiments, the biologists concluded that a

mutation decreased 24-hour memory in the flies, while high levels of the normal CSW protein increased 24-hour memory. This 24-hour memory was identified to be long-term memory (LTM) in the life-span of a fly.

Furthermore, they determined that this constantly active CSW protein adversely affected the formation of long-term memory in the flies by altering the Ras/mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK) signaling pathway, a pathway previously implicated in memory formation. The switching on and off of MAPK activity is directly involved in LTM formation.

In summary, the study concluded that the Corkscrew protein is a key regulator of MAPK activity, which in turn dictates the necessary rest intervals between training sessions to achieve LTM formation.

But you may be wondering, how is this information relevant to me? It turns out that the MAPK pathway seems to be strikingly similar in fruit flies and humans. Moreover, humans have their own version of the corkscrew gene.

By uncovering the CSW protein's role in memory formation, this study provides a glimpse into the molecular basis behind how we form memories and the way we learn, specifically in the context of the spacing effect.

Furthermore, if it is possible to decrease the MAPK rest intervals in humans, then cramming for an exam should become more effective. Shorter breaks between study sessions will still produce long-term memory.

In the future, instead of stu-

dents drinking coffee and energy drinks to stay awake and cram for a test, a new supplement could potentially be available that decreases MAPK resting periods.

With further analysis of the spacing effect, researchers may determine ways to drastically improve people's long-term memory formation. However, the potential to enhance people's memory raises ethical questions. Should memory enhancement be socially or morally acceptable? After memory augmentation are you still the same person as you were before? If memory enhancement gives individuals an advantage in their respective fields, then will it put pressure on colleagues to also take memory-enhancing supplements until it becomes integral to success in the workplace?

Controversial questions like



FORUM

WEDNESDAY

First So No Harm: Reflections on the Israel-Palestinian Conflict

Diamond 142 — Ostrove Auditorium
6 p.m.

The final lecture by Colby's 2009 Oak Institute for Human Rights Fellow, Hadas Ziv, Executive Director, Physicians for Human Rights-Israel.

Debate

Roberts — Robins Room
7 p.m.

THURSDAY

A Watershed Analysis of Salmon Lake & McGrath Pond at the Oakland Middle School Cafeteria

Cafeteria, Oakland Middle School
6:30 p.m.

Colby students will present the findings of their studies of Salmon Lake (Belgrade, ME) and McGrath Pond (Oakland, ME).

Men's Basketball vs. Endicott

Alfond Athletic Center — Wadsworth Gymnasium
7 p.m.

Arabic Language & Culture Club

Lovejoy 202
8 p.m.

FRIDAY

Sauerkraut!

AMS — Anthony Party Space
3 p.m.

The Colby Organic Farmers are making sauerkraut! Basically, we'll get the cabbage ready (i.e. chop chop), let those lactic acid bacteria work their wonders for a few months, and revisit it post-JanPlan when it's irresistibly tangy.

International Coffee Hour

Mary Low — Coffeehouse
4:30 p.m.

SPB Film Series:

How the Grinch Stole Christmas

Arey 005
9:30 p.m.

Loudness Event:

One Dance, Two Dance, Red Dance, Blue Dance!

Cotter Union — Page Commons
10 p.m.

Men's Ice Hockey vs. Bowdoin

Alfond Athletic Center — Hockey Rink
7 p.m.

SATURDAY

Loudness Event:

Cookie Decorating

Cotter Union — Fireside Lounge
1 p.m.

SPB Film Series:

How the Grinch Stole Christmas

Arey 005
9:30 p.m.

Loudness Event:

Super Mash Bros. Concert

Cotter Union — Page Commons
9:30 p.m.

Dick Fink & Nicolas Fernmore have taken the world by storm as the innovative mash-up group Super Mash Bros! Colby's own DJ aYo and John DeAscentis will be opening. Tickets are \$5 all week in Cotter Union. 21+ Bring ID.

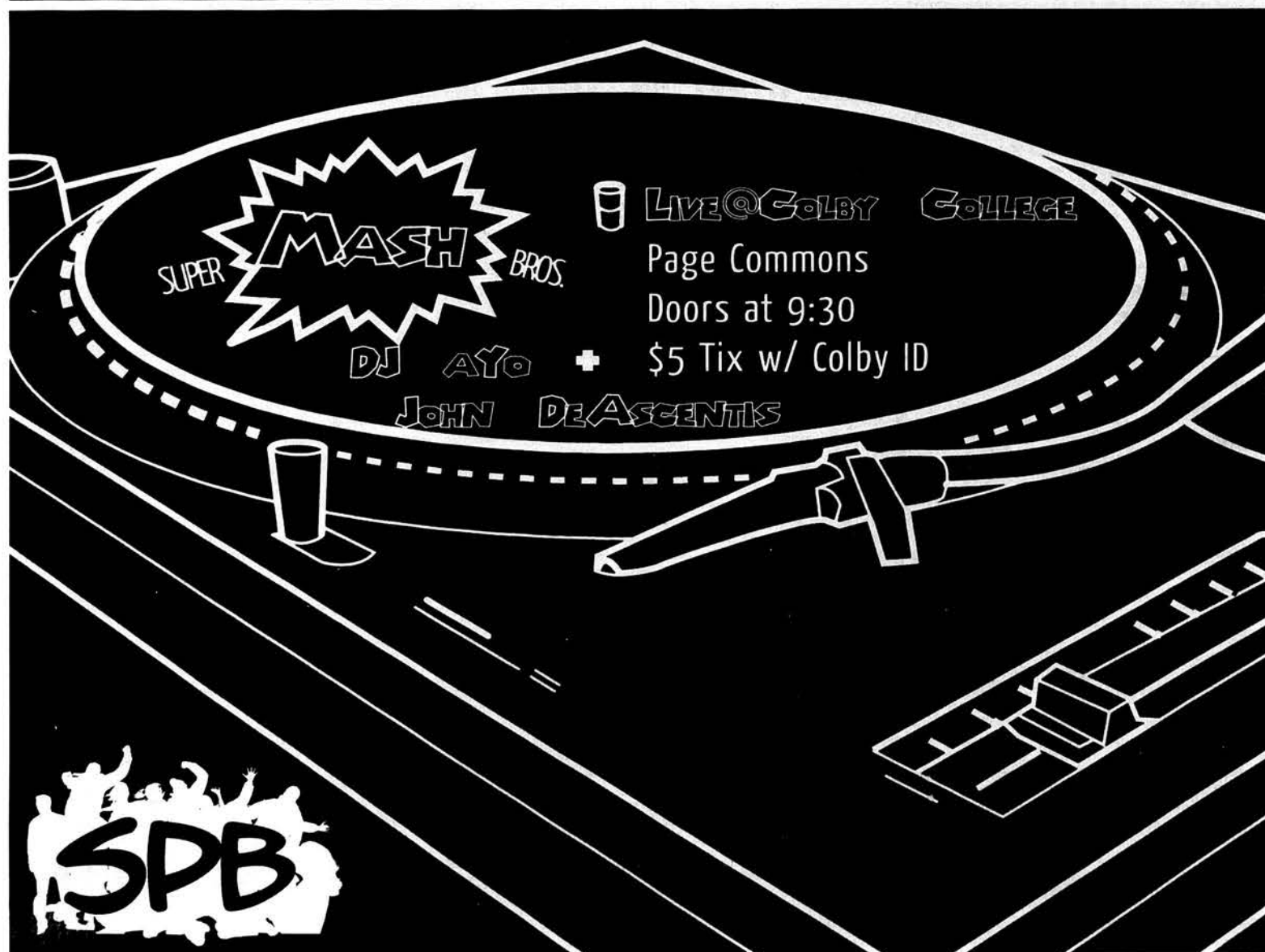
Women's Ice Hockey vs. UMass-Boston

Alfond Athletic Center — Hockey Rink
7 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. Bowdoin

Alfond Athletic Center — Wadsworth Gymnasium
7 p.m.

