



Administrators seek transformations in College's civic engagement for developing downtown dorm

By CAROLINE FERGUSON
Co-Editor-in-Chief

As further developments continue to be made in the construction of Colby's downtown dorm, blueprints and renderings of the residence hall and floor layouts are expected to be released soon. Yet much of the focus for Colby Administration is directed towards aspects for which there can be no blueprints; in determining the specific impact such a move will have on both the relationship between, as well as the individual communities, of Colby and Waterville.

In an interview with *The Colby Echo*, Vice President of Planning Brian Clark emphasized the importance of continuing ongoing dialogue as the construction of the downtown building progresses, specifically about what having a greater Colby presence on Main Street truly entails and the prevailing concerns associated with its installment. "I think the downtown stuff is one vehicle for these concerns," Clark explained. "But I think the concerns are actually much broader and much deeper-rooted in the relationship between Colby and Waterville."

Dean of the College Karlene Burrell-McRae '94 also acknowledged that Clark's concerns are embedded within the Colby-Waterville relationship. "I think the Waterville community has a sense of who they think we are, as Colby: we're rich, we're white, we're privileged," Burrell-McRae told the *Echo*. "[But] I think there is something different about having all of our community here [on campus] and engaging with Waterville, versus being able to have some of our community downtown."

To unify the culture of both communities, both Burrell-McRae and Clark believe the solution is through the opportunity for intentional and ongoing partnership the downtown dorm offers. "The civic engagement piece is going to be the biggest bridge we can have in this building," Clark said. He explained that it was important "because those relationships are going to be the ones that start to integrate and make this mixed-used development with students living there really a part of that community," Clark said. "It's more about what happens inside the building, and less about the building itself."

In the long run, Colby administrators hope that the focus of civic engagement in the residence hall will promote and foster certain behaviors and norms that shift the current perception of community outreach within Colby culture. "We are actually rethinking what civic and community engagement should look like at Colby overall," Burrell-McRae said. "It's not just about downtown. The residence hall downtown is just a part of the overall aspect of civic engagement."

Burrell-McRae explained that the administration wants to help a shift in the Colby mindset as it applies to civic engagement. She stressed the reciprocal nature of engagement in this context given that the downtown building first and foremost represents, and therefore must operate as, a partnership between communities. "It's about being able to have us learn from community members, and community members learn from us," said Burrell-McRae. "Often when we think about issues of civic engagement, or some people talk about community service, the talk tends to be more one-sided[...]. I think there is so much we can learn from the community but we currently are not set up to have that kind of reciprocal relationship."

In attempt to drive the philosophy of a more intentional partnership between the Colby and Waterville communities, Clark disclosed ideas for structuring the civic engagement around the academic and mixed-used components offered within the building. Clark mentioned ideas like introducing a new research or fellowship program or having teaching spaces in the building which could support curricular pieces. "One of the leading ideas coming out of the community is [...] to have a much more intentional program that is supported and has support for faculty and fellows to really run through the residence itself," Clark told the *Echo*. "That could take different shapes over different years depending on who is in there and what their interests are."

Additionally, Clark explained that groups within the Waterville community will have opportunities to utilize and engage within the building as well, specifically through a large gathering space to be used for community forum. "The thing we heard, almost the most, [from the community] is that there is no great place for community or nonprofit groups to meet or to have an event downtown," Clark said. "So the community forum is designed to meet that need, and to really welcome those groups into the space."

Clark also disclosed intentions to host city council meetings in the community forum as well, offering the city a very public and visible space for transactions and voices to be heard. "So it's not just Colby and Colby civic engagement on Main Street," Clark explained. "It becomes an intersection of the community and the civic life in Waterville with Colby, all coming together in this space."

Through incorporating civic engagement into the different

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Courtesy of Colby Communications

A rendering of the downtown dorm that will contain student and faculty apartments on the upper floors, as well as common spaces, and retail areas on the first floor. The initial rendering of the dorm shows a modern design utilizing lots of glass, which will stand in contrast to the old, brick buildings currently on Main Street.

Provost and Dean of Faculty steps down



Courtesy of Colby Communications

By JONATHAN STEMPEL
Asst. News Editor

Provost and Dean of Faculty Lori Kletzer announced in a campus-wide email recently that she intended to step down following the conclusion of the 2017 academic year.

Kletzer has been a member of the administration for the past seven years where she has worked to strengthen the tenure process and draw talented faculty to Colby.

In a campus-wide email, Kletzer highlighted the improvements that have been made at Colby during her time here. "The faculty role in governance is stronger, and support for faculty development, research, and scholarship, and student-faculty research has grown and expanded."

