



# THE COLBY ECHO

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## College hosts third annual TEDx talk series



By CATHERINE DUNN  
News Staff

We live in a world defined by its continued state of flux. A world in which the single constant is the reality of disruption, of change and of deviation. Last Sunday, Feb. 22 in Bixler auditorium, some of the College's finest minds were brought together to discuss the theme of disruption and deviation from global perspectives.

Intelligent, inspiring and unfailingly optimistic, the talks from this TEDx event served as a powerful reminder that we are defined not

by external events, but rather by our reactions to them.

TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) is a nonprofit organization devoted to the dissemination of ideas. Since 1990, TED has hosted an annual conference at which experts from across all disciplines come together to share their research in accessible and typically entertaining ways. Smaller conferences, called "TEDx" refer to events that are licensed by TED but independently organized.

The College's first TEDx conference, hosted in 2013, resulted in a viral sensation when Professor of Philosophy Daniel Cohen's presen-

tation, "For Argument's Sake," was uploaded to TED's main site. The video has since received over a million views and has been translated into 27 languages. Will last Sunday's TEDx conference produce a similar success story? Only time will tell, but event coordinator Bill Lin '16 is hopeful.

"With this group, that's definitely a possibility," said Lin. He cited the broader applicability of many of the talks as a reason they might garner a strong online presence.

Brian Martinez '17, for example, spoke about gentrification in his neighborhood in North Brooklyn. While this topic might seem to be limited in its scope, Lin sees an almost universal relevance in Martinez's plea that gentrifiers understand and respect the people into whose neighborhoods they have moved.

"The issue of gentrification is not just isolated to Bushwick," Lin explained. "You can apply it even to the paper mill towns in Maine, where their entire economies are based around these mills. When the paper mills close down, you have outside politicians and people come in and say, 'I want to build this; I want to build this,' to create jobs, and half the time they don't even live there."

Including Martinez, there were twelve speakers who made presentations. Of these, five were current students: Brian Westerman '16, "Self Transcendence and Passion for our Optimal Future"; Martinez,

"The Spatial Politics of Gentrification in North Brooklyn"; Nicholas LaRovere, '15, "What Is Success?"; Leah Breen '15, "Creative Resistance to Violence: Kashmiri Responses to India's Militarization of the Mind"; and Aquib Yacoub '15, "Peeling the Onion: Another Fool Out to Save the World."

Three of the presenters were alumni from the college: Pandit Mami '14, "Living in the Here and Now"; Eric Barthold '12, "Amplifying the Healthy Voices: Engaging Male Athletes in Sexual Assault Prevention"; and Henry Beck '09, "Why Running Matters—Make a Difference Early in Elected Office."

The other four were adults either directly or indirectly affiliated with Colby: Associate Professor of Government Walter Hatch, who discussed possible ways to secure peace in Asia; David Rabjohns, an impressive businessman who once rode a motorcycle around the world and who, at this conference, explained how to avoid disruptions in business and in life; Dean of Students Joseph Atkins, who discussed his inspiring path from unemployment to gaining a PhD; and Sebastián Molano, founder of Defying Gender Roles, who explained the negative effects of outdated gender roles.

What unites these disparate participants is their passion for their subject. It was passion that the program leaders searched for as they solicited participants, and it was passion that led participants to

research and present a talk for no tangible reward.

The enthusiasm with which they imbued their talks impressed members of the audience, with many expressing delight with the high quality of presentations.

Despite the inarguable worthiness of all of the chosen participants, however, there were some who raised eyebrows at the lack of women making presentations. Of the 13 announced speakers, only two were female, and one of them had to cancel due to an illness.

Esther Mathieu '17 was among those in the audience disappointed by the disparity. "It was a little bit alienating that there was only one female speaker. I know there were supposed to be two, but that's still only two out of all the speakers. And I don't really know why that happened. I don't know if it is an issue of gender or of issues of confidence or of whom they reached out to, so I can't really speak to that. But I do think if this event recurs, it's something they should be very conscious of."

Many raised the issue with Lin, who explained that, although he had asked 50 percent more women than he had men to participate, for whatever reason, the women felt they were too busy to give the talk while the men more readily agreed.

Although the reasons for the disparity remain unclear, it is an issue the organizers are very much aware of and hope to ameliorate for future TEDx conferences.

## TFA applications plummet for 2015

By ELISE OZAROWSKI  
Lead Copy Editor

You may have seen posters advertising yet another deadline to join Teach for America (TFA), but while the organization keeps recruiting, other students are being turned away. Even students who have been accepted to the two-year teaching position have recently faced blockades, with two Colby students unable to interview in Maine after those offices closed recently. Having to commute to Boston not only places strain on those individuals who are now forced to travel a greater distance, but also may pose a new deterrent for Colby students looking into the organization as an option for post-undergraduate work.

According to the *New York Times*, after 15 years of continual growth, 2015 is the second consecutive year of a decline—applications are down ten percent since last year—in applicants. Those who oppose Teach for America claim that a number of factors could contribute to this decline. Not only does the movement support standardized testing, but student scores on those standardized tests have an impact on teacher evaluations. Other students have lost faith in the timeline for the program, not feeling ready to

enter a classroom after five weeks of training while that criticism has come from teachers' unions from the outset. Some even view this decline as the inevitable end to Teach for America, which some have viewed merely as a temporary fix to a long-term problem.

Still, Teach for America has sent students to locations where there simply are not enough teachers. And Teach for America boasts diversity and approval from school principals, citing the following statistics on their website: "the ratio of TFA teachers identifying as people of color is more than double that of teachers nationwide...TFA corps members represent more than 850 colleges and universities...95 percent of principals working with TFA corps members say these teachers make a positive difference...1 in 3 TFA corps members applied as graduate students or professionals...most TFA alum teachers work in traditional district schools, not charters, and TFA ranks in the top 1 percent of nonprofits for fiscal transparency, efficiency, and reporting quality."

Of their training program,

*cont'd in TFA, p. 2*

## Greene announces plans for a committee to define free speech, protest

By CHRISTINA DONG  
Investigative Reporter

At a faculty meeting on Feb. 11, President David A. Greene announced the formation of a committee to examine student protest on campus. The committee will include students, faculty and administrators who will convene to discuss the College's stance on issues of free speech and dissent.

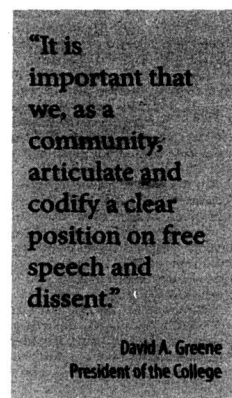
According to Provost and Dean of Faculty Lori Kletzer, the formation of the committee was not prompted by a specific protest or event on campus. Rather, it transpired from an ongoing discussion among faculty and administrators about what it means to be a community of teachers and learners with respect to free speech and, more importantly, potentially objectionable free speech.

"It is important that we, as a community, articulate and codify a clear position on free speech and dissent. It is not for me to simply state the College's position," Greene said in a written statement. "It is essential that we have a representative group from the campus [to] consider the many complex issues...and recommend a set of policies or practices for the campus."

Greene's goal is to appoint a

group that will bring a variety of perspectives to these issues and consider how they speak to the College's mission and values. The committee will then make recom-

mendations that will bring a variety of perspectives to these issues and consider how they speak to the College's mission and values. The committee will then make recom-



mendations that will be "vetted widely," he said, and give rise to a broader campus conversation.

One of the most salient issues for the committee to consider is the College's interpretation of the

term "free speech." For example, the group will discuss situations in which protest directed toward a certain group or individual may border on harassment. "It's for the committee to decide how far free speech can go," Kletzer said, and when—or if—free speech can become inappropriate.

"We're trying to find ground on which there is understanding of how we all exercise our rights of free speech and protest and dissent," Kletzer said.

Though "there are always limits on such issues, at times defined by legal statute or case law, at other times shaped by community norms and values," Greene said, he will ask the committee to "weigh the relevant trade-offs and to make recommendations using their best judgment."

"It's not about restrictions," Kletzer said. According to Greene, discussion of where the College stands on free speech does not necessarily mean that the committee needs to find boundaries to set in place.

The committee speaks to the idea that Colby is "a place that really embraces and celebrates the free exchange of ideas, and

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This week in the 'CAC

# Wesleyan: DKE Fraternity files lawsuit, ten students hospitalized for Molly overdose

By PEG SCHREINER  
Asst. News Editor

On Feb. 19, members of the Delta Kappa Epsilon (DKE) fraternity at Wesleyan University announced a lawsuit against their school. The lawsuit, according to a DKE press release, accuses the University's administration of "discrimination, misrepresentation, and deceptive practices" in their attempts to coeducate the fraternity's house.

The claims made by the Gamma Phi Chapter came after the administration chose to terminate the fraternity's annual program housing agreement because "the organization repeatedly failed to take any meaningful steps or make any reasonable commitments towards residential coeducation before the date on which the housing selection process began," the University wrote in a statement.

Wesleyan President Michael S. Roth announced his decision to require the admittance of women into Greek organizations earlier this fall, eliciting much resistance from both undergraduates and alumni who find it detrimental to their mission of brotherhood.

President Roth's initial timeframe for the integration was three years—a deadline the members of DKE claim they were preparing for by "[providing] a tour of its facilities to administration representatives...and [hosting] discussions with a potential partner about shared housing arrangements," according to the Wesleyan Argus. However, after five months, the University came to the conclusion that not enough progress was being made, and DKE was informed that they would not receive housing for the 2015-2016 academic year. The

organization stated in their press release that they were not given enough time to enact change and the administration provided insufficient warning.

Psi Upsilon, the only other male-exclusive fraternity at Wesleyan, has taken greater steps to coeducate and expects women in their spring rush class. While DKE has not made such progress, James McLeod, a Wesleyan sophomore, said, "the matter is more complex than it seems."

McLeod explained in an email that Psi Upsilon's national organization, unlike DKE's, allows for the admittance of women, making the coeducation process much easier. However, if DKE were to admit women, McLeod said it "would lose its national charter and the alumni network that comes with it."

DKE's house has traditionally been a part of the Program Housing system that characterizes much of residential life on the Middletown, Conn. campus. According to the University's website, "it gives students an opportunity to live collectively in a house or hall, fraternity or society, based on shared hobbies, experiences, cultural interests, and identities."

The removal of DKE from this system has resulted in the lawsuit's claims of "discrimination" and accusations towards the administration for denying the members their right to opt for single-sex housing. President of DKE, Terence Durkin (Wesleyan '16), commented to the Wesleyan Argus, "[the University] embraces every other person's right to live together based on gender, race, creed or sexual affiliation, but with the coeducation mandate in the fall this seems to not apply to us."

He furthered his argument by saying "discrimination is wrong no matter what form it takes, and the univer-

sity has unfairly singled us out in order to achieve their brand of diversity."

In a statement to *Business Insider*, Wesleyan claims to have given DKE the opportunity to work together to coeducate the house by 2016, but the fraternity has "instead chosen to commence a lawsuit against the University."

The case, which is set to arrive in court on March 9th, is viewed by the administration to have "no merit" but by most of the Greek community, according to McLeod, to be fully justified.

Wesleyan has also been the center of many news updates because of a recent drug issue on campus. The school gained national recognition after ten students and two visitors were hospitalized for overdosing on the drug Molly, though one of the students was found later to only have been sick from alcohol-related issues.

According to CNN, President Roth wrote a letter to the campus community in which he stated, "I ask all students: Please, please stay away from illegal substances the use of which can put you in extreme danger. One mistake can change your life forever."