**HAVE A GOOD LOUDNESS
AND BEST OF LUCK ON EXAMS!**



This week online

WWW.THECOLBYECHO.COM/BLOG

THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION

Broomball season has arrived.

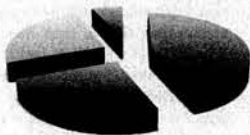
YOUR OPTIONS

A. Heck, yeah!

B. I've been practicing ALL year.

C. I hate winter. Period.

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS



THE QUESTION

HOW HAS THE COLLEGE HANDLED THE OUTBREAK OF INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESSES THIS SEASON?

THE BREAK DOWN

A. IT HAS DONE A DECENT JOB OF PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF SICKNESSES ON CAMPUS...44%

B. ITS PRACTICES HAVE NOT BEEN EFFECTIVE...25%


C. REGARDLESS OF CAMPUS EFFORTS, THE SPREAD IS INEVITABLE...25%

D. "DINK, DINK! - TAKE LIFE! I'M IN QUARANTINE"...6%

LATE NIGHT IN THE LIBRARY


BREAKING NEWS EDITION: THE LOUDNESS THEME FOR THIS SEMESTER IS "HORTON HEARS A LOUDNESS"

What sounds will you hear this Loudness?




"Elephant moans."

— Dan Covert '13 & Alex Dilley '13




"NO. MEANS. NO."

— Emily Milton '11 & Mike Wismer '12



"Zippers..."


— Hannah DeAngelis '12 & Jenny Stephens '12



"My bed squeaking..."

— Anika Lindemann '12 (Bachelorette of the Month)


THIS WEEK'S FORECAST



Partly Cloudy

HIGH 38 LOW 19

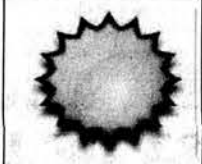
THURSDAY



Partly Cloudy

HIGH 28 LOW 14


FRIDAY



Mostly Sunny

HIGH 30 LOW 14

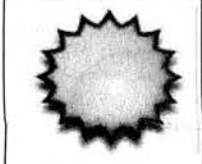
SATURDAY



Partly Cloudy

HIGH 32 LOW 14


SUNDAY



Mostly Sunny

HIGH 27 LOW 14

MONDAY



Partly Cloudy

HIGH 28 LOW 15

TUESDAY

www.weather.com

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

WMHB DJs of the month



Day and time show airs
Sundays? 10am-12pm

Name of your show?
The Best You Ever Had

A little about the show?
RC: We play a lot of lesser known new rap and hip-hop. We mix in some reggae and older tracks to make a nice blend of music.

NL: I'd like to think we play a wide variety of equally interesting and culturally diverse music.

Best music to listen to before heading out on the weekend?

RC: Something loud with good rhythm. Maybe some Passion Pit followed by K'naan.

NL: These days, some dancehall or 90s g-funk hip hop.

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

RC: "The Blood of the Cu Chulainn" by Mychael and Jeff Danna.

NL: "Death Around the Corner" by 2pac.

Best music for a road trip?

RC: Has to be a blend between longer grinding music like The Arcade Fire and Ratatat, and loud upbeat music such as "This Way" by Dilated People and "Nosebleed Section" by Hilltop Hoods.

NL: Probably a lot of reggae, mixed with rap and Bob Dylan.

Song you're singing in the shower?

RC: "If Rap Gets Jealous" by K'naan off the Troubadour album. Or anything of Mike Posner's, specifically "Drug Dealer Girl" and "Still Not Over You."

NL: It's different every day, but this morning it was "Let's Get it On" by Marvin Gaye.

Best album for a rainy day?

RC: Kid Cudi, "Man On The Moon."

NL: Good choice, Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, "Creepin On Ah Come Up" or "E 1999 Eternal."

Favorite album?

RC: I can't pick out just one favorite but a good one is Ky-Mani Marley's "Radio."

NL: Same here, but maybe Bob Marley's "Greatest Hits," The Red Hot Chili Peppers'

greatest hits, or 2pac's "All Eyez on Me."

Least favorite album?

RC: I'm not a fan of much metal music, but I can't pick out any one particular album.

NL: Too many options. I can't think of any particular album. Maybe some Gregorian Chant?

Music you listen to instead of doing work?

RC: Definitely some Passion Pit and Matt and Kim

NL: Looking at the songs I played most in my Recently Played music, "My Mind's Playing Tricks on Me" by the Geto Boys is well-represented.

Best album after a break up?

RC: "Funeral" by The Arcade Fire.

NL: A compilation of classics like Bob Marley's "Redemption Song," Hank Williams' "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry" and "Do For Love" by Tupac Shakur.

If you created your own album what would you call it?

RC: The Beginnings, but this isn't going to happen.

NL: It'd be a mixtape of other peoples' music under the name Alabaster Jones.

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

RC: It's a short list... NL: Second that. I'm always in the mood for music, so if I'm not playing music I'm probably doing homework or studying. Music makes basically everything better.

Pre-1990s singer/group you would bring back?

RC: Mozart.

NL: Definitely Bob Marley.

What is your DJ style?

RC: I put a lot of thought into the transition from one song to another and am conscious of the overall flow. On the air, I'm pretty direct: I let you know what you're listening to with little extra chit chat; I'd rather listen to the music too.

NL: We have fun with it, but we keep the music going. It's a great selection of tracks to get going on a Sunday morning.

Super Mash Bros. set to perform

By SARAH LYON
NEWS STAFF

What do you get when you take No Doubt's "I'm Just a Girl," mix it with John Mellencamp's "Jack and Diane" and add a little bit of Busta Rhymes and Destiny's Child? How about combining Coldplay's "Speed of Sound" with MGMT's "Kids" and Eminem's "The Real Slim Shady"?

"It's a mashup; it's pieces and parts of popular songs put together in a new, kind of fresh way," Student Programming Board (SPB) president Ross Connor said of Super Mash Bros.' music. The "Brothers" themselves, DJs Dick Fink and Nicholas Fenmore, will perform in Page Commons during Loudness weekend December 12.

Super Mash Bros., the self-described "hot cousin" of popular mashup artist GirlTalk, recently performed at Boston University, Davidson College and Colgate University, among other venues across the nation, delighting listeners with the mixture of '90s pop and current chart-topping hits. After checking the tour dates and price ranges of a wide selection of bands, SPB selected the group for Loudness.

"The main driving force is finding an act that fits the budget," Connor said. "We had the opportunity, so we decided [Super Mash Bros.] would be a lot of fun."

Karthik Sonty '10, chair of SPB's concert and live music committee, says SPB aims to present students with innovative group.

"We try to get as eclectic of a group of artists as we can, all the while hoping to get new artists whom people hopefully have



Super Mash Bros. is coming to Colby for Loudness weekend. Self-described as "GirlTalk's hot cousin," the artists take parts of different songs and combine them to create a totally different entity.

heard of, [while] trying to expand the ear of Colby as a whole," he said.

Students reacted enthusiastically to the news that the Super Mash Bros. assistant director, David McGraw, the assistant director of Campus Life, said.

"When you can get a reaction like that on a college campus, you know it's going to be a good show," he said. "We're here to provide a social environment on campus and give the audience what they want."

Nate Eberly '11, who listens to several mashup artists, enjoys the Super Mash Bros.' new take on popular songs.

"I really like hearing the melodies of old songs overlaid with hip-hop," he said.

"It's really cool to hear a bunch of your favorite songs put together and they do really creative things with the songs that they use."

"There are songs that we hear in college and they just get repeated over and over again, so

when you hear a new take on a song you love, it's really interesting to hear what they've done with the song," Eberly said.

"We had a tremendous number of people [at GirlTalk] and we technically got shut down," Sonty said. "That show damaged the structural integrity of the stage, so we haven't been able to allow students on the stage for liability reasons."

Connor expects the group to draw a sizable audience, similar to the crowd GirlTalk drew when he performed at the College in spring 2008. Security officers and SPB members will regulate the crowd to ensure organization and safety during the show.

This time, SPB will take extra precautions to regulate and to ensure the safety of the large quantity of audience members.