Also in the email, Kletzer detailed her reasons for stepping down. "Focusing on my research and writing now will enable me to contribute, at this important time, to public discussions about globalization, jobs and earnings, higher education and income inequality, and the role of liberal arts education in developing future leaders with broad perspectives and intellectual depth," she wrote.

President David A. Greene expressed his support for Kletzer in a campus-wide email later that day praising her commitment to improving various academic programs at the College.

"She is a person of great integrity and intellect and has accepted the toughest challenges with grace, equanimity, and admirable persistence. She is driven by her conviction that the liberal arts is a powerful, transformative model of education that should be available to students from all backgrounds."

Greene credited Kletzer for "strengthening partnerships with external organizations [like] Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, The Jackson Laboratory, Maine Lakes Resource Center, and the Up-East Foundation and Allen Island."

Joe Reisert, the Harriet S. Wiswell and George C. Wiswell Jr. Associate Professor of American Constitutional Law said that, "Kletzer has played an active role in campus curricular and programmatic planning."

The office was expanded under her leadership, allowing the provost position to engage in larger-scale reforms. The emergence of the writer's center and the center for teaching and learning are prime examples of her accomplishments," he said.

Kletzer's departure has placed pressure on the President's office to find a replacement in time for the 2017-18 academic year.

In a campus-wide email, Greene wrote that he is partial to choosing her replacement from the wide range of talented deans and faculty currently at the College. However, that internal selection process does not work out, Greene also stated in his email that he would be willing to expand the search to someone outside of Mayflower Hill "should we not be able to identify an excellent internal candidate who is eager to take on the challenges of the role."

Greene ended the email by saying that he encourages eligible faculty members who are considering applying for the position to reach out to him personally.

In an email to the *Echo*, Kletzer commented on her time at the College "Colby is a special place, with amazing students, talented and dedicated faculty and staff. I am excited by this opportunity to return to my research and writing and to find other avenues to make a difference and address important challenges. I will take with me many close and special relationships."



Featured Article:
Softball snaps four game
losing streak
p. 11

Colby's Engagement Downtown Policy changes for

NESCAC schools

By EMILY PRICE
Staff Writer

This week in the NESCAC major projects and movements across schools are changing both campus climate and the way these institutions interact with their communities.

Two students at Bates College recently mobilized against gendered bathrooms on campus. On March 12, Cash Huynh '18 and Maddy Smith '20 spent their Sunday covering up any gendered bathroom signs at the college with posters that read "Toilet: This Bathroom is for Individuals of Any Gender."

The two students also posted flyers inside of the bathroom stalls that explained the purpose of their movement and their contact information. Huynh and Smith claim that their actions are in response to the Trump administration's work on revoking certain guaranteed protections for the transgender community.

Their goal is to make Bates a more inclusive community where any person of any sexual identity can feel comfortable. Although Huynh says that their actions have been well received by both the college and student body, all of the posters and flyers were removed the day after the students had put them up. The two students hope that their actions will keep the conversation on gender alive until all students feel comfortable openly expressing their sexuality and gender identity at the college.

As of March 29, Tufts University has announced that it is also looking to create a more accepting campus climate by allowing its students to update or change their gender identities through their Student Information System (SIS). After this update to the SIS, students will be able to change their preferred name, gender pronouns, and more.

The university hopes that students will feel more comfortable on campus once they are freely able to voice how they would like to present themselves. Although this update will not alter official records, teachers will receive updated class rosters any time that a student changes their profile.

Because of this change, professors will not need to assume the gender identity of one of their students, nor will they need to ask for each student's gender pronoun preference in front of the entire class. Hope Denese Freeman, director of the LGBT center at Tufts, expects that "students at Tufts who are transgender and/or non-binary can ultimately feel more respected and affirmed when their preferred names and pronouns are utilized in their daily interactions."

The ultimate intent of the modifications to the SIS is to give the students a sense of security about their identity and create a no-questions-asked climate.

Bowdoin College's recent announcement for the renovation of its track and grass field has generated a number of negative responses from residents who live near the field.

The college met its \$4.5 million in donations to cover the funding for the first phase of the renovation project over its spring recess.

Although the renovation project is completely funded by donations, neighbors are concerned about noise and light pollution. Night practices and games would require the use of large LED field lights. The construction plans also propose positioning the bleachers so that fans will be yelling towards the houses bordering the field, rather than away from them as they were before. Families with small children worry that bright lights at night could impact their children's sleep schedules.

Neighbors are also concerned about the loud construction and the impact of moving the location of the bleachers.

Besides affecting the daily lives of these neighbors, the renovations also threaten property value. At the first public meeting between Bowdoin College and the neighboring community, residents expressed that their neighborhood was desirable for its quiet aesthetic. They believed the renovations would ultimately make it a less desirable place to live.