As of Monday, four of the hospitalized students remained in medical care, with two still in critical condition.

Colby, and other NESCAC schools, have long struggled with ensuring student safety within the campus party scene, but fortunately has seen a decrease in the number of alcohol-related hospitalizations. Colby students with close ties to the Wesleyan community, as well as those who have heard about the incident through recent news posts, have acknowledged the dangers in party drugs and brought the conversation campus-wide.

## Committee on free speech

cont'd from Green plans, p. 1

that we need to be a place that is genuinely open to free expression," Vice President for Student Affairs Jim Terhune said.

Proactivity is another key motivation behind the formation of the committee. "I think we can have a better campus conversation, a more thorough conversation, now, as opposed to when we actually have protest and dissent," Kletzer said.

The College's administration has considered prominent incidents at other American colleges and universities over the past year and a half. In his remarks to the faculty at the Feb. 11 meeting, Greene alluded to protests last spring at Smith, Rutgers, Brandeis and Haverford, all of which led to cancellations of commencement speakers.

For example, Christine Lagarde, chief of the International Monetary Fund, withdrew from Smith College's commencement a week before she was set to speak at the event, citing student protests against her and the IMF. Former Secretary of State Con-

doleezza Rice withdrew from Rutgers' ceremony for similar protests against her role in Bush administration foreign policy.

"My guess is that the president wants to act prophylactically to avoid any such unpleasantness at Colby," Associate Professor of Government Walter Hatch said.

According to Kletzer, if a similar incident were to happen at Colby, the administration would not revoke the speaker's invitation. "We don't shut down the speech. We listen, respond, react, but we don't turn away," she said.

At the same time, Hatch was "delighted to hear, in [Greene's] comments about campus protest, a willingness to explore

whether the College should host speakers who are unwilling to take questions," he said.

"In my own view, we shouldn't. Free speech is a two-way process. Any prominent person, including a commencement speaker, should have to entertain questions from members of the Colby community, though, obviously, not at the graduation ceremony itself."

He recalls an event years ago when Colby Republicans brought former senator and presidential candidate Rick Santorum to campus. According to Hatch,

Santorum spent almost an hour responding to questions from students who were upset by his views on abortion, birth control and LGBT rights. "It was a great event because it was a lively conversation, not another top-down talk," Hatch said.

Hatch believes that students and faculty can be expected to behave "uncivily" when controversial figures not only speak without taking questions, but also receive the College's approval through conferral of an honorary degree.

"If, for example, Colby were to give an honorary degree to Dick Cheney, and he were to speak at commencement, I can almost guarantee that I would be there, with many others, protesting his speech," he said.

While other colleges and universities refer to long-established documents and reports to guide their policies on free speech, such as the University of Chicago and its 1967 Kalven Report, Greene plans for a diverse group of faculty and students to collectively decide where Colby stands here and now.

"My view, as I have stated a number of times, is that our mission demands that we be a place that is open to the widest array of perspectives, that supports free inquiry and speech, that encourages dissenting opinions, and that recognizes protest as a viable and valuable form of expression," Greene said.

## TFA statistics start to affect Colby seniors

cont'd from TFA, p. 1

TFA states "Corps members' pre-service training is part of a research-based, experiential two-year continuum of training, support, and professional development. Each corps member is assigned a coach who regularly observes lessons and offers feedback on all aspects of leading a classroom, from lesson planning to voice inflection."

But it appears that even with the organization's efforts to train, the criticism against TFA has been taking a toll on applications: the *Washington Post* reported that criticism "was a factor that influenced 70 percent of candidates who ultimately chose not to apply." And it may not only be criticism against Teach For America that has an impact. The improving economy has given recent graduates more options in the job market with more competitive salaries, and teach-

ing overall has become a less popular career path.

And Colby students forced to go to Boston for interviews are not the only ones who will be displaced. In Dec. 2014, TFA decided to close its New York training site due to the lack of applicants. Those corps members will have to train in Philadelphia instead.

While that may be inconvenient, Chalkbeat, NY cited Charissa Fernandez as stating that the program is focusing on quality rather than quantity, attempting to better train teachers and find ways to keep those teachers in the classroom after the two year mandate.

On the whole, past employees on the website Glassdoor stated that the work/life balance was tough and that the program is not for the faint of heart, something many teachers—whether part of TFA or not—can relate to. This presents the dilemma: what will it take to make permanent change in education?

**Colby students forced to go to Boston for interviews are not the only ones who will be displaced.**

## Security Incident Report Log

Date:	Time:	Nature:	Location:	Comments:
2/7/15	2:48 a.m.	Medical Call	Mary Low Hall	No one around, room mess
2/8/15	1:10 a.m.	Medical Call	AMS Hall	Illness
2/8/15	1:18 a.m.	Medical Call	East Quad	Alcohol
2/8/15	2:07 a.m.	Medical Call	Drummond Hall	Alcohol
2/8/15	12:40 a.m.	Vandalism	Williams Hall	Unregistered Party
2/9/15	7:16 p.m.	Medical Call	AMS Hall	Illness
2/10/15	4:52 a.m.	Medical Call	West Quad	Illness
2/10/15	3:35 p.m.	Medical Call	Athletic Center	Illness
2/15/15	1:22 a.m.	Medical Call	Averill Hall	Illness
2/16/15	6:14 p.m.	Medical Call	AMS Hall	Illness
2/21/15	12:36 a.m.	Medical Call	Cotter Union	Alcohol
2/21/15	9:43 p.m.	Medical Call	Runnals Union	Illness
2/21/15	10:25 p.m.	Unregistered Party	Mary Low Hall	Noise Complaint
2/21/15	10:38 p.m.	Medical Call	Cotter Union	Alcohol



## Discussing GMRI and responsible seafood at Colby

By JAKE LESTER  
News Staff

For students who live in coastal Maine, summertime means cracking into lobster and shellfish that was pulled from the sea that day. After a day of summer sailing in his hometown of Freeport, Evan Lamarre '15 and his friends would dive into lobster a friend pulled from the trap that morning. Nellie LaValle '18 feels privileged to live in Bar Harbor, saying that her "dad has a clamming license, so he brings fresh clams all the time," raked from the sand flats near her home.

Mainers eagerly enjoy all types of seafood caught in cold coastal waters. The Gulf of Maine, which stretches from Nova Scotia to Cape Cod, teems with sea life, such as cod, mackerel, shellfish and lobster. Coastal New England relies on the sea for industry, which generated over ten billion dollars in sales in 2011.

If unmanaged, this huge annual harvest can endanger the health of the fisheries it draws from. Organizations like the Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI) trawl for better fishing methods and regulations to keep fishermen—and the fish—prosperous.

Recently, the institute introduced a certification program that labels seafood responsibly harvested and processed in the Gulf of Maine which has caught the attention of Colby Dining Services.

This label is an easily identifiable way to ensure a variety of seafood are fished at sustainable rates that contribute to the long-term health of the fishery. By ensuring that seafood is managed well throughout the supply chain, it also ensures a fresher meal for the consumer.

Many types of seafood can carry the label, from lobster to the little-known redfish, if its production meets the criteria. Buying these fish in Maine requires a trip down to Hannaford or Shaw's, but the GMRI would love to partner with schools like Colby because "colleges have a fantastic opportunity to introduce students to some of these [underused] species...and raise the demand here in the re-

gion" said GMRI spokeswoman Kyle Foley.

The College has acknowledged interest in buying exclusively from GMRI certified sources. Director of Dining Services, Larry Llewellyn, says that one of Colby's suppliers, Bristol Seafood, was a founding member of the GMRI. Llewellyn and Sodexo Operations Manager Joe Klaus are using their purchasing power to influence other suppliers to achieve the "Responsibly Harvested Seafood" certification.

This program has already surfaced at schools like Wellesley College and the University of New Hampshire, and Colby has the opportunity to be another early adopter.

While Colby adheres to a national Sodexo imposed standard for seafood defined by the Marine Stewardship Council, Klaus says that this standard "doesn't get into species of New England, and [Colby] can build on [those standards] regionally."

Increased cost emerges as a potential issue for Dining Services, but Foley assures that using species like redfish or dogfish "that are abundant, delicious, and just lesser known to consumers" will come at a reasonable price. The struggling markets and fishermen who harvest these species would also be bolstered by demand. Klaus agrees that Colby can and should make the change without losing money, especially because sourcing from Maine is a high priority.

With recent pushes from the Colby community about improved dining services, this program would be well received by students. According to Llewellyn, "more diversity in the menu and more fish mean better nutrition lines for students."

LaValle says that "being a college close to the coast we should be a factor in encouraging that behavior. It would show how connected Colby is to Maine". Students would certainly feel better about the fish they're eating.

So for students like LaValle, who come from the freshest seafood possible to Sodexo Seafood it's all too easy to say, "I really like seafood, fish a lot, I just don't trust it [here]". But if Colby carried the GMRI certification, she "would feel 100 percent better about eating seafood here."

## The Teen Parent School Program celebrates its 40 years of service

By CAROLINE FERGUSON  
Local News Editor

Located in downtown Waterville, the Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers has been serving families in the community since its founding in 1899. Known for its nurturing environment, the Maine Children's Home offers a variety of services dedicated to the betterment of families and children, one of which being the unique Teen Parent School Program.

Working in collaboration with the Waterville Alternative School, The Teen Parent School Program serves as an education program for high school teens who are managing pregnancy and parenthood. The program provides important lessons concerning parenting life, helping students learn their role and responsibilities as new parents. In addition, it provides academic courses equivalent to those typically offered in most school systems that are taught by five certified teachers on location and by visiting teachers from Waterville High School. Due to this overall excellent curriculum, all teens in the program are formally registered as Waterville High School students and will thus receive a Waterville diploma upon graduation.

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For the current school year, the Teen Parent Program has around 40 students; 20 of which are Waterville Alternatives and the other 20 are Teen Parents. With such little numbers, the school provides smaller classes that foster a more intimate setting for each student. In addition, the individualized nature of the program allows it to receive students out of district, with some students hailing from Gardiner, Skowhegan, and Vassalboro.

The program's numerous resources also provide reliable support, offering individual counseling, referrals, college and career support, and on-site childcare, all of which are free and available to students currently enrolled. "When there is a need that one of our students have, we are usually able to fill it," explained Angie Woodhead, program director at the Teen Parent School. "We provide a significant amount of support to help them get to receiving their high school diploma."

Students also receive free access to child necessities whenever they are available, such as diapers and baby wipes through the outside Diapers and Wipes Program, as well as items such as high chairs or baby clothes through donations.

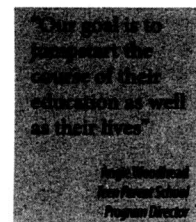
"One of the most recent additions to the services we provide, is that we hired a case manager this year to work with our students and their various needs," Woodhead said. "What she does is she helps our students with housing or financial resources, gets them connected with receiving food stamps, or even organizes their baby's doctors appointments."

"Our aim is to remove as many deterrents as possible and then to build on the strengths of each young parent," the program states on its website. "Our goal is to help teen parents understand the concept of positive parenting, to support and assist them as they learn to deal with troublesome issues, and to provide a high quality and relevant education so they can acquire the knowledge and skills to move forward in a healthy lifestyle."