"We're going to do things a little more like [what we did for] Naughty by Nature," Connor said. "I think it will be a lot of fun and it shouldn't get too crazy."

McGraw believes the variety

of performances SPB brings to the Hill throughout the year will satisfy all types of students.

"My goal is by the end of the year, each student will have seen a show that they at least liked," he said.

Sonty said the variety of music genres Super Mash Bros. incorporates into their songs will appeal to students with all different tastes.

"At any given time, you have three or four different songs playing over each other, and odds are people have heard at least one of those songs. It offers an enormous amount of music in one night that people can relate to. There's just a great range to it."

SPB will sell Super Mash Bros. tickets Dec. 7-11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Pulver and Dec. 12 from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 and students must show a valid Colby ID.

A cappella season ends strong

By QAINAT KHAN
A&E EDITOR

As the semester comes to its close, it not only means massive amounts of work, it means the a cappella groups come out and strut their stuff. This past week saw the Colby Eight, the Sirens, the Colbyettes, and the Blue Lights give their big shows.

The Colby Eight stands out for their no-holds-barred choreography this semester, and it was a great decision. As always, recent popular songs were mixed in with barbershop standards. The group opened with their energetic rendition of "Down" by Jay Sean, fully choreographed and sung very well. Perhaps the highlight of

their set, though, was "Thriller." Any group that takes on the late, great Michael Jackson's music is obligated to dance, and the Colby Eight were on top of it, mixing in the moves that made the Thriller video so famous with their own original choreography. And to top it all off, it sounded really good; the arrangement brought out all the interesting musical and percussive lines that Michael Jackson's songs combined. The Colby Eight certainly were supremely entertaining.

The Sirens' concert was unbelievable in every respect. If a cappella is about taking songs we know and presenting them in a transformed and interesting version, the Sirens are the

ultimate in a cappella achievement. The Sirens' song choices and arrangement highlighted the many possibilities of the female voice, from its sultry low register to its beautiful higher register. Considering the small size of the group this semester, each member had to be solid in their parts, and they delivered. The harmonization was spot on and their voices complemented each other very well. From Kathleen Fallon '10 scatting in "I Will Survive" to their beautiful rendition of "Winter's Night" and their impromptu performance of Taylor Swift's "Love Story" (put together in 45 seconds) the concert was entertaining and musically satisfying.

The Colbyettes came on staged dressed as holidays, including Boxing Day which marked a departure from their usual dress. They mixed up the moods of their songs from the slow and sweet to the upbeat and inspirational. Highlights included Haddaway's "What is Love" which was just bubbling with ebullience, Rascal Flatts' "Bless the Broken Road" which was beautifully subdued and Journey's "Don't Stop Believin'" which can never be anything, if not brilliant. The Colbyettes, like their male counterparts, also included some choreography which added to the entertainment.

Finally, the Blue Lights finished up the concerts with a brilliant performance to a packed venue. The songs showcased the group's huge vocal range, with some members tapping into their falsettos and their low bass voices in the same night. Musically, the group was solid, singing upbeat and very entertaining songs (including "Mother Love" by Andy Samberg and Justin Timberlake) but also venturing into difficult territory with "Yesterday," which had very exposed harmonies. They handled it admirably and it was beautiful to hear. While every member was solid on his part, I want to single out the basses on "Yesterday" and the men in charge of percussion. In the middle of the singing, the unexpected highlight was "The Mason Hoe-Down," an impromptu skit in which the members took turns singing about how awesome fellow Blue Light Mason Roberts '12 is.

Overall, the a cappella groups this semester did a fantastic job, delivering great music and entertainment to Colby.



Among the many a cappella groups, The Colby Eight went all out in choreographing some of their songs, including Michael Jackson's Thriller. The Colby Eight performed to a packed venue.

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SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS: ZACK EZOR AND DANNY HOSHINO



Danny Hoshino (left) and Zack Ezor (right) constitute the duo Zack and Danny's Happy Hour among other musical undertakings.

Zack and Danny's Happy Hour

By QAINAT KHAN
A&E EDITOR

The irreverent singing, songwriting, guitar-playing duo now known as Zack and Danny's Happy Hour had an equally ridiculous beginning. "It was spring of 2008 and Zack texted me to ask if I wanted to help him write a song about secret bathrooms," Danny Hoshino '11 begins. "I didn't know what that meant, but I had an inkling." He didn't elaborate any further as to his inkling, but suffice it to say, from this cryptic text message, the duo was born.

"The idea sat dormant for a while," Zack Ezor '10 picks up, "but I had a friend come up and visit me and he said 'I'm going to the bathroom, and I want you to write me a song before I get back,' and the association came up again." Despite the delay between text message and actualization, the song was written quickly and in the fall of 2008, Zack and Danny had plans for a full concert. "The way we scheduled the show, we determined we would have a show before we had any material," Zack said. However, without

the haphazard planning it wouldn't quite be Zack and Danny.

Zack and Danny have played a handful of concerts during the duo's existence, including one last Jan Plan, one this fall, and a final show set for tomorrow.

Most of the songs the duo play were composed during a creative streak in fall of 2008. "When we get a good idea, the song writes itself," Danny said. "We sat down on the stairs of Miller three days before our concert and thought about writing a song about a male lady bug. We sat down and wrote the song in half an hour." Song writing consists of ad libbing creative verses and doing back and forth chords. "When you're two people you only have one person other person to rely on," Zack said "so you rely on yourself for the creative material." To which Danny added, "Especially when one person doesn't carry his weight." Laughter ensued. The creative process is organic, lacking discipline and structure, as in the other musical outlets the duo is involved in.

In addition to their duo, Zack and Danny are members of The Megalomaniacs, Colby's only co-ed a cappella group. Being involved in the Megs together provided an impetus for the duo's formation. "If we hadn't done Megs, we wouldn't have been friends," Danny said. "The fact that we were singing together 6 hours a week helped."

While the Megs and the duo are both music making ventures, they sit very separately for Zack and Danny. In comparing their involvement with the duo and the Megs, Zack said, "Being in the Megs is like being on the third or fourth date, but being in Zack and Danny is like being in married couple, we really don't try any more." Which is not to say that they do not take their duo seriously. But having an unstructured activity poses its time commitment problems.

The fact of differing class years has posed a slight hurdle for the duo too, as Zack was abroad last spring in Uganda, and song writing stopped. Danny will be studying abroad in the Turks and Caicos during the spring, and Zack will have graduated. So for all practical purposes, Zack and Danny's Happy Hour's time at Colby is coming to a close. Entitled "The End of Happiness Tour," the show this Thursday represents "the first and final leg of the tour" said Zack. "We're going to pull out of the stops and play everything we have written." To witness Zack and Danny's Happy Hour for the last time, come to the coffeehouse this Thursday at 9:00 p.m. It's an event for the ages.

REVIEW

movie An Uninspired Education

By Stephanie Berger, Contributing Writer

The striking dichotomy between the glamor and drabness of 1960s England comes alive in *An Education*, the latest coming of age story from popular writer Nick Hornby. The film follows Jenny, a bright and talented high school student whose sole goal in life is to attend Oxford University. When Jenny meets David, a dashing, rich and considerably older man, she begins to question the purpose of her work. Why should she strive to reach such a challenging goal only to end up living a life filled with more work, obligations, and most importantly boredom? Instead, she longs to immerse herself in the culture of fine art and music, the excitement of horse races and nightclubs, and the beauty and freedom of Paris.

As I watched Jenny so quickly and easily relinquish her former dreams, I could not help but wonder how many students at Colby find themselves in a similar position. After all, what is the purpose of an education? If one does not enjoy her own life in the present, how could she possibly enjoy her life in the future, no matter what preparation she receives? While this, the central question that the film proposes, is quite interesting, the answer that *An Education* provides is unfortunately far less insightful.

Predictably, David is revealed to be less deserving than he appears, as he uses Jenny to fulfill his own desires. Yet the film does not acknowledge the manner in which Jenny uses David and his money, even after she discovers the unscrupulous means by which he acquires it, to gratify her own desires. While Jenny eventually realizes her own folly and foolishness in trusting such a man implicitly, she never really answers her own questions. It

is as if, having lost the immediate means, she resigns herself to the life she so carelessly rebelled against without ever considering her own ability to attain freedom. As much as the film attempts to convey a mature and wise heroine at its conclusion, I could not help but wonder what it was she was supposed to have learned.