In order to reach a compromise with the neighbors, the college agreed to draft regulations on music and lighting. No further negotiations have been publicized. Construction is due to begin in May.

Colby's Engagement Downtown

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multi-purpose aspects of the building, Clark hopes that it will not only foster the mindset of community partnership administrators hope for, but moreover transition such values into a self-sustaining culture of its own. For Burrell-McRae, this culture must have a strong foundation built on the continuance of thoughtful and purposeful interactions between Colby and the city of Waterville. "The [downtown dorm] is asking our students to stretch and think about the extension of our community, in terms of living, learning, and growing in Waterville," Burrell-McRae said. "Part of the beauty about the revitalization is that it's meant to be intentional and ongoing engagement with our community."

Many students, however, have

vocalized concerns about the downtown dorm installment, specifically that a greater Colby presence may actually cause damage to the already strained Colby-Waterville relationship. In an anonymous student-wide survey recently conducted by *The Colby Echo*, a little over 27% of respondents affirmed that they would absolutely consider living in the downtown dorm, whereas over 43% of respondents stated they are undecided and 30% showed no interest.

The majority of responses showed that most student excitement is for the increased opportunity for upscale student housing, as well as more convenient access to stores, restaurants, and other local business amenities in Waterville. Less than five percent of respondents stated that becoming more involved with the local community is what excites them most about the downtown dorm. As for the concerns students find to be most prevailing in extend-

ing the Colby into Waterville, the overwhelming majority of respondents stated them to be transportation concerns and isolation from the College (over 43% and 38%, respectively).

"I want to hope for good things," one student wrote in the comment section of the survey. "But almost every conversation I've had with a Waterville resident who has a lot of information on this project has gone the same way; their fears far outweigh their excitement, as do my own." Another student vocalized similar concerns, that Colby's presence downtown may actually be detrimental for its relationship with the city, commenting, "there is potential for good with this project, but I'm concerned that if executed as planned it could perpetuate the stigma and misconception that all Colby students are wealthy and elitist, and further the divide between Colby and the Waterville community."

Changes in the English Department

By BROOKE GARY
Staff Writer

The Colby faculty voted to add an English minor, providing an alternative to complement the already established English major, Creative Writing concentration, and Creative Writing minor at Colby.

The English Department and Colby faculty hope that the addition of this minor will allow students majoring in other departments, who may not have the time to complete the 11-course major, to still gain experience and hone their skills in reading, writing, and analytical thinking.

English Professor Laurie Osborne and Department Chair Mary Ellis Gibson, explained to the *Echo* that the decision to add an English minor was primarily due to student demand. Osborne stated that throughout the years, the English Department saw many students who had a strong interest in English, but who—due to the heavy course work of their majors—were unable to complete an English major. Many students on the pre-med track, or majoring in Economics, Math, or other sciences were unable to add the similarly rigorous requirements of the English major into their schedules. The English department created the minor as an alternative for these students.

The process of creating and finalizing the new minor took about two years of planning and designing and underwent many different phases.

The idea of the minor was first debated at length within the department. Once agreed upon, the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) discussed

the minor at two different meetings, where they provided feedback and debated the pros and cons. Finally, as is always the case with the addition of a new major or minor, the entire College faculty voted on the minor.

Professor Osborne noted that majority of the faculty supported the idea of an English minor. Another large part of the process was working out the logistics of

tionally, EN200, EN271, and EN493 (senior seminar) are also required. The English Department believes that the establishment of similar course requirements for the minor will allow students the flexibility to switch easily from a minor to a major or from a major to a minor. While the minor requires fewer courses and is therefore easier for students to complete, it still encourages students to take a range of different English courses to expand their skills and expertise.

Professor Osborne and English Chair Mary Ellis Gibson expressed their hope that the addition of the English minor will encourage more students to take advantage of the course offerings of the English Department. Professor Gibson noted the importance of developing good writing and analytical skills both for academic work and overall employability. The English Department believes that the new English minor will offer students an improved choice of subjects for their liberal arts degree by allowing those interested, to pursue a degree in English. However, the Department continues to encourage and promote a double major with English, if students are able to do so, and hopes that the addition of the minor does not deter students from majoring in English.

All in all, the English Department and the entire Colby faculty are excited about the new minor. Both Professor Laurie Osborne and Mary Ellis Gibson are welcoming interested students to reach out to them with any questions. A form with the requirements for the minor can also be found on the English Department website.

how the minor would function, and what classes were required. The English Department worked to create a minor that was compatible with the already established English major.