Founded in 1974, the Teen Parent School Program was formed by teachers and staff from Waterville High School in response to several female students dropping out of school after getting pregnant. The faculty searched for a way in which the girls could still receive a quality education as well as additional childcare due to the many challenges they were facing. From here, the teachers and staff at Waterville High School began to work with the executive director of Maine Children's Home at the time, leading to the creation of the Teen Parent School Program. Initially beginning very small, with around eight to ten stu-

dents on a single-year program, the school later developed into a major service for the local community, expanding the length of the program to four years, as well as opening admission towards male teens who are also entering parenthood.

According to The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, the U.S. holds the highest rate of teen pregnancy



and childbirth than any other developed country, with only 40 percent of those young mothers finishing high school. Furthermore, Maine is ranked 4th of all U.S. states for teen pregnancy yet the Teen Parent School Program stands as only one of two educational programs offered for teen parents in the state. Because of this needed system of support, around 15 students attend the program every year totalling to an estimated 1,000 students, mostly girls, graduating from the school since its origination.

Having just reached 40 years of service, the program is looking to reconnect with some of their many graduates in hopes of seeing how exactly the Teen Parent School Program impacted their lives. Whether the students went onto college, got a well-paying job, or became better parents, the program is trying to find alumni and see their personal growth after graduating, highlighting the value of such education alternatives in society. "The goal is to get them to a place in their lives where they have finished their education," Woodhead said. "To a place where they have jobs and can raise their children without the stigma of poverty. Our goal is to jumpstart the course of their education as well as their lives."

## Blazing fire destroys Waterville apartment

By CAROLINE FERGUSON  
Local News Editor

On Monday, Feb. 23, a raging fire devastated the five-unit apartment building at 15 Paris Street in Waterville's South End. Reported at around 10:15 a.m., the fire furiously blazed through the afternoon, completely destroying the building and leaving its twelve tenants (including three children) homeless as well as two cats unaccounted for.

The Waterville fire department received onsite backup from the departments of Fairfield and Winslow, resulting in about 40 firefighters in total working together against the roaring flames. Fire departments from Albion and Oakland also provided help by covering Waterville's fire station during the hectic afternoon. On the scene, Waterville police blocked off the street and surrounding area, only allowing entry to emergency vehicles and a school bus called to warm the evacuated tenants.

Weather conditions played a significant role in the fire's destruction. Aggressive winds intensified the flames, moving them rapidly in different directions, which allowed the fire to grow and cover more

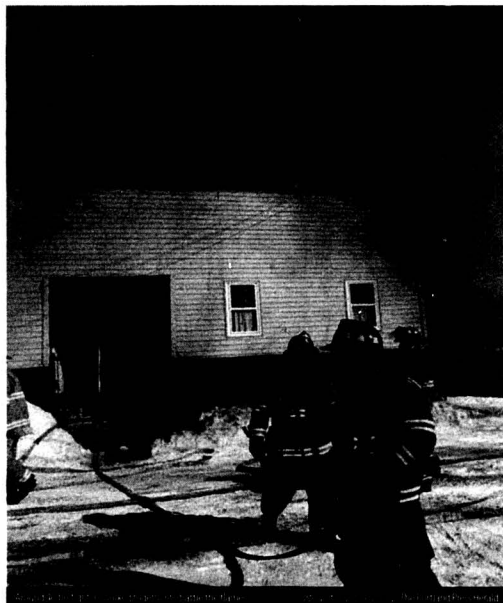
area. "Every time the wind would blow, it looked like it would ignite the fire even more," local resident, Gary Shaw, said in an interview with the *Portland Press Herald*. "It was feeding it. It just kept getting worse and worse."

Weather conditions played a significant role in the fire's destruction.

For the battling firefighters, the hostile weather conditions made their task far more challenging, as winds quickly made the fire extremely fast moving, unpredictable, and dangerously large. At noon, the fire had grown so furious that safety protocols were made to keep the firefighters safe. At that time, all tenants had already been evacuated, but Waterville's Fire Department Chief David LaFountain saw the uncontrollable nature

of the fire as a growing threat to the firefighters facing its wrath. "With the wind conditions, it blew the fire all over the place. It kept changing directions," LaFountain told the *Portland Press Herald* that afternoon. "Right now we're in defensive mode, which means nobody goes inside."

Thankfully all tenants who lived inside the apartment building were quickly brought to safety, and there were no injuries caused by the fire. The only harm done by the flames were to the residents' beloved homes, perishing along with lifetimes of personal belongings inside the burning building. Believed to have started on the second floor, the fire completely destroyed the two upper levels of the building, with the first floor receiving major damage from the heat and smoke of the fire as well as from the countless gallons of water the firehoses poured in for hours as they battled the flames. Investigations are still being conducted to determine the fire's cause. As of now, the building's charred skeleton surrounded by piles of ash and debris is all that remains where the old apartment house proudly stood before.



# Features

## Provost Kletzer discusses Target of Opportunity initiative

QUESTIONS AND TRANSPPOSED BY  
SIMONE LEUNG  
Features Editor

**Echo:** Could you talk about the new recruitment program that you are developing? Who has been involved in the process and what aspects of the hiring process does it focus on?

**Provost Kletzer:** It is called the Target of Opportunity Faculty Hiring Initiative, so in the title, it is centrally focused on faculty, not staff yet. "Target of opportunity" is a phrase used by a number of colleges and universities to intentionally state an objective of increasing the diversity amongst the faculty. It mirrors the same values that we talk about in terms of student diversity. In fact, they work together....We want to have a companion piece of diverse faculty for a diverse student body. We want to live those values of inclusiveness and opportunity.

On the faculty side...we also gain, from differences in culture and identity and circumstance, teaching pedagogical differences. We get a richer curriculum, a richer educational program. Faculty hiring happens really slowly. We hire faculty in different departments and programs based on what the college identifies as strategic programs....It's quite common on the tenure track side to hire two, three or four people a year, and some of those are not new faculty but rather replacement faculty. Somebody retires; we replace them, not always in the same department or program. If somebody resigns, we replace them. It's a process....that is slow, deliberate and intentional. We think a lot about where every single new faculty position goes.

In most cases, in liberal arts colleges, when people are tenured, they never leave; they're here until retirement. So, whom we hire looks very much like who we'll tenure. It's not 100 percent guaranteed, but who we tenure we'll have with us for 20 and 30 years, so these are really deep investments....It makes every sense in the world to do this deliberately, slowly, and intentionally, and we do it with a lot of consultation.

We also do it with full embrace of equal opportunity....We post ads. Those ads are posted on Colby websites, on disciplinary websites, in national publications. We welcome

applications broadly, nationally and internationally. From the time we decide to hire—in, let's say, English—to the time somebody actually starts in the English department could be 18 months.

In my mind, we're not as diverse amongst the faculty as I want us to be. NESCAC is not a compelling comparison group. NESCAC is a sports conference, but we always compare ourselves to NESCAC. The easiest way to compare is to say, "What's the representation of faculty of color in NESCAC?" Again, you have to be generous to allow that to be the relevant comparison group, but it's the easiest one to pull out of my pocket. We have the lowest percentage of faculty of color amongst full time faculty compared to any other NESCAC. That's not where I want us to be.

We want to have a more diverse faculty, and out of that desire to do that, a target of opportunity hiring initiative says that while we will continue to hire using an open search, we also want departments and programs, meaning the faculty members in them, when they identify candidates from underrepresented groups....We want to have a way for the institution to say, "Make the case on how this person is going to contribute to Colby...and help us become a more diverse faculty." If a department can make a case....we would turn around and say, if they've shown us....that [the candidates] meet our standards of quality, we'll let them, in some sense, short-circuit this long, 18-month hiring process. That's what target of

opportunity does. It's more aggressive....It helps colleges and universities move faster. If we used only the normal process, it could take us years and years. Fifteen years from now, [our faculty makeup] would probably look pretty similar to what it is today.

Target of opportunity, to me, is a meaningful addition to the way we hire. I also want us to look really thoroughly at the ways we hire. Hiring is tricky. It's very common at any place....for people to have the most comfort in hiring people who are the most like them. That's not an effective way to diversify. I want us, as a faculty, to come together and think very intentionally about how it is we write ads, where we post ads, how we actively call graduate placement officers at the best PhD schools and find out who's going to be on the market and who's going to be available, and not passively wait for people to apply for our jobs, but to actively go out there and recruit.

**"We will increasingly be...able to help train students for a diverse workforce [and] for democratic societies, because we will be doing that in an environment that fully reflects what...the world looks like."**

Lari Kletzer  
Provost and Dean of Faculty

**E:** Do you think that the current diversity issue has to do more with Colby's hiring process or Colby not being attractive to a diverse group of people?

**PK:** I think it's probably a bit of a number of things....We are at the bottom of NESCAC [in terms of diversity]. No one in the NESCAC looks all that great, though. In the NESCAC, it ranges from about 20 percent faculty of color as a high to about 12 percent at its lowest. I don't want us to be at 12 or 14 percent, but I would argue that 20 percent is not a deeply diverse faculty either.

Some of it is the ways we recruit,

and I can only speak for Colby. Some of it is our way of recruiting that deserve scrutiny and, in all likelihood, should be changed. I also recognize where we are, and I know...that our location increasingly poses challenges, especially because a lot of people coming out of graduate school and looking for jobs are...also looking as part of a family....Our small labor market and being part of a small college is a real hindrance to us. It's a disadvantage because Waterville is not near an urban setting, and Colby is a small college. So, whether it's an urban setting which would provide more jobs for a non-academic partner or an academic job at a small college, to find two of those is difficult.

Increasingly, I think, Colby and Waterville is a disadvantage, much more so than 20 years ago....As we think about Colby's efforts in downtown Waterville—if we can help Waterville grow, that helps us on the faculty recruiting side, if we make Waterville an ever more attractive location.

**E:** How will this program affect our community?

**PK:** I'm hoping that we're successful at both looking at our recruiting practices, and making sure we are following the most pertinent, best practices, as well as target of opportunity initiative. I hope that it really helps us diversify our faculty. It will make us a stronger community. We will be a stronger place to come learn. Our educational program will be stronger. We will increasingly be...able to help train students for a diverse workforce [and] for democratic societies, because we will be doing that in an environment that fully reflects what...the world looks like. I think it makes us a better place without question. The real risk for me is we want to be successful in it, and if we are successful in it, there will be enormous advantages to come to Colby and to Waterville.

**E:** Have you received responses to this initiative so far and how do you plan to respond to people who might be upset about this?

**PK:** I have not encountered anyone upset about it. People are mostly curious about how it works....We first

introduced [the initiative] at the January faculty meeting. This is an issue that President Greene had been thinking about for some time, and I had, in some sense, been separately thinking about this for some time. I had been playing around with how to describe it, and we brought a very early draft to the January faculty meeting and discussed it there.

Every month, I meet with the department chairs and program directors, so we brought it to that group...the first week of February....In that same week, we also brought it to the educational policy committee of the Board of Trustees....People seem comfortable with the idea, and in fact, are really positively disposed to the goals....Honestly, most of the questions have been, "How are you going to do it?"....I [have] gotten the occasional—I count two of them—question, "What does this do for quality?" and there's no bugging here on quality. I would say the only way to have the highest quality faculty is to make sure we have the most inclusive process. So, I think this enhances our quality. I don't actually—and have never agreed—that there are tradeoffs.... This is about continuing to hire faculty who are committed to being teachers and scholars here at Colby. We just want to make sure we have the broadest representation of circumstances....that are reflected in our student body and are reflected in the world....We haven't gotten objections....That's not to say that something won't come up, but at this point, it's all been positive.