Despite its shortcomings, *An Education* does provide a beautiful landscape of Britain and France as well as exceptional acting. The female leads in particular enchant the audience with their dynamic performances. Carey Mulligan, a personal favorite of mine in light of her versatile portrayals of literary figures in several BBC adaptations, plays Jenny with a grace and charm that prompts the audience to believe in her even as she throws her life away. Rosamond Pike offers an amusing and original take on the vapid mistress.

Olivia Williams is elegant as always as Jenny's English teacher and Emma Thompson devours the brief moments she occupies on screen with her usual wit, humor, and presence. The scenes of gray uniforms and quietly awkward suppers are juxtaposed markedly with scenes of evening parties and romantic dances. At one point in the film, amidst the splendor of a retro jazz club filled to the brim with glistening chandeliers and smooth, silky music, I felt as if I might climb through the screen.

The temptations of a glamorous and carefree life are very real and extremely salient in a culture bombarded with advertisements promising wealth, beauty, and happiness. Yet as much as it exposes this fantasy for the fallacy that it is, *An Education* does not provide a fulfilling alternative to such a life.

beer A Taste of Liberty: The Liberal Cup

By Peter Johansson, Resident Beer Expert

The Echo Beer Review (EBR) team this week was made up of Jenny Gelda '10, Andy Rougeot '10, Isaac Oppen '10, Peter Johansson '10, and by Economics Professors Phil Brown and Jason Long. This week the team took an excursion to test the local homemade beers from the Liberal Cup. As we walked up to the pub, the glowing lights and sound of chatter seemed to beckon us in from the cold rain. We were immediately warmed by the atmosphere of the Liberal Cup as we walked to our table that seemed carved out of the corner of the pub's wooden walls. We decided to try the six beer sampler which includes a variety of homebrews: the Backhouse Bitter, the Bug Lager, the Tented Kilt Scottish Ale, the Alewife Ale, the Tarbox Cream Stout, and the Old Hallow Indian Pale Ale.

The first beer was the Backhouse Bitter, which is one of the Liberal Cup's cask-conditioned beers, meaning the beer is served from the cask with no additional nitrogen or carbon dioxide pressure (making it flatter), and is served warmer than usual at just below room temperature. The Backhouse Bitter had mixed reviews. Its murky, brown color wasn't striking. Its texture was described by some as week-old stale beer; others argued that it was an "acquired taste." Regardless of the differences, the flatter and warmer temperature of the beer mellowed the beer making a more balanced bitter taste. Returning to the old Van Niel-Johansson Quadinary Chrono-Zeta Measure (QCZ), with the four categories of drinkability, taste, aesthetic appeal and X-factor, the Bitter received a 1647. The Backhouse Bitter was a unique experience that stood out from the crowd with its choice to be unusual. It wasn't necessarily bad, it was just different.

The next beer was the Bug Lager. The aesthetic appeal of this beer was somewhat unfairly hurt by the size of the 3 oz serving glass, as Professor Brown pointed out; the light-colored beer in the small glass closely resembled a urine sample. Fortunately, the Bug Lager tasted nothing like urine, but was on the contrary, a very cool refreshing beer with a slight bitterness as well as sweetness. Overall it was a surprising amount of flavor for such a light lager. We gave it a QCZ rating of 1723 (looking like urine and being

named after insects didn't help its X-factor rating). The Bug Lager was a quick meet and greet that was fun while it lasted but was soon forgotten as we moved on.

Next was the Tented Kilt Scottish Ale. This proved to be a strong ale with a bold bitter flavor. The potent taste of the Ale didn't appeal to everyone's tastes, but the Ale was undoubtedly complex with a host of flavors that seemed to taunt us without ever disclosing themselves. It earned an overall QCZ rating of 1878; the name "Tented Kilt" naturally added to its X-factor rating. Much like a short, intense, and passionate friendship, our time with the Tented Kilt Scottish Ale ended far too soon, leaving us wanting more time to explore its depth and quality.

We moved next to the Alewife Ale. This English Ale proved to be tasty but without quite the intensity of the Scottish Ale. Its mellow bitterness blended well with its light sweetness. The Alewife didn't stick out as anything exceptional, but it was nonetheless a quality beer with a reliable taste. It received a QCZ rating of 1744. It is a safe bet but not always an exciting one.

We moved onward to the Tarbox Cream Stout. Before even tasting, the Cream Stout was admired by all of us for its undeniable aesthetic appeal. It was a deep dark brown almost black color capped with a thick white head. The Stout's flavor was deep and complex with a burnt bitter malty flavor balanced against creamy sweet chocolate undertones. The Stout earned a QCZ rating of 1787. It's a beer that exudes a sense of wisdom and nobility, a beer that—even in its appearance—commands a sense of respect and awe.

The final beer on the paddle was the Old Hallow Ale IPA. Its appearance resembled that of many IPAs; however, upon tasting the ale, it was found to be much different. It lacked any strong bitter taste; it was a very mild beer and surprisingly sweet. Those who aren't big fans of IPAs found this to be great, and though perhaps not an ideal example of an IPA, the Old Hallow Ale was nonetheless a decent beer, and was given an OCZ rating of 1647. It was an unexpected taste, but overall left us with a pleasant surprise.

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Dec 17

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Fri and Sat 8:40
Matinees Sat/Sun/Wed at 2:30

LOOKING FOR PALADIN
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Matinees Sat/Sun/Wed 12:15

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Fri and Sat 9:30
Matinee Wed 12:30

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PLAYING THE FIELD

Unretirement talk



Those who follow sports as closely as I do are probably already aware of the Allen Iverson saga that took place over the past couple weeks. The one-time National Basketball Association (NBA) Most Valuable Player and ten-time NBA All-Star set a new world record, and it is not the number of people watching his press conference on YouTube because it is funny to watch grown men cry.

Iverson's retirement and subsequent unretirement from a professional sport must have been the fastest ever of a little complex I like to call the Brett Favre Syndrome.

On November 25, Allen Iverson claimed he was officially retiring from professional basketball. Less than a week later, Iverson announced he was returning to the game, signing a contract with the Philadelphia 76ers, the team that drafted Iverson first overall in the 1996 draft.

What is it about professional athletes that make them so susceptible to the act of unretiring? Often there are no financial motivations, as the athletes have made more than enough money to afford a long life of luxury.

But it seems to happen all the time! It goes far beyond Brett Favre and Allen Iverson. The syndrome made me look through the history of athletes who have decided it was time to leave the game—retire, only to decide later that it was time to make a comeback—unretire.

Probably the most notable athlete to do this was Michael Jordan, considered by many to be the greatest athlete of all time. Jordan retired from professional basketball in 1993, citing a loss of desire to play the game. Then he pursued a career as baseball player, only to retire from that due to a lack of talent. By 1995, Jordan unretired and was back playing basketball professionally with his Chicago Bulls, spurred on by his leading the Looney Tunes to victory over the Monstars in a basketball game for the fate of the planet (oh wait, that was the plot of Space Jam...).

Unretirement proved to be a smart move for Jordan, who won three more NBA championships before retiring again in 1999. Jordan

claimed that he was 99.9 percent sure that he would never play again, which of course led to his inevitable second unretirement in 2001. Jordan finally retired for good (we hope) in 2003, after an uneventful two seasons with the Washington Wizards.

In baseball, the undisputed king of unretiring would be Roger Clemens, who retired after the 2003 season, unretired before the start of the 2004 season, retired after the 2005 season, unretired in the middle of the 2006 season and unretired again in the middle of the 2007 season before finally retiring for good. Clemens posted some fantastic numbers during some of those seasons, including a 2005 season that was maybe the best of his career, leaving many to wonder how someone could throw the ball so well at such an advanced age (Clemens turned 40 in 2002). That mystery was solved when his use of performance enhancing drugs became known. "Anabolic Steroids: side effects may include liver problems, acne and a burning desire to be unretired multiple times."