Ultimately, as it stands now, the English minor requires a total of six courses. Similar to the English major, minors must fulfill certain distribution fields including one poetry course, one early literature course, and one diasporas and crossroads course are required for the minor. Addi-

Professor Gibson noted the importance of developing good writing and analytical skills both for academic work and overall employability

Security Incident Report Log

Date:	Time:	Location:	Comments:
3/05/17	3:35pm	The Heights	Damaged Door
3/05/17	4:05pm	Athletic Center	Damaged Exit Signs
3/06/17	3:01am	Coburn Hall	Illness
3/08/17	10:18pm	Drummond Hall	Drugs
3/10/17	11:08pm	Cotter Union	Injury
3/11/17	1:41am	Roberts Union	Alcohol
3/11/17	3:31am	AMS Hall	Alcohol
3/11/17	5:40am	Miller Library Steps	Fireworks
3/11/17	6:47am	Miller Library	Alcohol
3/11/17	8:12am	Dana Hall	Alcohol
3/11/17	3:36pm	Lorimer Chapel	Illness
3/11/17	8:12pm	Woodman Hall	Alcohol
3/12/17	1:38am	Alfond Apartments	Failure to Comply
3/15/17	1:09am	Roberts Parking Lot	Damaged Vehicle
3/23/17	5:28pm	Bixler	Injury
4/01/17	5:40am	Marriner Hall	Broken Window
4/01/17	10:24am	Dana Dining Hall	Theft

Sheriff forms task force to combat underage drinking

By PEG SCHREINER
Local News Editor

Following multiple high profile instances of underage drinking involving Colby students in recent months, the Kennebec County Sheriff's Office received a grant to stifle the illegal attempts of those under 21.

According to Waterville Chief of Police Joseph Massey's email correspondences with the *Echo*, the grant will be used to create a "multi-agency task force in Kennebec County to address underage drinking and to perform compliance checks at establishments that serve alcohol to ensure they do not serve alcohol to minors and visibly intoxicated persons." Massey estimated the grant to be around \$15,000.

Massey confirmed that Waterville police will be participating in the task force, and added that he believes most law enforcement agencies in the County will be doing so. He also said that although this funding has been available to counties in Maine for several years, the specific usage for the task force is a new idea.

Waterville Mayor Nick Isgro

declined to comment to the *Echo* in an email correspondence.

The mandate of the task force is broad and could affect underage students who choose to test their luck at both bars and off-campus residences. "As warmer weather approaches, enforcement details made up of members of the task force will visit areas and communities where intelligence, tips, patterns, or hot spots indicate there is underage drinking occurring or establishments known to serve underage drinkers to enforce Maine's liquor laws."

Recent incidents in which large numbers of Colby students have received citations for underage possession of alcohol include a January house party on Carroll Street, where 12 students were

cited, and a March bar night at Silver Street Tavern, where over 20 students were cited for underage possession and fake identification.

Senior Class Co-President Caroline Dove told the *Echo*, "It is not a surprise[...]that the

"The task force will visit areas and communities where intelligence, tips, patterns, or hot spots indicate there is underage drinking occurring[...]to enforce Maine's liquor laws"

Joseph Massey
Waterville Chief of Police

Kennebec County Sheriff's Office is making efforts to combat the issue of underage drinking, especially in the wake of recent events. We believe this will definitely lead to a larger police presence at bar night and at other drinking events that take place in Water-

ville outside of Colby's campus."

Dove added that while little will change for most upperclassmen, she anticipates the task force to affect younger students' decision making. "While bar nights will continue to occur weekly—the local bars that we coordinate with have expressed that they are still eager to host—these changes will certainly dissuade underage students from attending bar nights."

Director of Security Pete Chenevert reiterated Dove's message in an email to the *Echo*, "Students using false IDs will be the targets [of the task force]."

Massey did not directly confirm that students should continually expect a police presence at Thursday's bar nights, but he said, "Locations for enforcement action will be based on information that indicates underage drinking may be occurring at a particular time and place."

Jiggs Lawlor '19 fired back at the decision, saying to the *Echo*, "Rounding up college students and flooding the courts with underage drinking citations is a

waste of public dollars."

Although the primary actions of the task force will remain off of Mayflower Hill, Chenevert warned that it will "watch for open containers and consuming in public. It is possible that they may even come to campus, so students should beware."

The question of how the College's security and Waterville police will interact to address underage drinking once the student residential complex is open downtown has yet to be answered, according to Chenevert. In an interview with Dean of the College Karlene Burrell-McRae '94, she said that the current plan is for Colby Security to respond to calls regarding the dorm, as they would if it were on Mayflower Hill. However, Burrell-McRae said that if someone directs a complaint about the dorm to the police, there is nothing the College can do to transfer jurisdiction back to Security.

It is clear that the introduction of a new task force is one of many changes that will occur downtown in the coming years, and it is likely one that will make its mark on the relationship between the College and Waterville.