**E:** Are students involved in developing this program?

**PK:** Not in developing the program. Students are often involved in our recruiting efforts. When we bring a job candidate to campus, students most often are the lunch dates....Every single department involves students....In departments that have candidate presentations, students are in the room, and we solicit student feedback. So, nothing changes in terms of the importance to us of student feedback when we have job candidates on campus. The design of the program is quite honestly an administrative task....How we actually recruit is one task that falls solely to administration.

## CCC aims to create a more inclusive community

By MARQUES HOUSTON  
News Staff

The administration on the Hill takes a lot of pride in the fostering of safe discussions about important issues that students face both here and in the outside world.

In the past, groups have been formed that have enabled students to find those safe spaces for discussion. One of the first of these was a group called CCOR (Campus Conversations on Race). In CCOR, students divide up into small discussion groups and talk about issues surrounding different topics including race, gender and sexuality. These discussion groups hope to promote the sharing and understanding of everyone's opinions for a stronger community. Colby Conversations on Community (CCC) hopes to accomplish these goals as well.

Taysir Jama '15, Jasmine Bazinet-Phillips '15, Jordan Nathan '15 and Maddie Dewhirst '16 are the pri-

mary organizers of CCC, along with the help of Associate Professor of Psychology Tarja Raag. "The program is an extension of our pilot program 'CCOR Hockey' that took place last Spring," Bazinet-Phillips said, which entailed "teaming up with both the men's and women's ice hockey teams to talk about various social issues within the sport of ice hockey."

Bazinet-Phillips was a member of the women's ice hockey team during her freshman and sophomore years on the Hill and was also a member of the women's rugby team for two seasons before a career-ending ankle injury happened during her junior year. One thing that Bazinet-Phillips noticed during CCOR Hockey, along with the other members involved with creating CCC, was that during the conversations the labels "Hockey Players" and "Non-Hockey Players" were used a lot. "This apparent divide between non-athletes and athletes has inspired us to continue to push dialogue on campus and use

this discussion to address this divide," Bazinet-Phillips said.

It is not uncommon to find a student who does not participate in varsity athletics that is upset about the privileges that athletes receive. These privileges come either directly from the College itself, perhaps in admissions, or in different places around campus such as the weight room; this is a topic that the facilitators of CCC hope to address. Facilitators are also planning to address issues such as student dynamics in the dining halls and in the Athletic Center, as well as social life. The social life aspect of discussions aims to address the attitudes and stereotypes that are associated with being an athlete or non-athlete.

The ultimate goal of CCC is to close the divide between athletes and non-athletes here on the Hill. "These conversations will lead to a more inclusive community that creates friendships and long lasting relationships between varsity athletes and non-varsity athletes here on campus," Bazinet-Phillips said. They found that CCOR Hockey was a very impactful experience for those who participated, but one negative effect was that the conversations might have been limited because they were only delving in to the social complexities of hockey. "This year we look

**"These conversations will lead to a more inclusive community."**

Jasmine Bazinet-Phillips  
Class of 2015



forward to applying the conversation of CCOR to athletics and the Colby community with a more diverse lens, applying it the broader athletic and student identities on campus," Bazinet-Phillips said. The facilitators are hopeful that

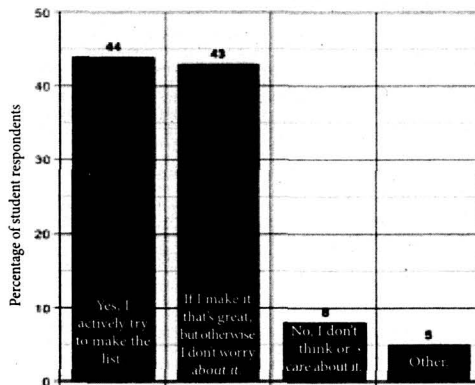
this could be a program to build a bridge between two communities that are too often disconnected here on the Hill. If you would like more information about CCC, you can contact Jasmine Bazinet-Phillips at jbazinet@colby.edu.



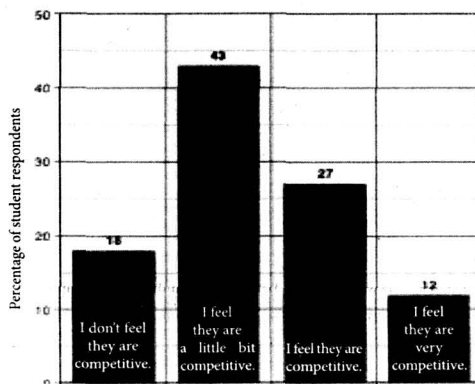
# Does the Dean's List matter? A look at academic ranking

By SAM LEBLANC  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

## Do you care about making the Dean's List?



## Please rate the extent to which you believe students at Colby are competitive with one another about academics.



As we enter our second semester, GPAs and class ranks shake out, and select overclassmen receive congratulatory letters from Phi Beta Kappa regarding their earning Dean's List. With all these rankings based on a subjective grading system, we have to wonder: does it all matter? This feature takes a look at the importance of the Dean's List.

At Colby, the Dean's List recognizes the students with the top 30 percent of GPAs of the entire student body. Only those who have earned at least 15 academic credits, 12 of which must be graded, are eligible for the list.

But the Dean's List doesn't differentiate between class years. At first glance, this may seem like an unbalanced system; first-years taking introductory courses are evaluated under the same parameters as seniors in upper level seminars.

However, according to the Registrar's Office, the top 30 percent of students who make the list are almost equally represented across the class years. Last semester, a total of 542 students made the Dean's List, of which 27 percent were seniors, 21 percent were juniors, 27 percent were sophomores, and 25 percent were first-years.

For the last several semesters, this remains the trend: for the Spring of 2014, a total of 432 students made the list; of them, seniors made up 23 percent, juniors 24 percent, sophomores 29 percent, and first-years 24 percent. The Fall and Spring of 2013 looked roughly the same, with only one class year ever falling below 20 percent in that timeframe.

Thus, fears regarding each class's opportunity to make the list are unfounded. Associate Registrar Valerie Sirois said that prior to the 2006-2007 academic year, the college policy for the Dean's List was an average of a 3.2 GPA (3.0 for first-years), and students were only eligible if they had received a minimum of 12 credits. In an email correspondence, Associate Vice

President for Academic Affairs and Associate Dean of Faculty Paul Greenwood wrote that approximately 70 percent of students were making the Dean's List under those parameters. He wrote, "The college decided to change the requirements for Dean's List because it had lost its overall meaning...The principal purpose of the Dean's List is to provide public recognition for our students who achieve the highest levels of academic excellence (as measured by grades) each semester."

Similar to class year, the Dean's List does not differentiate between majors, nor does the Registrar's Office track the distribution of majors in the list. In a brief survey the Echo conducted, some students expressed that very concern: "Everyone's major and path is completely different, with differing levels of difficulty. To judge them on the same quantitative scale is, in a word, silly." Another responded, "There's too much variability between departments and grading styles, and I don't think it's entirely fair to have a dean's list that's subjectively based on different grading styles."

Despite the concerns regarding the subjectivity of grading and the relative challenge of each major (also a subjective comparison), 81 percent of respondents (78 out of 96) said that they think the College should have a Dean's List. One respondent wrote, "People should be recognized for their academic achievements even if they don't reach Phi Beta Kappa or get awards within their major." Another said, "I think it may motivate students to do well and it's fair for those students who do well to be recognized."

Another wrote, "I think we should have a standard set GPA to make the Dean's List, which anyone could achieve. I don't think students should have to compete against each other particularly across different disciplines and class years to be in a certain percentage."

The survey also addressed the issue of competition; 43 percent believe that Colby students are "a little bit competitive" and 27 percent believe that students "are

competitive." One student wrote that the Dean's List "feels like...an unattainable goal because of how much competition there is by being defined by a number. This is a social construct that for some may define 'who is smarter [than] the other,' when in reality it is only showing who knows how to manipulate the system best this semester."

Overall though, only 44 percent of respondents "actively try to make the list." 43 percent chose "If I make it, that's great, but otherwise I don't worry about it," and the remainder either selected "I don't care or think about it" or "Other." One student said, "I think people who work hard and achieve good grades should be recognized for their efforts. I don't think it makes people who don't make the list feel bad or angry. It's more like, if you don't make it, there's always a next time and everyone has a fair shot at making it on the list."

Regarding the list, Greenwood wrote, "Recognizing the students who have achieved the very highest levels of excellence at an institution such as Colby does not diminish the achievements of other students, nor does it diminish the institution's continued expectation that our students will continue to strive for the highest levels of excellence (however they may define that)."

"Everyone should want to help each other out and strive [so] that everyone does well, instead of throwing GPA numbers and dean's list around as if they mean something. Especially because a person with a 2.8 GPA can be a much more well-rounded person than a person with a 3.7."

One student summed up the majority of respondents' opinions on the list: "I think the role of the Dean's List at Colby is largely peripheral. Most Colby students don't seem to obsess about grades. When the topic does come up, the conversation almost invariably centers around GPA and class rankings, not who made the Dean's List and who didn't."

## SHOUT week line-up

By BRANDON BLACKBURN  
Asst. Features Editor

Enter nearly any campus building and you'll see one. Glance through the General Announcements or eavesdrop on a conversation in Pulver and there will be one. In fact, you would have to hide themselves in their room and possibly shut the blinds not to see one. Whether they are hanging as posters all around campus or flooding inboxes with reminders, advertisements for SHOUT Week events are everywhere.

SHOUT (Speaking Hearing Opening Up Together) Week is an event series sponsored by the Pugh Community board. "[It is] dedicated to informing the Colby community about the importance of activism and living a life of purpose," said PCB Chair Victoria Falcon '15 via email. "SHOUT Week...is a time for students, faculty members, and Waterville residents to come together and reflect with one another on a theme." This week will mark PCB's eighth annual SHOUT Week.

The theme for this year is "The Personal is Political." "To me, that means exploring questions of how do we take causes that are personal to us and turn them into political activity," said PCB vice chair Laura Rosenthal '15. "How do we use our personal passions, particularly art, music, writing, and use [them] to make social change?"

SHOUT Week aims to answer these questions through the on-campus events they have scheduled throughout the week. In an effort to reach more of the student body and to get even more people involved, PCB is trying to organize new events that will appeal to a broad

range of students. "There'll be a wide variety of topics and forms of presentations at the events," said Laura. "That's why we've picked a concert, a lecture, a panel, a workshop...We really try to diversify our own programming to reach other people."

This year's keynote speaker will be actor, director, writer and activist George Takei, best known for his role as Hikaru Sulu on the television series *Star Trek*. Takei's achievements extend beyond the screen, however. He has won several awards for his human rights activism, including the 2012 LGBT Humanist Award.

"We believe that [Takei's] story is representative of the ability to overcome adversity with perseverance," Falcon explained. "We hope that George Takei's focus on using social media to spark conversation about LGBT movements/ rights will help ignite conversation on campus about creating safe spaces for all members of the Colby community."

PCB runs smaller events throughout the year to promote social awareness and inspire activism in the student body, but none are as universally popular as SHOUT Week. Rosenthal thinks that this may be because students don't feel engaged with the sociopolitical issues they cover. She sees the event, therefore, as an opportunity for students to make personal connections with these issues.

"I think that what we're trying to do...is reach as many people as possible by having such a broad topic, but also focusing on what about political society or society in general affects the individual," she said. "I think we're taking something that may [not seem] applicable to everyone and trying to make it applicable to every student."

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You can see why her inviting personality is enjoyed by Mrs. Lane's class members! Thank you **ANNIE FRIEDRICH!**

[Editor's Note: The names in parentheses are the children from Mrs. Lane's class who interviewed Annie.]