One name that comes up frequently when discussing unretired athletes is hockey player Mario Lemieux, who retired in 1997, unretired in 2000 and retired again in 2006. Lemieux is unquestionably one of the greatest hockey players of all time, so it is understandable that he gets thrown into the conversation, but I think this is unfair. Lemieux's first retirement came due to a battle with cancer, and if you are retiring and unretiring because of a bout with any deadly disease, you deserve praise, not blame.

Ultimately, when it comes to unretirement, no other athletes can match the antics of professional boxers such as George Foreman. Foreman had a semi-retirement in 1975 before unretiring in 1976. However, a fight in 1977 against boxer Jimmy Young led to a religious experience, in which Foreman claimed that Young "knocked the devil out of him." Foreman spent this retirement as an ordained minister at a church in Houston, Texas. Ten years later, Foreman unretired, again, holding his own in the ring once again, and managed to fight until 1996, all while also selling the Looney Tunes to victory over the Monstars in a basketball game for the fate of the planet (oh wait, that was the plot of Space Jam...).

Unretirement proved to be a smart move for Jordan, who won three more NBA championships before retiring again in 1999. Jordan

MEN'S BASKETBALL

6-0 season start

From M. BASKETBALL, Page 16

rebounds while Gil Haylon '10 poured in 12 points on 4-7 shooting from three-point range.

Post RIC, the Mules have hosted five victorious home games. Last Saturday and Sunday Colby won the Colby Men's Basketball Invitational tournament hosted at Harold Alfond Gymnasium by defeating University Maine-Augusta 79-54 and Emmanuel College 77-59. Choice, Russell and senior center Chas Woodward were selected to the all-tournament team.

"The tournament was successful," Woodward said. "We won both games by playing good defense and overall good fundamental basketball."

The length, height and quickness of the Mules have been a large contributing factor to a team defense that ranks second in the NESCAC. Colby starts Choice '6'5", Russell '6'4", Woodward '6'8" and brings Haylon '6'4" and Eric Beaulieu '12 '6'6" off the bench.

Whether it is a function of the non-NESCAC competition, or an actual counter strategy, many teams have played small lineups against the Mules. Unfortunately for opponents, this year's Colby team is built to run and gun. Junior point guard and co-captain Christian Van Loenen '11 (3.7 apg) has shown

a deft ability to find the open man off the break, and has established himself as an elite defender. Shooters Justin Sherman '10 (10.0 ppg, co-captain) and Haylon (.400 3PT%) have reaped the benefits, both capitalizing on open-looks. Additionally the frontcourt has seen improvement this year with the emergence of Chas Woodward (9.5 PPG, 6.3 RPG) and the guaranteed double-double from Russell (14.0 PPG, 10.0 RPG). Of course the offense runs through Choice, and the athletic slasher hasn't let the Mules down. His 18.7 PPG lead the team and ranks him third overall in the NESCAC. Recently Choice moved to 15th place in all-time scoring for Colby. Choice also leads the team in assists and is second in rebounds per game. Although it is evident the Mules have star players, the team does not thrive off individual performances.

"Our two strengths are our defense and our selfishness," Haylon said. "Holding teams to under 60 points and smart passing in the offensive end are two things we want to carry with us the entire season."

After early season success, Colby finally has its first barometer game against Bowdoin College this Saturday at 7 p.m. The Mules host the Polar Bears at the Harold Alfond Gymnasium in an out-of-conference match up.

Track and field

The indoor season to begin; Colby is ready

By TODD HERRMANN
STAFF WRITER

Winter is here, and the trails around Mayflower Hill are covered in snow, but that does not mean that the runners of Colby will take time off for the season. As the semester comes to a close, the Mules are getting ready for the 2010 indoor track and field competition season, which commences January 16, in Cambridge, Mass.

The women's team, led by Head Coach Deb Aitken, who is coming off of a very successful season as head coach of the women's cross country team, is looking for success with 18 first-year athletes and 34 returning upperclassmen.

The five captains are middle distance runner Amanda Burgess '10, jumper Hannah Coulson '10, distance runner Katrina Gravel '10, pentathlete Bethany Bartley '10 and hurdler/jumper Jordan Schoonover '10. Other returning runners who were strong last year include Emma Linhard '11, who qualified for nationals in the mile and was named an NCAA Division III All-American, Heather MacDonald '10, who finished second in the 1000-meter run in the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Confer-

ence Championships, Danielle Sheppard '11, who finished 11th in the conference in the high jump and Mandy Ivey '10, who finished 11th in the 3000-meter run.

The men's team will be led by head coach Jared Beers, who is coming off a great fall season as head coach of the men's cross country team. Team leaders will include Ben Ossoff '10, who finished sixth in the 1000-meter run at the New England Division III Indoor Track and Field Championships last year, very nearly breaking the Colby record in the process. David Lowe '11 returns after finishing sixth in the high jump and eighth in the 400-meter dash in the State of Maine Championships last year.

The team lost six members from last year. Among those were athletes who played key roles on last year's team, like Mark Ozarowski '09 who finished second in the shot put and sixth in the weight throw in last year's State of Maine Championships.

The team has a number of returning key athletes, and with an infusion of first-years, there is a lot to look forward to in the upcoming indoor track and field season. Both the men's and the women's teams have a lot to be excited about. Show your support for the Colby indoor track and field teams as they run, jump and throw their way towards NCAA glory this season.

Women's hockey player honored

By ELIZA LARSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

SATURDAY, DEC. 5
Colby
Conn.

Marissa Simmons '12 was honored as the New England Small College Athletic Conference's (NESCAC) Co-Player of the Week on Monday, November 23. Simmons scored both goals in the women's hockey season opener against New England College on Saturday, November 21. Her fellow forwards, Stephanie Scarpato '11 and Liz Osgood '11, assisted both of her goals. Simmons, a forward, led the Mules to a 2-1 victory over New England College. Also in the game, first-year goaltender Filomania Falcucci made 24 saves, 12 of which were in the second period.

The lady Mules lost some of their initial fervor in their next few games, racking up some ties and losses. The women's hockey team now stands at 1-2-3, but this will hopefully change, as the Mules will face rival team Bowdoin College at Bowdoin on December 11.

On November 24, Colby played University of Southern Maine at home but could not produce a win in overtime. Defender Ally Kane '13 gave the Mules a 2-1 lead in the third period with a shot assisted by Elissa Kurtz '11 and Kathryn



The women's hockey team will host Bowdoin on Friday, Dec. 11 at the Alfond Rink at 7 p.m.

Shei '13. Hoping to close the game after both Kane's and Simmons' shots, the USM team scored tying the game at 2-2.

A few days later, the women's hockey team played Williams College at Colby. Although Colby had a 27-23 shot advantage, Williams' goaltender, Sara Plunkett, posted her third straight shutout of the year. Falcucci had 19 saves but could not hold up against Williams' strong offense. The Ephs finished the game with a 4-0 lead over the Mules.

A similar outcome occurred when Colby faced the Middlebury Panthers on November 29. Middlebury has always been

strong competition for Colby, and this game was no exception. Falcucci had 29 saves but this did stop Middlebury's Anna McNally, who played a part in all of the Panther's goals, giving Middlebury the 5-0 win.

Needing a confidence boost, the women's hockey team faced Hamilton College at Hamilton on Friday, December 4. Osgood scored a hat trick and Simmons scored an additional two goals to bring the Mules back to play. Assists for these five goals came from Stephanie Scarpato '11 and Kaitlyn Conway '10. Colby led Hamilton into overtime with a tied score of 5-5, but neither

team scored in the extra minutes.

The women's hockey team played the following day against Connecticut College for an away game tie. Scarpato scored her first two goals of the season, one unassisted and the other assisted by Simmons and Osgood. Osgood also scored for the Mules off of a pass from Kurtz. Falcucci had another fantastic game with a total of 53 saves. She made 19 saves in the first period, 12 in the second, 15 in the third, and seven in overtime. The Mules finished the game tied 3-3 with the Camels.