City, College clash over parking deal

By PEG SCHREINER
Local News Editor

Amidst the seemingly constant flow of positive rhetoric between City Hall and the College regarding Waterville's revitalization, tensions have begun to rise to the surface. Sources on both sides of the town-gown relationship who chose to remain anonymous cited the leasing of parking spaces to the College for the boutique hotel as one of the main sources of conflict.

The multipurpose space on 150 Main Street that will house the student dorm and retail and community spaces has already committed a large number of parking spots to Colby. The College has asked the city for an additional 42 parking spaces at the other end of Main Street where the boutique hotel will be built. Currently, the Front Street lot holds 60 spots.

According to Colby's Vice President of Planning Brian Clark, Waterville City Councilors initially offered the 42 spots at a cost of \$1 per year for the first 99 years, an arrangement that was also used for leases for the Hathaway Creative Center. Additionally, the College would take on the \$400 per spot per year cost to maintain the entire lot. This would have moved \$24,000 of annual expenses from the city to the College.

Clark said in an interview with the *Echo* that he believes it was not made entirely clear to the public that the \$1 per year offer was not made on behalf of the College, but rather that this was the lease proposed by the city. This confusion caused many downtown business owners and patrons to push back at city councilors, who they believed were rejecting the interests of the community.

As a result, the first of two City Council votes on the matter was postponed by one week. In an email correspondence with the *Echo*, City Manager Mike Roy '74 said that the delay was necessary "in order to work out the terms for how many spaces would be leased and for how much money."

In an interview with the *Morning Sentinel* last week, President David A. Greene gave an ultimatum to the City Council, alluding to the impact of their upcoming vote. Greene said that without the necessary parking spaces, the hotel can not be built; and without the hotel, the College will not proceed on constructing a \$25 million multipurpose student residence and retail complex at the Concourse.

Director of Commercial Real Estate Paul Ureneck deferred comments on the issue to Brian Clark.

Clark said the College must have the 42 parking spaces due to city ordinance mandating hotels have parking avail-

able for each room. The hotel plans to have 42 rooms. The College will lease 30 spots dedicated for hotel use and 12 spots dedicated for hotel use in the evenings and weekends.

Following Greene's ultimatum to the city, Clark said a three-hour meeting took place on March 30 between city and College officials to further negotiate the terms of the deal, in which "we got to understand where the city was coming from and the pressures that the Councilors felt from their constituents," Clark said. Roy wrote to the *Echo* that "people are concerned about the loss of additional public parking spaces, but most agree that the benefits of all this new growth far outweighs the inconvenience caused by parking."

Ultimately the two sides came to a compromise in which the College agreed to a \$10,080 annual lease cost in addition to the \$24,000 annual maintenance costs of the spaces. This amounts to an unprecedented cost for parking downtown, according to Clark.

The \$10,080 is the annual cost of the \$28 per spot per month that the College will pay. While the deal is a 40 year lease, the price will jump to \$50 per spot after 20 years, according to Clark.

The hotel will create 45 new permanent jobs downtown, with an added \$1.7 million in new payroll.

Cancun's new look

By ALISON LEVITT
Copy Editor

Cancun Mexican Restaurant, located downtown, has just completed a major renovation in efforts to create a more vibrant and popular location for Colby students and Waterville residents alike. Cancun, located at 14 Silver Street, has been open in the same place for ten years, which is part of the reason why owner Hector Fuentes decided to revamp the restaurant.

While the restaurant may be known to boast large portions at moderately low prices as well as outdoor seating in warmer months, it is not necessarily known for its ambience or capacity for large groups of people. With the renovations, Fuentes hopes to change the restaurant's reputation as just an eatery to a place where members of the Waterville community can relax and unwind.

Fuentes told the *Echo* that they have transformed this "quiet, shy restaurant" to something "much more impressive." The restaurant previously had a large dining area with a combination of booths and tables and a small bar area attached to the main room. The renovation includes a large, open-area bar that seats 25 people.

The renovations were completed in less than a month, and Fuentes

is anxious for Colby students to return and see the changes. During the interview, Fuentes was very enthusiastic when talking about the changes, and anticipates that Colby students in particular will be pleased to see them.

Fuentes felt that the renovations were necessary after ten years of no changes to the establishment. Aside from simply wanting to update the space, another reason for the changes to the restaurant is to keep up with the changing downtown environment. Fuentes thinks that "all the new renovations and additions to the downtown are going to be great," and he is very excited that his restaurant will be a part of the revitalization efforts of the downtown area.