# Reflections on the progress and future of diversity on campus

When I arrived at Colby as an incoming first-year in fall of 2010, I encountered a paradoxical fact. I was now a part of a campus context that was overwhelmingly white, yet the rhetoric that followed the incoming class of 2014 as it began its integration through COOT, First Class, and Loudness was one that extolled the presence of remarkable diversity on campus. The paradox—in which pervasively celebratory rhetoric about racial and international diversity is at odds with reality wherein the level of actual diversity is negligible—has continued to lessen as the administration works to diversify an ever-changing student body. Nev-

ertheless, before I took time off, I was originally a member of Colby's most diverse class. Objectively, though, the class of 2014 was not truly diverse—no class has been.

Even so, diversity remains a paramount objective for the administration and their labor has gradually borne fruit. But the paucity of diversity has had two negative effects on the wider Colby community: first, it has led to a campus that is not as visually inviting as people have claimed; secondly, it has led to a space that is perceived as alienating to people that don't look, speak, think or act like the majority. Yet, while this continues to be an issue that plagues Colby, the community has made perceptible progress in the

short three-year period I was gone.

In simple terms, the progress is due in large part to the increasing number of minority students on campus: black, brown, queer, non-middle/non-upper class and international. Minorities have contributed and altered the larger culture of the Colby context. On the other hand, the number of students from New England, the number of students that are white, and the number of students interested in athletics don't just foster a specific sort of culture here at Colby—they constitute it. Thus, when minority students are introduced to and interact with the Colby space, they gradually transform it because their presence within the bigger culture forces and constitutes changes for the entire community—changes

that are either accommodative or exclusionary. On the whole, changes have been accommodative.

This progress has allowed for students like me to speak, think and act in ways that are natural and reflective of their own cultural identity. In 2010, Colby was much less diverse, so people were less inclined to participate in the larger culture due to social anxiety and fear of alienation. In 2015, things have improved. Now every kid doesn't sound like he's from twenty-minutes outside of Boston; granted, I love my Bostonians and New Englanders to death. But now there are kids that talk like they're from Brooklyn and do so proudly.

In short, the level of comfort felt by minority groups is increasing

each year as students of color see things about themselves reflected in the broader community. That's powerful and it's a remarkably noticeable fact for people who knew Colby as painfully homogeneous only just a few years ago.

Relations between students of different backgrounds have been positively affected; relations are stronger and more intimate. And that's the basis for a cohesive and thriving student community. As time goes on, with the administration increasing diversity annually, and students of various backgrounds and persuasions entering into the Colby context and reconstituting the space, students' happiness increases as well. That's what we all want at the end of the day, right?

The Big Zebrowski

## The Libel fails to surpass pie

As nearly all of campus knows by now, *The Libel* has hit Colby. If you have somehow managed to avoid the thousands of copies strewn around campus, *The Libel* is a satirical newspaper distributed for the first time this year a couple weeks ago. Spouting an apparent second issue of its fourth volume, it is a wonder it has managed to make it this far.

To better understand *The Libel*, let us compare it to what I was eating as I read it: banana cream pie. Both at first glance are appealing; what could be better than satire and quality pie? Unfortunately, the initial appeal is all the two have in common.

A standard piece of banana cream pie from Bob's is plated modestly, but respectably. Occasionally it is a little roughed up or cracked, but that never impedes upon the overall quality. Now imagine this same pie, but smash your fist into it. For good measure, pour some of a friend's soup onto the mess and mix it around a bit. This is the epitome of *The Libel's* layout. On nearly every page there are objects and/or text bodies colliding, to the point where it is hard to imagine that there was an editor in charge of the whole process. Quite frankly, it is a feat to find any pair of lines that actually line up.

Time proved to further undermine *The Libel*. As I progressed to my fourth piece of pie my stomach tossed and turned, but my mind yearned for more of

God's golden, delicious bliss. As I progressed to the fourth page of *The Libel* I was equally sick, but this time my mind was begging me to stop, for the love of God. The novelty of *The Libel's* satire wears off quickly, akin to the novelty of an office assistant photocopying his anus.

Pie comparisons aside, *The Libel* gives a bad name to satire. By its very definition, satire

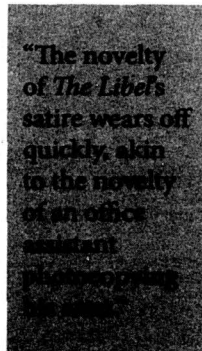
should be pointed and critical; this applies, very loosely, to maybe about a quarter of *The Libel's* content. In many cases satire can forgo a critical message so long as it is humorous enough in its own right; I don't know if this applies to any article in the publication. In truth, the only thing the paper manages to effectively satirize is itself.

Aside from its crimes against satire, *The Libel* has serious implications on the perception of the quality of the College's student publications. If a visiting student or parent were to pick up a copy, what reason would they have to think that students here care about their extracurriculars? Just the first page shows a blatant disre-

gard for quality control. Surely freedom of the press does not mean the absence of standards, at Colby College of all places. I imagine at *The Libel*, the famous phrase "All the news that's fit to print" means, "Whatever shit you can physically print on paper" is acceptable.

In a place such as Colby, *The Libel's* faults are inexcusable. The College is full of passionate students, excellent writers and talented editors, many of whom would jump at the chance to write quality satire. The many other active and respected student publications on campus are proof of this. If *The Libel* wishes to ignore these resources and continue to operate through what I assume to be laziness, perhaps it is time it step down to let more qualified students run a satirical paper.

If you are for some reason looking to pick up a copy of *The Libel*, simply turn to any surface and there is bound to be a copy laying there. When you are finished please recycle the issue with the hopes that it may someday become a part of a quality newspaper.



"The novelty of *The Libel's* satire wears off quickly, akin to the novelty of an office assistant photocopying his anus."

Musings From The Editor's Better Half

## Colby student clubs: unifiers or dividers?

Need to learn how to nap? There's a club for that. Ever felt the need to talk about Hawaii? There's a club for that. Ever felt like your dinner conversation lacks current affairs awareness? There's a club for that, too.

Now I'm not trying to say that those particular clubs are worthless. But sometimes I wonder if having so many clubs creates too many divides between students. I don't know the exact purpose behind the new Current Affairs Discussion club, but I would think that there could be another club on campus that might fill that void. Model UN maybe? Anyone who knows me knows that current affairs are not my favorite topic of discussion, so perhaps I'm incorrect in that suggestion. If clubs are not generating something new, maybe it's time to reject the idea. I do appreciate that SGA takes the time to look at every request, and I know from friends that they do try to make sure that new clubs have a purpose. I also appreciate that we go to a school where anyone can submit a request for a new club. It just seems a bit ridiculous that there are so many clubs.

Additionally, I think that having too many clubs on campus puts a strain on SGA funds. As a member of Hipnotik Dance Team, I definitely have a bit of a bias here. But it's hard when we're told we spend too much on costumes when that is all we ever ask for. And with-

out costumes, our shows simply won't look as professional as we want them to be. I'm not saying we should get money and other clubs shouldn't, but I think that if clubs keep popping up at this rate, there eventually might be too little funding for any club to operate.

I tried to find a list of all the campus clubs and was unsuccessful. Maybe I'm just not tech savvy enough, but that makes me wonder, how many people actually attend meetings for these clubs? The club fair is a great time to join a new club, but it can also be extremely overwhelming and it's easy to miss a small club in a sea of more established ones. Colby can be an overwhelming place and having so much choice can be a curse and a blessing. Having over a hundred clubs to choose from is exciting, but it's also intimidating. Colby can feel like a place where you have to do as much as possible, and it can feel like everyone does more than you. It can take years to find your niche on campus and figure out which commitments you want to stick to and which aren't quite worth your time (because as we all know, it already seems like there just aren't enough hours in a day).

In the end, it's hard for me to come to a singular conclusion about clubs on campus. While I feel there are too many, I don't think we should limit clubs just because there are so many already available.

## Our personal take on Sodexo Awareness Week

Following the Sodexo Awareness Week, we, as a part of the United for Better Dining Services (UBDS) took on the task of clarifying what our group's aims have been and what they are for the future.

To start off, a dissociation campaign has never been the aim of the UBDS group. For the security of the workers, and so as not to force Colby into a position in which it could hire another corporation like Sodexo, members have committed to pushing Sodexo to improve the employment conditions for the workers. Moreover, dissociation is a far-fetched idea given the administration's record of deference to third-party food providers in the last decade. Also, Sodexo has taken feedback and improved aspects of the workplace at Colby. In short, as pragmatic, cognizant and responsible activists, we have chosen to try to work with Sodexo (and Colby) instead of attempting

to oust Sodexo—which would undoubtedly hurt the workers.

Why is the coalition driving the campaign primarily comprised of students (and some faculty and staff) and not workers? Workers standing up and voicing

their problems could cost them—and job security is ultimately put on the line. Past efforts, namely those of 2013, to organize for improvement of working conditions were not successful. Consequently, the morale and motivation to take an initiative among the workers has been low. From the informal conversations we have engaged in over the years, we have realized that many problems still prevail. Having learned more about the problems that the workers face, UBDS members took the initiative with the informal consent of some of the workers, because being a student at Colby guaran-

tees you a privilege to voice your opinion and demand for justice without fear.

Being transparent with the administration and having accurate information was a paramount objective of our campaign. There are several sources that have been used to obtain data and information for dissemination to the Colby community. Internet research was a source

of information about Sodexo Corporation and its general role in the global context. We have also researched data and statistics regarding living standards and health care costs in Maine. The administration provided information about the annual budget for dining hall services and the details regarding the Colby - Sodexo contract. To learn more about de jure working conditions, UBDS students collaborated with Dining Services management.

This collaboration was really helpful and is highly appreciated. However, it is important to note that there was some delay in information sharing. Until the first teach-in on Sodexo, the students organizing this campaign were not privy to specific aspects of the workers' conditions at Colby; it was only later that the administration of the Dining Services revealed up-to-date, accurate information to us. Despite this delay, the students have reviewed and incorporated the newly presented information into our demands for the campaign since we want it to focus on long term change.

The crux of the UBDS campaign is job security. In that vein, we have demanded that Colby and Sodexo work to bring about a wage for workers that is livable; that is, a wage that rises annually at 2.5 percent or according to cost-of-living expenses (depending on which is higher). \$15 is our base wage

demand. Healthcare is also at the heart of our demands; we believe that workers are entitled to the sort of health benefits that should come along with employment at a prestigious and rich academic institution. Moreover, we are pushing for a space in which workers' needs and concerns are met with care; that means that paid training must be improved and workers should receive subsidized help for transportation, if necessary. Finally, in seeing this campaign through we hope to break the monopoly on catering services that Sodexo has on campus, and provide local businesses the opportunity to share in the campus demand for food.

These demands speak to the ideals of the UBDS group of students, of course but they also speak to the ideals of the Colby community. If you would like to join us or talk more please reach out to us at ubdscolby@gmail.com.

Peace and power.



Brian Martinez



Wes Zebrowski



Elise Ozarowski



Ester Topolarova



Aiste Vaitkeviciute



Brian Martinez

Screenpass

# Musings of a young fangirl, an Oscars live blog

Please read this while listening to the song "Roar" by Katy Perry.

**7:04 p.m.** Ahh, the Red Carpet segment. Where ABC officials poke into the vibrant, intelligent minds of male filmmakers and actors, question them about their art forms and their visions for the future, then turn to their female co-stars and ask about who made their gowns. This year promises to be a bit different, though, as many celebrities have sparked a new "askhermore" movement, demanding that interviewers avoid sexist questions and go more in depth when talking with actresses and female filmmakers.