What to watch: A superfan's guide to Colby athletics



MEN'S ICE HOCKEY

Colby (4-2) vs. Bowdoin (5-0). Friday, December 11, 7 p.m.



MEN'S BASKETBALL

Colby (6-0) vs. Bowdoin (4-1). Saturday, December 12, 7 p.m.



WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY

Colby (1-2-3) vs. U Mass Boston (3-4-0). Sat, Dec. 12, 7 p.m.

Preseason swimming: looking good

By SARAH KIRKER
STAFF WRITER

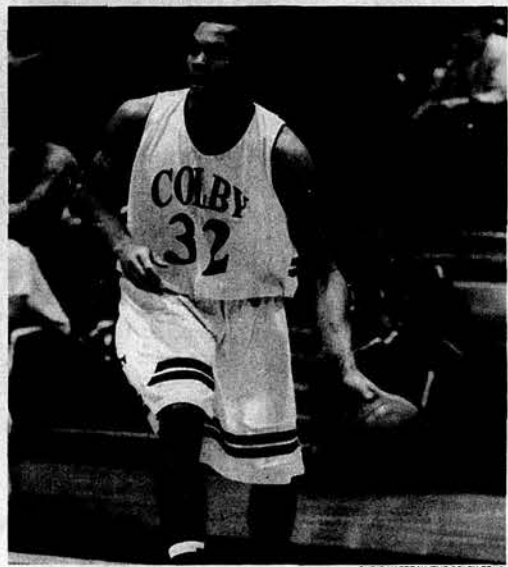
The Colby men's and women's swimming and diving teams started their seasons with a meet against the nationally ranked Amherst College swim team. Although neither team came away with an overall win, both the men and the women made substantial steps towards a successful season. The only win for the women went to Heather Cronin '13 in the 1000 freestyle. "It was an amazing race and a great way for Heather to start her college swimming career," Captain Danielle Carlson '10 said. Carlson racked up an impressive array of personal bests and two very close second places in the 200 freestyle and 200 individual medleys. On the men's side Ryan Trafton '12 led the team with a second place in the 100 butterfly while teammates Kevin Smith '10 and Ben Gross '10 recorded two third places each in their events.

The next meet against University of New England yielded better results for the Mules. Both the men and the women dominated their opponents with wins in nearly every race. For the women, Carlson, Mandy Ferguson '12 and Kayleigh Monahan '13 each recorded two wins. Kathryn Lee '13 and Carly Rushford '13 added two more individual wins. For the men, Gross led the team with three individual wins, while Smith and Raymond Rieling '12 took two wins each. In addition, Mason Roberts '12, Brian Gilligan '12 and Trafton each contributed wins in their events. In the team events, the men took both the 200 medley relay with a team of Gilligan, Roberts, Trafton and James Hootsman '13, and the 400 freestyle relay with a team of Rieling, David Hirsch '10, Gross and Hootsman. For their third competition of the preseason the teams traveled to Massachusetts Institute of Technology last weekend for the

yearly invitational. The meet proved to be a new kind of challenge for the team as it faced a much larger and tougher field of competitors. Carlson led the team with a sixth place in the 200-yard individual medley and Cronin had an impressive showing taking seventh in the 500 freestyle. Going into the second day of the meet, Colby was just 28 points out of third place. "The score may not be great, but we are swimming very well," Head Coach Tom Burton said. "Every individual swim tonight for the men and women was a season-best time for us. That's a very impressive accomplishment and one not typical for us at this meet." Carlson continued her run of impressive races coming in third in the 400 individual medley and ninth in the 100 breaststroke on Saturday. She also teamed up with Lee, Cronin and Ferguson to take fourth in the 800 freestyle relay and Cronin, Burns, Ferguson and Jenny Reiner '12 took eighth

in the 400 freestyle relay. Smith led the men's team on Friday with a fourth place finish in the 500 yard freestyle, one of only four swimmers out of 38 to finish with a time under five minutes. Once again showing their impressive relay skills, Rieling, Smith, Hirsch and Gross joined forces to take sixth in the 800 freestyle relay and eighth in the 400 freestyle relay. Overall, the teams are pleased with their early season performances. The swimmers will continue competition in January, when the competitive season begins. Team morale and energy are high and the team goes into the season optimistic and ready to compete. "Aside from swimming, the team has incredible spirit and unmatched dance skills. These qualities greatly help our swimming performances at any given meet and contribute greatly to our overall success," Carlson said.

DEVASTATOR OF THE WEEK



Adam Choice '10

SPORT:

Basketball

POSITION:

Small Forward

HOMETOWN:

Newport, RI

WHY: Early on in the 2009-10 season, Choice has proven why he has been selected as Maine State Player of the Year for two years running. Colby is undefeated at 6-0 and Choice's 18.7 PPG rank him 3rd in the NESCAC.

18.7
Points Per Game

Crunching the numbers

- 11** goals scored: for Colby men's hockey in an offensive outbursts over its last six games.
- 21** national ranking: for women's squash, as victories over the weekend brought its record to 4-0.
- 13.0** points per game: for Alison Cappelloni on the season, ranking her 9th overall in PPG in the NESCAC.
- 1,189** collegiate points: for Adam Choice. With 29 against Emmanuel College last Saturday, Choice has moved into 15th place all-time in Mule scoring.
- 17:23.39** time: for Kevin Smith '10 in the 1,650 yard freestyle swim at the MIT invitational, placing him fifth in the event.

STANDINGS

TEAM LEADERS

MEN'S BASKETBALL

	NESCAC	OVERALL					
	W	L	W	L	Player	Min	PPG
Amherst	0	0	4	1	A. Choice	30.2	18.7
Bates	0	0	5	2	C. Van Loenen	26.7	8.5
Bowdoin	0	0	4	1	M. Russell	26.5	14.0
Colby	0	0	6	0	J. Sherman	24.5	10.0
Conn.	0	0	2	4	G. Haydon	21.3	8.0
Middlebury	0	0	7	0	E. Beaulieu	18	5.2
Trinity	0	0	3	3	C. Woodward	17.8	9.5
Tufts	0	0	2	5			
Wesleyan	0	0	3	3			
Williams	0	0	6	0			

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

	NESCAC	OVERALL					
	W	L	W	L	Player	Min	PPG
Amherst	0	0	7	0	R. Mack	26.0	8.3
Bates	0	0	6	2	A. Ritchie	26.0	8.5
Bowdoin	0	0	5	0	S. Allen	25.3	12.0
Colby	0	0	4	1	A. Cappelloni	24.5	13.3
Conn.	0	0	3	3	J. Kowalski	22.5	10.8
Middlebury	0	0	3	3	J. McLaughlin	15.0	3.5
Trinity	0	0	5	2	J. Vaughan	14.8	7.3
Tufts	0	0	1	1			
Wesleyan	0	0	3	2			
Williams	0	0	6	1			

MEN'S ICE HOCKEY

	NESCAC	OVERALL					
	W	L	W	L	Player	G	A
Bowdoin	4	0	5	0	W. Hartigan	4	4
Williams	4	0	5	0	B. Crinnion	3	4
Middlebury	2	0	3	1	N. Kondiles	2	5
Trinity	2	1	3	2	D. Nelson	2	3
Tufts	2	1	4	2	M. Doherty	1	4
Amherst	2	2	4	2	C. McGrath	1	4
Colby	2	2	4	2			
Hamilton	2	2	3	2			
Conn.	1	3	1	5			
Wesleyan	1	3	0	4			

WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY

	NESCAC	OVERALL					
	W	L	W	L	Player	G	A
Middlebury	4	0	5	0	L. Osgood	4	4
Amherst	3	0	4	0	S. Scarpato	5	1
Williams	3	0	3	2	M. Simmons	5	1
Bowdoin	2	1	3	2	E. Kurtz	0	2
Trinity	1	2	3	2	A. Kane	1	0
Hamilton	1	3	1	4	K. Conway	0	1
Colby	0	2	2	3			
Conn.	1	4	1	5			
Wesleyan	0	4	0	5			

ALPINE SKIING PRESEASON RANKINGS

	GS		SL			GS		SL	
Men	Pts	WR	Pts	WR	Women	Pts	WR	Pts	WR
J. Kernan	31	494	24	295	D. Breakstone	60	984	45	508
V. Lebrun-Fortin	32	524	25	320	N. Biedermann	56	875	41	587
B. Morgan	48	1094	32	500	M. Strachota	59	968	35	437
M. Massie	55	1348	24	289	C. Roberts	56	874	54	777
T. Wright	82	2452	78	2254	M. Brown	64	1090	56	833
E. Barthold	92	2839	106	3236	L. McGrath	76	1396	69	1128
N. Zeller	95	2939	64	2453	M. Seares	79	1468	63	1004
J. Sperry	100	3116	129	3971	K. Houser	71	1270	73	1222

HART HEADS TO CYCLOCROSS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Sarah Hart '10 has been tearing up the eastern collegiate cyclocross races this fall and will be competing for Colby College at the 2009 Collegiate Cyclocross National Championships next week in Bend, Oregon.