With the renovations Fuentes hopes to increase his restaurant's popularity with the Colby community in particular, and enthusiastically told Natalie Doppstadt '17 and Maddy Ojerholm '17 while at dinner that renovations are "all for you guys." Fuentes disclosed plans to construct a dance floor in the near future. With the construction of the dance floor, the establishment hopes to host more bar nights and become a more sought-after destination amongst students.

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Belgrade Lakes are a popular tourist destination near Colby

By ETHAN SCHULER
Co-Features Editor

It's no secret that many at Colby do not love the Central Maine region or at least show little interest in exploring it. People talk about the "Colby bubble" all the time. However, Colby is very close to a region that has long been a popular tourist destination in New England: the Belgrade Lakes.

The Belgrade Lakes region includes seven major bodies of water: Great Pond, North Pond, East Pond, Long Pond, McGrath Pond, Salmon Lake, and Messalonskee Lake. The region is home to the small towns of Rome, Belgrade, and Oakland. In fact, Oakland is less than ten minutes away from Colby and is perhaps best known on campus for being home to Early Bird Restaurant, a popular breakfast destination for Colby students.

According to the town of Belgrade's website, the first settler built a hunting lodge in the region in 1774. After several others settled there in the following two decades, the town was incorporated in 1796. Like many other towns in Maine, it was home to several grist mills and lumber mills starting in the early 1800s,

though only two small lumber mills remain today. Since then, the Belgrade Lakes region has grown to be a popular place for fishing, ice fishing in the winter, hiking, swimming, golfing, and simply as a summer respite for vacationers.

Today, the region includes many vacation cabins, some of which are only used during the summer months, drawing people looking for outdoor recreation combined with a quiet lifestyle. The lakes are also home to several summer camps, such as the New England Golf and Tennis Camp, New England Music Camp, the Pine Island Camp for Boys, and Camp Modin, the oldest Jewish summer camp here in New England.

The Belgrade Lakes offer a variety of recreational activities for the public. The Belgrade Lakes Golf Club is a public course in the region between Great Pond and Long Pond. The course was built by Harold Alfond, who wanted everyone to have the chance to experience the region's beauty and learn golf without having to pay to be part of a club. The course was listed by Golf Digest on their Top 100 Greatest Public Courses, and was the top public course in Maine on that



Courtesy of Day's Real Estate

A bird's eye view of Great Pond during the fall season.

list. The area also offers several public hiking trails, including French Mountain and Mount Phillip, both of which offer panoramic views.

The public also has access to lakes and beaches in the towns of Belgrade, Rome, and Oakland, which are popular for swimming in the summer. Fishing is also popular on the lakes, both in the summer and the winter. The most popular fish

to catch include brook trout, largemouth bass, and landlocked salmon.

Beyond all the recreational activities, the lakes are known simply for their beautiful scenery, especially in the fall when they offer great views of New England's fall foliage.

Although the region is sometimes forgotten by the Colby community, the campus is involved in the region in several ways. The Colby Hume Center is located on Messalonskee Lake, the closest of the Belgrade Lakes to Colby seven miles from campus. The center includes a boathouse and training center used by the men's and women's crew teams, who base there and often practice rowing on the lake during the milder months of the school year. The Hume Center is also used as a woodshop for classes during Jan

Plan, as well as early in the fall and late in the spring by Colby students looking to swim in the lake.

The Belgrade Lakes are also known around the Colby Biology and Chemistry departments due to their ongoing efforts to monitor the water quality, and work to keep the region's watershed sustainable. Colby has worked closely with the Maine Lakes Resource Center, a community organization dedicated to researching and educating people on the quality of the lakes. A Colby task force, including nine professors from the Biology, Geology, Environmental Studies, and Economics departments, as well as several students, and conservation partners, have worked hard to evaluate the health of the lakes in recent years, and come up with a plan to ensure their sustainability.

The Belgrade Lakes region is a beautiful area offering many interesting recreational activities. Despite efforts by the Colby community, however, the Belgrade Lakes often still remain ignored by the students on campus.



Courtesy of Belgrade Lakes Golf Club

The Belgrade Lakes Golf Club, a popular public course in the region, built by Harold Alfond to promote golf playing in the Central Maine region.

Alternative Spring Break: Volunteering on Vacation

By LOUISA GOLDMAN
Staff Writer

For many collegiates, spring break stands as the optimal one-week rest period during an intensifying second semester where laziness and procrastination are not only allowed, but encouraged. A number of Colby students, however, opted out of the traditional vacation mindset, instead choosing to spend their time giving back to the community as a part of Colby's Alternative Spring Break (ASB).

It was Amanda Young's '18 second year doing ASB. She led the Costa Rica trip this year and led the Virginia trip the year before. Between the two, however, she could not pick a favorite. "The Virginia trip was a lot of physical labor that made me appreciate hiking trail, since we did trail restoration for the week. The Costa Rica trip gave my better insight and understanding to the Costa Rican culture and way of life," she said.