**7:34 p.m.** Dakota Johnson steals the "most awkward human" award by bringing her mom to an awards show in which she's being honored for a practically pornographic role. ABC had no problem asking the mom if she's seen *Fifty Shades* yet, which managed to turn into the most uncomfortable family feud for everyone involved ("It's just a film... She can see it if she wants," Johnson mumbled angrily.) Perhaps the interviewer "askedheralittletoo much."

**7:56 p.m.** ABC correspondent calls that the Best Picture award will be given to either *Birdman* or *Boyhood*. This is the point in the blog where I tell you that I've seen every BP nom (other than American Sniper, because I don't really support what they're going for there) and I am so incredibly conflicted about which film I loved most. Theory of Everything was a beautiful story with some poor cinematography; Bird-

man was incredible cinematography with a story that was less enticing; Boyhood broke grounds in redefining filmmaking and still stuck to an incredible tale with some great acting. Whiplash was an aesthetic feat and a totally unique representation of mentorship: I can't even fit my love for Grand Budapest into one sentence; and *Imitation Game* and *Selma* were just perfect on all levels. No matter which way the vote goes, I'll be sad that an incredible film wasn't able to nab the greatest award in the biz.

**Somewhere around 8 p.m.** Both Kerry Washington and Lupita Nyong'o have appeared on ABC's broadcast and been asked about their dresses. Two women of color who have made great strides in this industry were asked things like "are you worried about sitting down in that dress?"

**8:31 p.m.** White male Neil Patrick Harris makes a semi-apologetic joke about how white the show is, followed by a fabulous musical number that celebrates the history of cinema in a truly beautiful way. I love this art, you guys.

**8:33 p.m.** MARRY ME ANNA KENDRICK

**8:41 p.m.** Best Supporting Actor: please be JK Simmons please be JK Simmons please be... YEEEEESSSS he totally deserved that. What a fantastic performance. *Whiplash* would not have been nearly as powerful without him... and with that, we have our first tear-jerking acceptance speech of the night: "If you're lucky enough to have a parent, call them. Tell them you love them."

**8:59 p.m.** Grand Budapest wins

best cinematography. Thanking Wes Anderson, the costume designer said "Thank you for *Life Aquatic*, thank you for *Darjeeling*..." to which we fans responded "thank you for acknowledging Wes's other (better) films!!!"

**9:12 p.m.** Polish film gets the nods it deserves in "Best Foreign Picture" and Polish drinking habits get the nods they deserve by the filmmaker himself, who continues to talk so long that the "go away" music plays, then stops, then the Academy lowers the microphone.

**9:17 p.m.** Tegan and Sara and The Lonely Island reenact the main number from *The Lego Movie* and it's the first beautiful hot mess of the night.

In-between: There are quite a few categories that seem to fall under the radar, but what I love about awards shows is the fact that they celebrate all efforts that go into filmmaking. There's no such thing as the "auteur" film in Hollywood: no movie is a one-person effort. The Oscars give a space to celebrate all of the people behind these films, and make regular movie-goers understand that aspects like sound editing and screenplay adaptation are so crucial to the final product.

**9:43 p.m.** NPH strips down to his underwear in reference to a *Birdman* scene, and nobody was complaining.

**9:54 p.m.** Patricia Arquette wins Best Supporting Actress for her role in *Boyhood* (again, so very deserved—especially when you realize how much of her life she's devoted to the film.) In her speech, she gives a nod to wage equality and to women everywhere, and we cut to Meryl Streep, cheering alongside J-Lo and it was kind of a really really big deal.

**10:17 p.m.** The President of the Academy comes out and everybody is like "whaaaaaaattttt" a woman of

color in a leading role in the Academy? Cool! But how did *Selma* get snubbed so much? She talks about "giving voice to challenging ideas and different points of view" and we silently hope that her positive view of this industry will someday be a reality.

**10:25 p.m.** Birdman wins Best Cinematography. With its unprecedentedly long tracking shots and incredibly unique treatment of space, I'm glad that it got this award.

**10:31 p.m.** Meryl takes the stage and we're all happy until we realize it's time for the memorial segment. The "In Memoriam" this year is one of the hardest yet, featuring stars like Robin Williams, whose death is still so shocking I found myself looking for him in the crowd at the Dolby, not on the screen in this segment.

**11:05 p.m.** NPH makes a joke about John Travolta and Idina Menzel makes a joke about John Travolta then John Travolta makes a creepy joke about himself, and it's a little bit of an awkward mess.

**11:07 p.m.** John Legend and Common win Best Original Song for "Glory" and deliver an empowering, moving speech highlighting that "*Selma* is now." So many winners tonight have used this platform as a means by which to send important messages, as they absolutely should. The Academy in and of itself is a political entity, and underrepresented groups are finally getting a voice in this industry.

**11:20 p.m.** Gaga does a really great job singing Sound of Music songs but, like... why?

**11:21 p.m.** Julie Andrews comes on stage!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**11:31 p.m.** I am so tired.

**11:32 p.m.** If someone composed a video of every acceptance speech to

night and made me watch it, I would weep for hours. Graham Moore wins Best Adapted Screenplay for *Imitation Game*, and honors Turing by addressing the issue of suicide and telling his audience to keep holding on.

**11:42 p.m.** *Birdman's* Alejandro Inarritu wins Best Director and I'm beginning to fear that the film will sweep these big categories. My fear is two-fold: first of all, I want other films to win, but also, I really don't want to keep hearing the irksome drum beat that was already so overused in the film.

**11:52 p.m.** Eddie Redmayne wins Best Actor for *The Theory of Everything* and continues the new tradition of making everyone cry during a speech by giving his award to the people battling ALS and the Hawking family. Every human swoons.

**11:56 p.m.** Julianne Moore wins for Still Alice and how can you not love that woman. I wanted Rosamund Pike for *Gone Girl* (because it deserved at least something tonight!) but then J-Moore goes onto get another Oscar nomination for Best Acceptance Speech (a tough category tonight) and acknowledges the need for better Alzheimer's research and the fact that "there is no Best Actress" because powerful, world-changing women like herself don't feel the need to compete with other powerful, world-changing women.

**12:03 a.m.** NPH does a fun magic trick that isn't the announcement for the Best Picture award, damnit.

**12:05 a.m.** I don't even know what I'm rooting for!! The Oscar goes to... (elongated, stressful pause)... Birdman. Cue music and subtle annoyance, and cue everyone else in the audience's relief that it's finally either party or BEDTIME!!

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## Investigating gender and aesthetics in French Society

Ever so often, I'm reminded of just how many lectures, events, performances, etc. that are put on at our school and how many of them I miss. Usually I tell myself some self-pitying excuse about all the homework I have or how tired I've been lately—weak excuses to try to make myself feel better for not taking advantage of all that is being offered to us.

That said, I do sometimes find the inspiration to get to a lecture from a guest speaker, and I'm rarely disappointed. This past week I went to this year's keynote speaker for the Clara M. Southworth Lecture Series, Daniel Harknett, a professor of the History of Art and Visual Culture at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), presented his research on the art of the French salons in post-revolutionary Paris. His presentation, entitled "Francois Gerard and the Art of the Interior" focused on the social significance of the salons, and—specifically—Gerard's immense influence on the ideas and philosophies associated with the hosting, upholding and overall organization of these cultural events. Harknett began with a discussion of the 17th Century salons and the 19th Century bourgeois idealization of these gatherings. Seen as the epitome

of French Enlightenment values, the salons of the past were modeled by French salonnières and upheld as the ultimate in mixing of varying political, philosophical and artistic ideologies. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of Harknett's talk was the importance of gender in salon culture. Before the lecture, I hadn't realized how the study of French salons was just as much an investigation of French bourgeois culture as it was on gender and the blurring of the traditional gender roles of the time.

"The study of French salons just as much an investigation of French bourgeois culture as it was on gender."

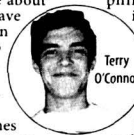
Indeed, Harknett extensively discussed the roles women played in the hosting of the salons as well as their participation in them. Most central to the discussion was the story of Gerard's painting *Corinne at Cape Miseno*, whose central subject was used as the model of the ideal salonnière. Based off of the protagonist in Germaine de Staël's novel of the same name, *Corinne* was depicted with a harp looking to the heavens for inspiration before her performance. As a setting for performances of music, poetry and theatre, Harknett explained the importance of *Corinne* and the example the character set to female salonnières who were expected

to participate in the evening's performances.

The ideal woman was thus considered a gracious host and an active participant. To me, the equality of genders that the salons seemed to foster was surprising. Women were expected to engage in conversation on contemporary issues from a long list of topics. That being said, there was an element to all that in fact seemed the exact opposite of surprising. As one audience member was overheard saying after the lecture was over, it was "a lecture on rich girls hosting parties."

Indeed, salons were events hosted for the bourgeois by the bourgeois. As Harknett put it, they "sat on the boundary between public and private." In this context, the participation of women and the central roles they played in the salons were not insignificant to the development of their burgeoning participation in greater society. For a kid who was originally just going to the lecture with the intention of hearing about a few paintings, I was surprised by how much of an anthropological discussion there seemed to be in the undercurrents of the lecture.

Ending with several of the professors in attendance delving deeper into Harknett's work, the lecture left me with a renewed love of academia. It sounds cliché perhaps to say that I have never felt like I didn't gain something when I've gone to a lecture like this, but it's true. I've discovered over the course of my Colby career how many brilliant people come through this school, and I wish I took advantage of that years earlier.



Terry O'Connor



## Curtain Call

# P&W's Goodnight Desdemona, Good Morning Juliet

*Goodnight Desdemona, Good morning Juliet* had some standout performers who were a pleasure to watch, but overall it could have used some editing.

*Goodnight Desdemona, Good Morning Juliet* follows the story of a young English professor Constance Leadbottom (Olivia Gould '16), who is in the process of decoding the Gustav Manuscript, a cryptic text that potentially holds information proving that the plays *Othello* and *Romeo and Juliet* were originally intended to be comedies. After a discouraging bout of romantic and academic let-down by her superior/love interest Professor Night (Joseph Malione '17), she is sucked into the stories of both plays, and subsequently embarks on a journey of self-discovery.

Gould fit the role perfectly, and her charming likability and snappy delivery was refreshing and relatable. She adapted well to the diverse menu of characters she interacted with, matching herself with their individual energies. Playing a boisterous and absurd Tybalt, Brendan Leonard's '16 comedic timing was a panacea for stale scenes. Alexis Atkinson '15 fashioned a well-rounded and multi dimensional portrait of Desdemona, who was supposed to be a powerful warrior, but was also earnest and kind. Zach Schutzman '16 had a great cameo as a nurse, and delivered his lines in free verse with the affect of a Jewish mother, creating a delightful juxtaposition.

It was perhaps the lines in Shakespearean verse which created challenges for some of the actors, who didn't know exactly how to

handle the language. Anne-Marie MacDonald wrote much of the raunchiest and high delivery moments of dialogue embedded in the language of the characters from *Othello* and *Romeo and Juliet*.

This creates an interesting mix of high language and low brow humor, which relies on a solid understanding of Shakespearean language in order for jokes to land. Unfortunately, some actors trampled on the punchlines and rushed through jokes as they rattled off in iambic pentameter without much thought of what they were actually saying. In these instances it became obvious when people weren't thinking about their lines.