Ski team rebuilds

From SKIING, Page 16

first-years have the potential to make a big impact on the team this year, and they come in with more race experience and talent than I have seen before," Bentrup said. Two women and three men graduated last season and will be missed in the carnival circuit.

The alpine team also sports two seniors, Josh Kernan and Dana Breakstone, who both qualified for the NCAA Division I Championships in past years, and hope to again this season. Lebrun-Fortin is a strong competitor in the carnival circuit and will without a doubt post impressive results this season. Kernan and Lebrun-Fortin both qualified for the NCAA's last year, and were named All-Americans. "I know I have high expectations for them to do even better than last year, I hope, which is basically placing one and two at NCAA's and winning some carnivals here and there," Breakstone said.

With eight first-years making up half of the alpine team, the team has a new depth that will certainly help improve team scores at carnivals. The depth generates competition within the team, pushing everyone to perform at a higher level. "The newcomers want to get their spot on the carnival team. It is fun to see the competition within the team," Lebrun-Fortin said. While adjusting to college ski racing is difficult, especially for skiers competing for the first time on the icy slopes of the east coast, the first-years are a talented crew of

athletes with "fresh blood" who are "ready to ski well and put in the time," Breakstone said. "I think that's the biggest difference from last year."

In recent years, Colby has made a name for itself in Division I ski racing as a force to be reckoned with in the New England ski racing circuit, holding its own against the dynasties in the east including Dartmouth College, University of Vermont and University of New Hampshire. This season, both the alpine and nordic men and women hope to qualify teams for the NCAA Championships that will be held in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, in March, where athletes will compete against the fastest college skiers in the Nation. In addition, both teams hope to win carnivals in the eastern circuit throughout the season.

While the teams have lofty goals, they are not unrealistic. "With the returning talent and the addition of the first-year class I expect this to be our strongest team in my four years at Colby," Kernan said. Lebrun-Fortin has a similar take on the season, "Coming back from solid results at the NCAA's last year, as a captain, I think we have the potential to beat the strongest teams in the nation," he said.

Members of the alpine team will head up to Canada this weekend for the first competition of the season although not collegiate races. The carnival season will kick off at Whiteface, New York, on January 15. Until then, think snow!

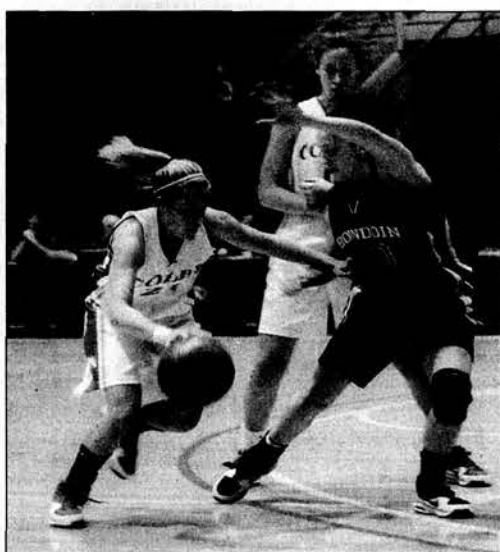
Women's basketball early season victories

From W. BASKETBALL, Page 16

the defense played by both sides. Concluding at 65-56, the match was certainly a good preview for Colby and Bowdoin's league game on January 16.

Starting the season with several strong victories, and one hard-fought loss, the Colby

women are poised to continue their winning path. With two games remaining in December in addition to a fast-approaching New Year's holiday tournament, preparation for the league games within the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) also appears sound. The team's performances so far indicate a great season is to come.



The women's basketball team fell to Bowdoin 65-56 in a hard fought game on Saturday, December 5.



Women's hockey
starts season
1-2-3

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SPORTS

THE COLBY ECHO

Swim teams have
strong showing
at MIT

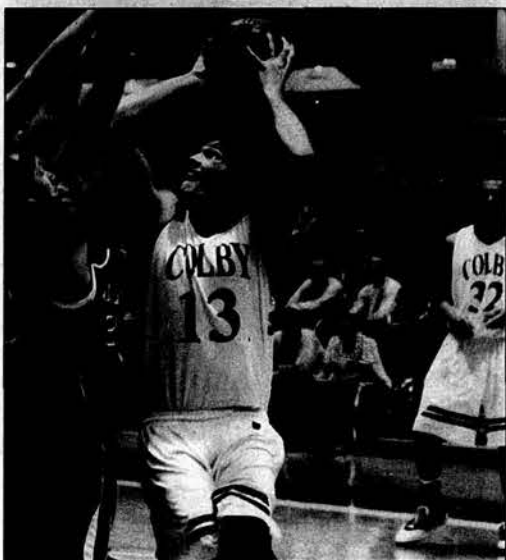
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December 9, 2009

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Making it rain



Forward Michael Russell '11 is averaging 14 points per game.

By WILL HARRINGTON
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

SATURDAY, DEC. 5
Colby
Emmanuel

So far, so good.

Six games into the 2009-2010 season; the Colby College men's basketball team has shown why expectations for the squad have been set so high. With last Sunday's victory over Emmanuel College, the Mules have attained an undefeated (6-0) record in an utterly dominant fashion; Colby has outscored its opponents in every game by an average margin of 21.2 points.

Although play has yet to begin in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) (regarded as one of the best basketball conferences in the country), Colby has made a point to exert dominance early on in the non-conference schedule.

On November 21, Colby opened its season by heading down to Providence, RI to take on a wily Rhode Island College (RIC) squad. Just last year, RIC played in the DIII NCAA tournament. The match up also pitted Colby's All-NESCAC selection and senior Co-captain Adam Choice against his younger brother Mason, who is a starting forward for the Anchormen.

Initially the Mules couldn't find a groove and RIC took a 31-19 lead into halftime. However, the second half was an entirely different story as Colby's Choice had enough of the brotherly love. The Mules exploded for 56 points; 24 of which came from the Colby star and the Mules ultimately cruised to a 75-62 victory. Michael Russell '11 contributed a double-double in scoring and rebounding with 13 points and 11