Each year, Colby offers three service-centered trips over break, each with a different community-based focus. A single trip consists of about eight or nine students, who are randomly assigned to their location. This year those who par-

ticipated traveled to Portland, New Jersey, or Costa Rica.

Annie Ahn '20 from Orange County, CA, also enjoyed her time as a part of alternative spring break. "I went on the trip because I wanted to do something with my vacation instead of just going home, and Alternative Spring Break seemed like an awesome opportunity to meet new people and get more involved in student life here at Colby," Ahn said. She went on the Portland trip where the group stayed by the beach and volunteered at Preble Street, an organization with a mission to improve the lives of homeless Americans. They also went to a refugee youth center called Tree Street in Lewiston. Ahn was especially intrigued by the success of the latter organization, noting the positive effect its short existence had on the refugee and the community in Lewiston.

"Getting to interact with the refugee children made me realize how serious of an issue it is," she said. The organization was created only six years ago by a Bates student, but has already made an immense impact on the community. "We heard about and saw older Lewiston residents who were completely against U.S. support of incoming foreign immigrants and

refugees still show up to pass out crayons and play with the younger children. It made me realize that if you want to do something that benefits the greater good of the community, there will definitely be people there to support you," Ahn said. "It was just so cool how a college student, someone my age, was able to start such an amazing organization."

According to Ahn, participating in ASB was just as fulfilling and enjoyable as going home and relaxing with her family. "Obviously, I got a little sad when friends from home sent me pictures of them hanging out or eating good food in California, but I'm definitely glad I stayed in Maine," Ahn said. "It was such a perfect balance of work and play, and I will definitely be participating in my years to come at Colby."

Both Ahn and Young seem to agree that the people involved in the trip are

what made their experience so great. "My favorite part of both trips has been getting to know and becoming friends with a new group of people. You see each other for eight or nine days nonstop then when you get back to campus you miss seeing each other every day," Young said. Ahn too enjoyed making new friends on the trip, and looks forward to hopefully participating next

year. "We had eight people on the trip and I only knew about three people going into it," Ahn said. "There was a great combination of freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors, and I was lucky enough to become close with all of them." Overall reception to ASB was positive, and it will certainly continue as an annual tradition in future years at Colby.



Courtesy of Joelle Bonete

Students on Alternative Spring Break had the option to go to Costa Rica, Portland, or New Jersey; here, the Costa Rica cohort poses together while enjoying the beach and sunshine.

Lauren Duca Gives Oak Student Committee Keynote

By CAITLIN ROGERS
Co-Features Editor

On Tuesday, March 28, the Oak Student Committee welcomed Lauren Duca to present their spring keynote speech, which focused on the theme of accessible news.

Duca, who is a contributing editor at *Teen Vogue*, rose to fame after publishing an article called "Donald Trump is Gaslighting America." She subsequently appeared on Tucker Carlson's conservative Fox News show *Tucker Carlson Tonight* to defend her position on Trump's behavior and the statements she made in the article itself. After this highly contentious experience, Duca was praised for her composure and determination while defending her work and beliefs. Elizabeth Bryan '17, co-chair of the Oak Student Committee along with Sarah Peck '17, said that the Committee wanted to bring someone to campus who had experience breaking down traditional expectations in their field. "Many of us had seen the viral video of Lauren Duca taking on Tucker Carlson, and thought she would be such an interesting speaker to come and talk about the barriers presented in journalism simply by being a woman."

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Elizabeth Bryan '17
Co-Chair,
Oak Student Committee

perience invalidation based on their interests, like fashion, makeup, music, or thigh-high boots. Duca stated in her speech that young girls, especially teenagers, are often silenced on political issues because of their more frivolous interests.

She said that no matter what a person's outside interests are, their opinions are still valid. A young woman has the capability to write about thigh high boots and about the behavior of the then-President elect at the same time; interest in one does not preclude intelligence in the other. Duca also addressed other challenges young women face with credibility, especially with the way they dress and sound. "Listening to [Duca] talk about being told she uses vocal fry or talks too fast or doesn't sound smart was such a powerful experience because so many of the women in the room had, I'm sure, been told the exact same thing."

Lauren made it clear that she is not afraid to challenge people's preconceived notions of her that they make because of her gender or her appearance and left many of us feeling ready to do the same," Bryan said.

In addition to the issue of young people in politics, Duca discussed the difficulty of her rise to fame and the challenges that faced her as a female journalist. After the publication of her article and her appearance on Carlson's show, Duca received a lot of recognition, but it also came with a price—she received numerous hate messages, including threats of rape and murder. Duca discussed the difficulty of dealing with these hate messages, especially on a daily basis. Though she

said she frequently uses social media to find job opportunities and maintains a strong online presence, she stated that sometimes she needed to just disconnect in order to practice self care.