The play seemed to drag on for a bit, I had to leave during intermission on Friday and return to see the second act the next day. Overall I believe the play was around two hours, which is typical, but there were instances which slowed down the tempo of the play. Pacing also took a hit due to the lack of energy and enthusiasm in certain scenes. At one point in the second act there was a scene at a masquerade ball. After the relevant characters left the scene, the audience was left to watch a non-verbal bit where Tommy Webel '16 couldn't find a partner to dance with and tried to make it in with other couples until he finally found another dance partner. I appreciated the attempt to create a physical bit, but it seemed entirely unimportant to the plot, and created an odd scene transition that depended on audience laughter in order to run smoothly.

On the topic of transitions, they were another element which would have benefited from some tuning. Almost all of them were fade to

black, sans music, which chopped up the flow of the play. It would have been easy to carry the scenes through on a musical interlude, or utilize Madison McLeod's '15 chorus (aka trademark Powder and Wig off-to-the-side-armchair character) as a distraction. A transition should try and maintain the illusion of a continuous story, mitigating the "I am sitting in a dark theater, alone" feeling for the audience. During this play however, I was reminded far too often that I came alone.

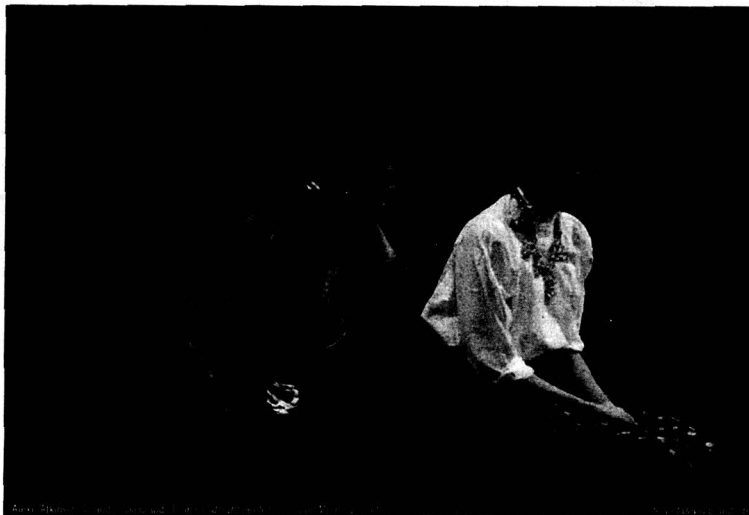
Successful elements of transition came in the use of projections

and minimal props for the staging of the production. This made it easy to hop around from Office to Cyprus to Verona, and back around, reduced the amount of transition time. The minimal set however did nothing to supplement blocking, which was often bare and lacking in dynamism.

Overall I enjoyed the show, and give props to all who took part in the play, especially when working with the paltry audience of a matinee. It is hard to do funny without an audience, and the cast worked pretty well with what they

were dealt. I loved Juliet's dagger gag (she was constantly pulling out new ones) and I thought the final tableau was a perfect way to end the story.

I think that low energy and dead air were the shows biggest follies. However, this was not entirely their fault. Yes, there was some botched delivery and cumbersome pacing but these performers know how to work with an audience, and had there been more people in attendance, *Goodnight Desdemona, Good morning Juliet* would have flourished.



## English professors share original works

By ELISE OZAROWSKI  
Lead Copy Editor

Students, whether creative writers or not, filled into the Robinson Room and filled the small section of Special Collections that houses the Visiting Writers Series throughout the school year. On Tuesday, Feb. 24, the Robinson Room hosted the Edwin Kenney Memorial Reading, honoring the past English professor who died at the age of 50 from cancer. Kenney attended Hamilton College for undergrad and joined Colby's faculty in 1968.

It was fitting then that five of Colby's own creative writing professors read from their own work as a celebration of the newest Visiting Assistant Professor of English/Creative Writing: Lewis Robinson.

Robinson started the reading with his fiction, sharing an excerpt of a short story. After the talk, various students commented that they loved his writing and found it especially funny. The excerpt told the story of a male college student who left his small liberal arts college in the northeast to visit a friend in Northern California with the intention of dropping out of college completely. As a fellow professor pointed out, the excerpt immediately placed all of the characters in trouble, adding to the suspense in the piece.

Associate Professor of English Adrienne Blevins started her portion of the reading by reciting a quotation from Yeats that any student who has had her in the past would recognize: "When we argue with the world you make rhetoric; when we argue with ourselves we make poetry." She informed the audience that while for many years she has agreed with that quotation and felt that her poetry has always been personal and never political, she thinks she may be changing her mind about the quotation. Blevins is never shy to admit that she contradicts herself, adding to her ability to relate to college students who are in the midst of navigating ever-changing ideas about the world. Her changing idea about Yeats' quotation also follows her into her work. She is in the process of working on a new book and feels that the political has slipped into the personal.

Professor of English Michael Burke read two of his pieces, telling the audience that his Creative Nonfiction class would be discussing the piece the following day. He shared both pieces with the intention to share two different types of creative nonfiction. The following reader, Zacamy Professor of English Peter Harris, commented that it was fitting for a non-fiction writer to read at the event in honor of Kenney who was a nonfiction writer himself. Kenney was known for his biographies, essays, and memoir pieces.

The next professor, Peter Harris, read five of his poems including one in praise of iceberg lettuce and a poem listing names for a classroom, gathering many laughs along the way. Debra Spark, a fiction professor, read an excerpt of one of her pieces that followed a girl who was new in college and had a boyfriend for the first time. One student after the talk remarked that the piece felt incredibly relatable.

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## From the People

Captions courtesy of Colby's top Yaks.



Wilder Davies | The Colby Echo

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# Men's Basketball falls to top-seeded Trinity in finale

By ANDREW D'ANIERI  
Staff Writer

The Colby men's basketball team gave it everything they had last Saturday, coming agonizingly close to upsetting the top-seeded Trinity Bantams in the first round of the NESCAC playoffs on Saturday. The visiting Mules led for long stretches of the game and were unlucky to fall 66-63 in a back-and-forth contest. Colby ends the season at 13-12, while Trinity will host the NESCAC semifinals and finals next week.

The Mules had the ball, down 64-63 with 10 seconds remaining, but could not convert on a layup in the closing seconds. Colby had gotten out to a fast start, quieting Oosting Gymnasium by going up 6-1 in the opening minute. The Mules then employed a full court press for parts of the half, which succeeded in slowing down Trin-

ity's offense. The Mules stretched their lead to seven points midway through the first half, led by forward Sam Willson '16 and guard Luke Westman '16. Willson scored 11 of his game-high 24 points in the first half while Westman did a bit of everything, recording eight points, eight rebounds and seven assists. But the Bantams would tie the game at 27 with 4:04 left in the half as Jaquann Starks rattled off eight straight points for the home team. The teams traded baskets until Colby guard Shane Rogers '15 nailed a three to give the Mules a 34-33 lead at the break.

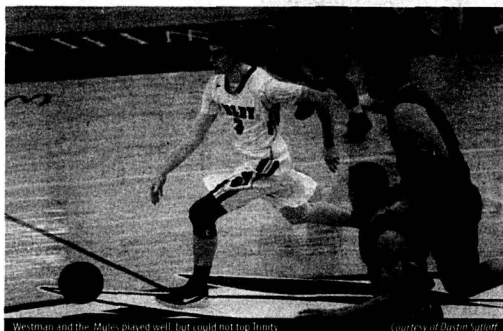
Colby was the better team again at the start of the second half. Junior Ryan Jann sat on the bench for much of the first half in foul trouble but made his presence felt by scoring seven of his 15 points in a minute and a half to put the Mules ahead 44-39 with 14:23 to go. It was here that Trinity finally figured out the Mules' defense and

went on a 14-1 run to make it 53-45 with just over nine minutes left. Colby remained calm and shot 84 percent from the free throw line in the second half to claw its way back into the game. Willson made six of seven from the line including two with 3:46 on the clock to draw the Mules within four.

Jann made a layup and two free throws to make it 62-61 Trinity with under two minutes to go. Trinity came back down and made two free throws of their own before Jann found Willson for a layup to stay within a point, 64-63. The Mules went back into their full court press and their stifling defense forced the Bantams into a shot clock violation. The Mules quickly called a timeout with 10 seconds to go to allow Coach Damien Strahorn to draw up one final play.

The Mules inbounded from half court and set a series of screens to get the ball to Westman at the top of the key. He dribbled right and turned the corner around his defender, who appeared to foul Westman as he attempted his layup. There was no call and the ball went off the glass and into Trinity hands. Colby fouled immediately and the Bantams made both resulting free throws. The Mules' desperate attempt at a full court heave with two seconds to go was picked off, sending the home crowd into celebration.

Despite a disappointing end, the team can look back on a good season that included wins over Bowdoin, Wesleyan, Connecticut College, Hamilton and Middlebury. With the core of Westman, Jann, Willson and the injured Chris Hudnut '16 all returning for their final season next year, the future is bright for Colby basketball.



Westman and the Mules played well, but could not top Trinity.

Courtesy of Damien Strahorn

## W. Basketball stopped by record-breaking Amherst

By WILL LEVESQUE  
Staff Writer

As the final buzzer sounded Saturday night, the Colby women's basketball 2014-15 season came to a close. Despite showing impressive form, skill, and repeated determination throughout the year, the Mules simply could not overcome one final challenge, and lost to Amherst in the NESCAC tournament, 62-40.

Despite putting up an impressive 16-8 record going into the game, holding the sixth seed out of eight, the Mules knew it was never going to be an easy game. Amherst's home form is, simply put, record breaking—their 110-game unbeaten run

at home is an NCAA record for all divisions. With this in mind, the Mules were prepared for a challenge, but had high hopes to end the 23-2 Lord Jeff's record-breaking run.

The Mules opened with a characteristically strong start, as a Mia Diplock '16 shot put Colby on the board for three. However, Amherst returned with a ruthless aggressiveness in their response, scoring 10 unmatched points. The Mules quickly fought back, clawing the game to within 4 points, thanks to a free throw from Diplock and a layup from Caitlyn Nolan '17. Amherst then launched another attack, putting nine points up with no response from the Mules. This style of play continued to characterize the game,

with periods of back-and-forth open play being followed by strong, unmatched attacks from Amherst. The Lord Jeff's then launched another vicious attack, putting up another nine points to put the score at 33-15 heading into the half.

As the second half opened up, Amherst again took charge, helped by 3-pointers from Ali Doswell, taking their lead to as high as 25 points over the Mules. Despite a determined effort to take back the lead, Colby again found itself at the hands of another relentless Amherst attack as the Lord Jeff's extended their lead to 27 points at the 7:13 mark.

Although the Mules fought back hard and earned some points, when

the final buzzer sounded, the score stood at 62-40, extending Amherst's unbeaten streak at home to 111 games. Despite the tough loss and untimely exit from the NESCAC championship, the Mules should have absolutely no reason to feel down about their performance. Junior captain Diplock posted a team high of 15 points, only one point shy of the game high scorer for Amherst, Megan Robertson, demonstrating that the Mules have the talent needed to succeed. Junior Carylanne Wolfington and Sophomore Caitlyn Nolan also both put in strong individual performances, each putting up nine points for the Mules. As Diplock, Wolfington, and Nolan all have at least one season

left for the Mules, the strong performances of this year will undoubtedly be seen again next season.

As the last game of the season, it was also the final game for two seniors, guard Brooke Chandor and forward captain Kate Parsons. Chandor played especially well in her final appearance with a team high of seven rebounds.