See M. BASKETBALL Page 14

Men's hockey ready for Bowdoin

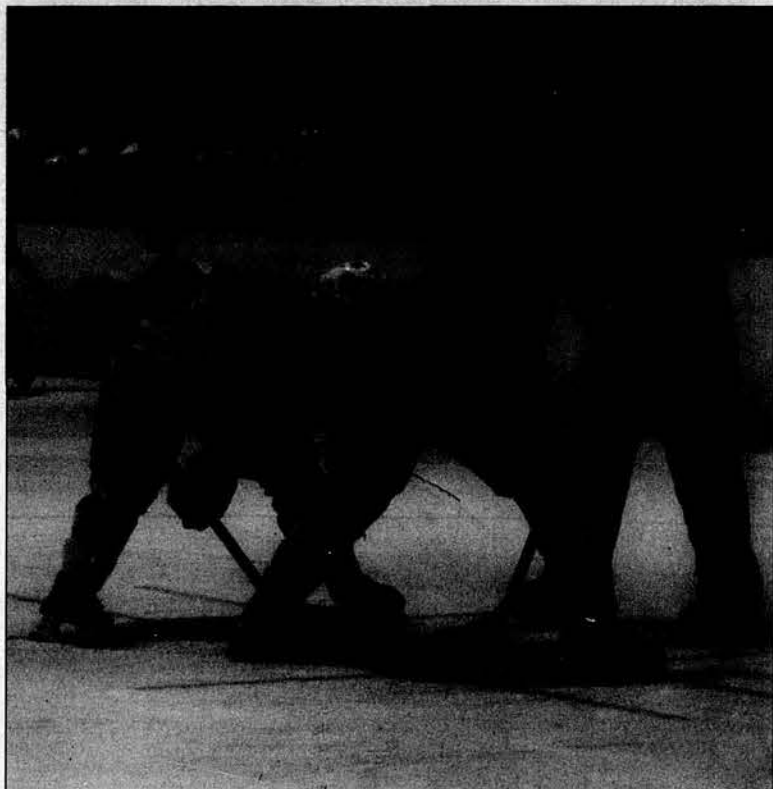
By DOUG SIBOR
STAFF WRITER

SATURDAY, DEC. 5
Colby
Skidmore

In spite of the cooling Maine temperatures, the men's hockey team is off to a hot start to its 2009-2010 season. After dropping two close games to Babson and UMass-Boston to begin the season, the team has reeled off four straight wins as it approaches this Friday's New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) opener at home against Bowdoin.

The team returned early from Thanksgiving vacation to meet the University of Southern Maine, and successfully held off the Huskies to win the closely contested game 3-2. The Mules were buoyed by a brace from Billy Crinnion '11, who tallied goals at 10:52 of the second period and the game-winner with just under a minute to play in the third period. Mike Doherty '12 picked up a pair of assists, earning both points on Crinnion's two goals. The Mules' other goal was put in by Will Hartigan '11 with about six and a half minutes to play in the second period, and at the time, gave the Mules the lead. Cody McKinney '11 was strong in the net, making 25 saves to earn the victory.

The Mules then traveled to Bowdoin for the Bowdoin/Colby Faceoff Classic, and earned a 5-1 victory against Salve Regina. The Mules had a balanced attack, getting goals from five different players en route to the victory. Crinnion continued his hot shooting and got things started just under five minutes into the game, followed by Nick Kondiles '13 finding the back of the net at 16:19 into the first period. In the second period, Colby again came out strong scoring a goal just under five minutes into the game with a goal scored by Co-captain Jeff Jarrot '10. Cory



After falling in their first two games of the season, the Colby men's hockey team has won four games in a row. Colby will host Bowdoin College at the Alford Rink on Saturday, December 12 at 7 p.m.

McGrath '13 and Dan Nelson '12 each scored a goal in the third period to round out their scoring. A 5-on-3 advantage goal from Salve prevented the team from collecting a shutout.

The next victim on the Mules' victory run was the visiting Castleton State team, whom Colby calmly dispatched in a 5-0 victory at Alford Rink. The Mules used their prowess on the power play to secure the victory, successfully scoring all of their goals in man up situations. They re-

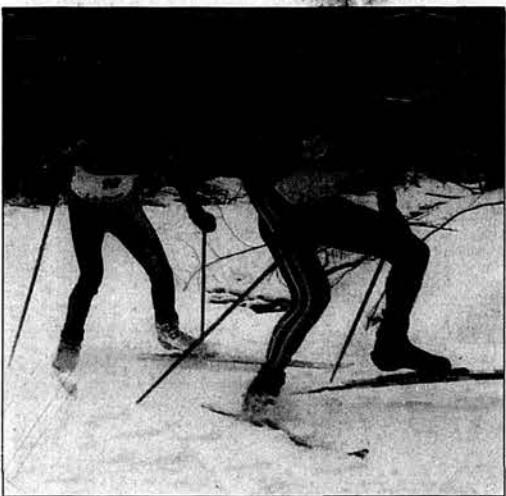
ceived a pair of goals from Hartigan, as well as solo efforts from Kondiles, Nelson, and Co-captain Matt Strickland '10. McKinney made 27 saves in the net with just one shutout of the season.

Win number four came by way of a comeback against Skidmore, whom the Mules defeated 3-2 on Saturday. The Mules were aided by three goals scored by players who scored their first goals of the season. After falling behind 2-0 in less than eight minutes

of play, Colby rallied to cut the deficit in half on Jared Crittenden's '10 first goal of the season.

Co-captain Michael Belliveau '10 then leveled the score just over six minutes into the second period, and Doherty put the game-winning score in the net with just over two minutes left in regulation, earning the Mules the win. McKinney was outstanding in net for Colby, making 14 saves in the third period alone and 33 overall.

'Tis the season for ski racing



The nordic team began training on snow over Thanksgiving break.

By LAURA LITTMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

The snow is falling, and the ski season has begun for the Colby alpine and nordic ski teams. The nordic team was able to get some time on snow on the east coast over Thanksgiving break, while the alpine team traveled to Colorado for a week of training in the Rocky Mountains.

The nordic skiers are fit as ever and ready to pump their hearts out for the team. "Everyone has trained hard over the summer and fall," Captain Jennifer Bentrup '10 said.

The alpine team is also ready; both the men and women have undergone an intense fall conditioning program and the athletes are ready and eager to hit the slopes. "Coach Danny Noyes has been

pushing us hard. I am impressed with the way everyone was skiing in Colorado," Captain Vincent Lebrun-Fortin '11 said.

Sam Mathes '10 and Bentrup are the lone seniors and captains on the nordic team. The two bring experience and leadership to a young team with high hopes for the season. The team also has a strong returning sophomore class, who are sure to help carry the

team this winter.

The women's nordic team has five first-years. Molly Sulsa, Melanie Ross and Kaitlyn Bernard all hail from Maine, Kaitlin Zdechlik is from Colorado and Olga Golovkina is from Massachusetts. The men have two first-years, Jake Barton and Jared Supple who are both from Vermont. "All of the



Vincent Lebrun-Fortin '11 is expected to qualify for the NCAAs.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Solid 4-1 record

By SARAH TRANKLE
STAFF WRITER

SATURDAY, DEC. 5
Colby
Bowdoin

On Thursday, December 3, the women's basketball team secured its fourth straight win in a game against the Maine Maritime Academy Mariners, raising its record to 4-0 for the 2009-2010 season.

In a tough contest, the Mules managed to dominate the first half of the game, finishing with a 13-point lead over the Mariners. Not down for long, however, the Maine Maritime Academy women brought themselves back to within two possessions of the lead, netting two free throws to trim the score to 63-57. Feeling the pressure, the Mules stepped up their game and suppressed the Mariners' offense, never allowing the lead to slip away to their opponents. Winning the match 70-59, the Colby women earned another solid victory.

Powerfully leading the Mules was Co-captain Julianne Kowalski '11. Finishing with a double-double, Kowalski recorded 15 points, 12 rebounds, three assists, two steals and two blocked shots. Other strong performances come

from senior Co-captains Samantha Allen and Alison Cappelloni, who scored 15 and 14 points respectively, and sophomore Rachael Mack, who finished with eight points and seven rebounds.

Following their success against Maine Maritime Academy, the Colby women suffered an unfortunate loss to league rival Bowdoin College at home on Saturday, December 5. Although not counted toward official league standings, the loss was the first of the season for the Mules, charting their record to 4-1 overall.

Always keeping the game close, the Mules worked well as a team to give sixth-ranked Bowdoin a good fight. Many players contributed off of the bench for the Colby women, and scoring was evenly distributed within the team. Notably, sophomore Kelly Potvin had nine points for the Mules, and first-year Diana Manduca added six points, five rebounds, three assists and three steals. Cappelloni finished with 12 points to lead the team in scoring.

Although both Colby and Bowdoin played carelessly at times, as shown by the 48 turnovers accumulated by the two teams combined, much credit can be given to

See SKIING, Page 15

See W. BASKETBALL, Page 15