With a strong showing from a young squad, Colby women's basketball is undoubtedly looking ahead towards next season and the possibilities that it will bring. Despite the tough final loss, the team has a multitude of positives to take away from the season, positives that will only continue into next year as the squad grows.

### Devastator of the Week



## Jess Thulin '17

Sport:

Ice Hockey

Hometown:

North Reading, MA

**Why:** Thulin had a career game versus Hamilton last week, shutting out the Continentals following a 30 save performance. 23 of her 30 saves against Hamilton came in the final two frames. Her second career shutout secured the Mules the seventh seed in the NESCAC tournament where they are slated for a rematch of last year's quarterfinal against Amherst. Thulin has been standing on her head for the Mules, moving her save percentage to 93.9 percent and lowering her goals against average to 1.94. She currently leads the NESCAC in saves with 512 and is third in the conference in save percentage. Thulin has stepped up for the Mules, filling the shoes of longtime netminder Bri Wheeler '14.

## New Athletic Director's plans for Colby sports' future

By KIERNAN SOMERS  
Asst. Sports Editor

The past year has been a time of change at Colby; from the inauguration of David Greene, to the meteoric rise in application numbers, to the renovation of Roberts, things at Colby are changing. The latest addition to the young administration of President Greene is Tim Wheaton, the new Harold Alford Director of Athletics.

Wheaton spent the past 30 years at Harvard University where he was an active coach for both the women's soccer team and the men's lacrosse team and eventually worked his way into the administration where he

served as the Associate Director of Athletics for seven years. In an interview with *The Echo*, Wheaton was excited for the future, saying, "I believe strongly in the role that athletics plays in the education of college kids....Colby just feels poised for greatness...there is an energy on campus. There is a desire on the whole to make Colby better."

Wheaton was previously in charge of club sports at Harvard and recognizes the significance of both club and intermural sports in a small campus community. He was enthusiastic when discussing the impact of club and intermural sports, saying "that club and intermural sports are an integral part of college life for those students

who participate. And we have to make sure that those clubs are given the right amount of resources." Traditionally, athletics has been underfunded at Colby; however new financial initiatives spearheaded by the Greene administration have allowed "the pie to grow."

"I believe that funding proportions are accurate....But I want to grow the resources, grow the pie, in order to give every team, varsity, club, or intermural, an opportunity to succeed." Wheaton expressed his desire to support, whether that be with financial or administrative support, athletics at all levels.

Wheaton's vision for athletics is radical and exciting for students, as his plan promises to

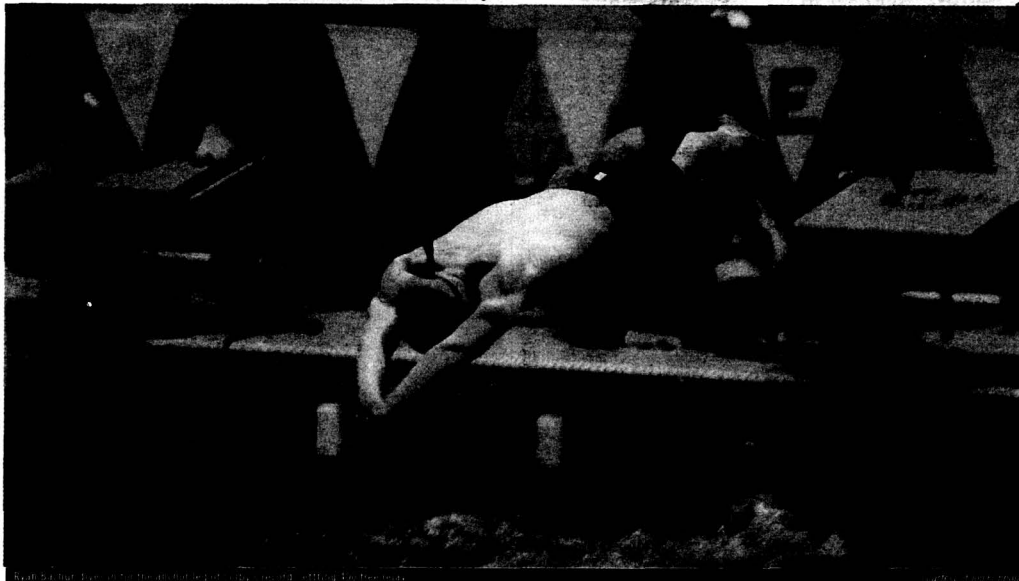
create more of a center for the college where all students can connect with athletics and learn. Wheaton's vision also sees Colby breaking from its traditional role in the NESCAC. Often times, teams travel to Waterville expecting to leave with a win. However, recent successes by the Mules have begun to change that stereotype. Wheaton, an experienced recruiter of both academically- and athletically-talented students, said that Colby has to position itself better to recruit the best athletes. "It is a lot about putting Colby in front of the right people. I think that we have had difficulty with that in the past."

Recently, the college has formed a planning committee surround-

ing the future of the athletic center following the issuance of over \$100 million in bonds. In a recent town hall meeting with Perkins + Will, architectural consultants heading up investigations concerning the athletic center, students were able to express their concerns with the current center. Wheaton expressed his interest in creating a community center that is not only an athletic hub on campus, but also an academic hub where professors can host classes or the public can attend seminars.

Wheaton comes to Colby at an interesting time. The new administration is poised to make sweeping changes to Colby and the role of athletics in the future of Colby is one that is being openly discussed on campus.

# Seniors lead swim, dive teams in championships



By DANNY KOSSOW  
Staff Writer

The Colby men's swimming and diving season came to a close on Sunday afternoon. After a long and exhausting championship weekend, the team returned from Middlebury with their heads held high, looking forward to a well-earned rest. After three days of competition the team finished in 10th place with 440 points, second to last in the NESCAC. Williams College, a league swimming powerhouse, won its 13th straight men's title with a dominating 2,066.5 points. Despite their low ranking, the Mules felt a sense of accomplishment, coming home with numerous personal best scores and even a few school

records to etch into the books.

Jon Eichholz, a senior diver, felt proud to be a part of the team. You have two sessions every day, you have preliminaries in the morning where you swim every event, and based on those times you're selected to come back in the evening to swim in a certain heat. The most important thing was really keeping our energy level up and supporting our teammates. That's something we did very well at this year. There was a lot of cheering going on, a lot of excitement from the guys. Everybody was extremely pumped to go out there and light up the water."

The energy Eichholz described emanates from the team's captains, Vince Galea '15 and Ryan

Bachur '15. As two of the team's four seniors, Galea and Bachur proved critical to the team's efforts, both in and out of the water. Galea, whose impressive scores are likely to land him a spot at the Division III National Championship, came back to Colby with three new school records to his name. "He has been working pretty hard for the past couple of years," Eichholz said. "In-season, off-season, he's spending a lot of time in the weight room and a lot of time in the pool. It really showed this past weekend in breaking every freestyle record this school has and taking podium in all three of those races."

Eichholz described Bachur as hard working, stoic, and a great team leader. Bachur's experience

and calming presence proved invaluable to the team's successes. The senior exhibited his leadership and swimming prowess as the anchor of the freestyle relay team (which also included Galea, John Blackburn '17, and John Devine '18), which broke Colby's record by more than two seconds. He was a part of that record time, too. "We had been thinking about that record all season," Bachur said. "We knew we had the talent and ability to do it, but we were going to have to really push it. But we absolutely had some of the fastest races of our lives in that particular relay, and we crushed our record." Bachur, whose commitment to swimming means shaving his head bald rather than using a dome cap, finished his swimming

career with a personal best time 100-meter freestyle as the anchor of the 400-meter relay.

In describing that final relay, Bachur could hardly hold back his emotions. As the team's anchor, he got to see each of his teammates race in front of him. The position as the team's final swimmer is exhilarating, but also comes with immense pressure—especially when your teammates have set you up to break a school record. "It's an unbelievable feeling to be diving into the water last, knowing that our coaches and my teammates have the confidence in me that I'll either hold the lead or gain back a couple of places." The anchor position held a special meaning to him this year, as he knew he would be the last swimmer in the last meet of his college athletic career. "After Vince broke his own school record again, at that point I was totally zoned in. Yes, it was my last race, but I wasn't trying to think of it that way.... Obviously [for] my last race I wanted to have no regrets, to just go and swim as fast as I could and bring it home and that's what I did. When I got out I took my goggles off, hugged my teammates and cried a little bit, I'm not going to lie."

Both Bachur and Eichholz expressed optimism about the future of the men's swimming and diving teams. With multiple underclassmen scoring (meaning finishing in the top 24), the team seems well-positioned to continue to push for school records. It will be up to Blackburn and Devine to continue the team's relay successes, while junior Tyler Lewtan will look to score well in the butterfly events (he finished 10th this year). As for the diving side, Eichholz is confident that John Pintaro '17 will continue to improve over the next few years. After all these schools records and the best record in dual meets in nine years (4-4), Colby men's swimming and diving team has earned a relaxing offseason.

## M. Hockey misses NESCAC playoffs

By RUSS OLLIS  
Staff Writer

Colby Men's Hockey entered this past weekend hopeful for a pair of wins and a NESCAC playoff berth. Unfortunately, the team's regular season Alford Rink finale did not end favorably as they dropped games against both Tufts University and Connecticut College.

On Friday, Feb. 20, the Mules hosted the Jumbos of Tufts University in what was a must-win in order for Colby to qualify for postseason play. After the first period ended in a scoreless tie, Colby went up 1-0 early in the second after Tyler Lingel '16 took a pass from Dan Dupont '18 and scored his first goal of the season. However, Tufts would score three goals in a span of 1:10 to break open a back and forth game.

Tufts scored a transition goal about halfway through the second period to even the game up. Just 13 seconds later, the Jumbos would score the game-winning goal and go up 2-1. As Tufts began playing with more and more confidence, they scored another goal to go ahead 3-1 as the second period came to a close. The Jumbos would score another insurance goal

five minutes into the third period. With the loss, Colby's playoff hopes were dashed.

The Mules had to rebound quickly as they hosted Connecticut College in their season finale on Saturday, Feb. 21 at Alford Rink. The Camels came out of the gates running, with 16 shots in the first period. Conn scored five minutes into the first period and scored the eventual game-winner just 59 seconds later. The Camels would take a 3-0 lead with five minutes remaining in the period.

Colby came out for the second period with a new game plan and settled down Conn's offense. The second period did not see any goals by either squad. Midway through the third period, Colby finally made it onto the scoreboard when EJ Rausco '17 took freshman Cam MacDonald's pass and put it home. However, the Camels put the nail in the coffin when they scored their fourth and final goal of the game with about five minutes left in regulation.

The Mules finished the season with a NESCAC record of 2-13-3, and an overall record of 5-16-3. Seniors Sam Parker, Jordan Nathan, Nate Morgan, Robert McCormick, and Ray Zeek all played in their final home games for Colby as well.

### Colby on Deck

**M. Lacrosse at Trinity**  
Saturday, Feb. 28  
Hartford, CT

**Skiing at St. Lawrence**  
Saturday, Feb. 28  
Lake Placid, NY

**W. Hockey at Amherst**  
Saturday, Feb. 28  
Amherst, MA

**M. Lacrosse at Trinity**  
Saturday, Feb. 28  
Hartford, CT

**M. Lacrosse at Trinity**  
Saturday, Feb. 28  
Hartford, CT

**M. Lacrosse at Trinity**  
Saturday, Feb. 28  
Hartford, CT

All people by nature desire to know - Aristotle



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