To many of those in the audience, Duca's experiences were a lesson in how to navigate the world as an outspoken woman. Grace Yu '19 said, "Her optimism and confidence in her standpoints are worth learning from because those are the characteristics that allowed her to overcome criticisms related to personal things like gender, political viewpoints, and body image."

The talk was widely attended and filled nearly every seat in Lovejoy 100. The only catch was, the crowd was over-

"I wished she had focused her talk on how she was transforming *Teen Vogue* and her goal in making politics accessible and engaging to young women, an audience that has been previously overlooked and underestimated."

Sarang Yang '19

whelmingly female. While this is understandable given Duca's status as a feminist role model

in the media, it's also indicative of the people who care about these issues. "It's understandable because Duca does work in *Teen Vogue*. Although people of all genders and ages could access her work, the magazine is directed toward young women, so naturally women went to her talk in order to hear her speak about being engaged in politics and how they can also get involved," said Sarang Yang '19.

Though her visit was short, Duca's speech had a strong impact on those who attended. "Lauren's visit was phenomenal. We were so lucky to have someone come who was so willing and eager to get to know us and speak about her experiences," Bryan said. Duca's keynote speech set the bar ever higher for visiting speakers in the future.



Courtesy of the Oak Student Committee

Lauren Duca delivered the Oak Student Committee keynote address to a full house on March 28, speaking about issues like feminism, accessibility in journalism, how she has dealt with online harassment, and the importance of youth in shaping the political world.

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Health care fail: dodged a bullet

By ALI NASEER
Staff Writer

The American Health Care Act's failure was a victory for the American people. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) found that the American Health Care Act (AHCA), the GOP's answer to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) also known as Obamacare, would have lead to 24 million Americans losing coverage. Other analyses revealed more flaws in its policy as well as GOP hypocrisy in early 2010s criticism of Obamacare.

The good parts of this bill were those that were carried over directly from the ACA. Some of the GOP's new additions, on the other hand, threatened the coverage of millions of Americans and would increase the price of insurance for millions more. The new bill also failed to realize the GOP's 8-year rallying cry of repealing the individual mandate.

The *New York Times* reported that the bill carried over four key Obamacare provisions: children would be able to remain on their parents' insurance plans until age 26, insurers would be barred from increasing the price of insurance based on pre-existing conditions and other health history, insurers would have to provide ten essential health benefits (such as maternity services and preventive care), and insurers could not set annual or lifetime limits on how much coverage they will provide a customer.

However, the AHCA would have repealed two provisions that help people afford health insurance: the employer mandate and cost-sharing provisions. The employer mandate requires that all small businesses with more than 50 full-time employees must provide health insurance to at least 95 percent of their employees or face a fee. Critics claim that the provision

causes businesses to limit full time employment and favor part-time employment, which hurts vulnerable workers. However, those claims are part of a false narrative. For instance, FiveThirtyEight reported that the majority of job growth between 2010-2014 was in full-time employment. Further, limits to part time workers' hours over this time period were unsubstantial and too small to be linked to the ACA.

The second provision that was scrapped was the cost-sharing provision that provided a sliding government subsidy to help 10 million mid and low income Americans afford health care. Here, the GOP cited reasonable concerns. Because the subsidy decreases as one earns more, it disincentivizes working more hours. The CBO estimated that this provision will decrease the total number of hours worked nationally by 1.5-2 percent, which will be equivalent to 2.5 million full time jobs by 2024.

However, our priority should be making sure that the poor can afford health care rather than the decrease in efficiency due to fewer work-hours—especially considering there is a decrease in efficiency in inadequately insured populations.

Not only that, but 155 million American workers receive health care plans from their employers, and this income in-kind is not taxed (and thus essentially subsidized). Fully one-third of this benefit flows to the top quintile of income-earners, representing a clear misstep in the trade-off between efficiency and equality. To be politically even handed, it should be noted that Obama grilled McCain in the 2008 campaign for reasonably proposing to eliminate this tax break, which inefficiently incentivizes employers to provide health care in lieu of pay.

Instead, the GOP plan offered different solutions to issues of afford-

ability. The plan proposed to give subsidies by age instead of income, but the Economist estimated that this would leave many with only up to 42 percent of the assistance they received under the ACA.

The Republican line has been that insurance industry deregulation would bring down prices to compensate, but it's unlikely that the potential decrease in price would compensate for the slashing of subsidies.

This bill was also hypocritical. Since the passage of Obamacare, the GOP has demonized the individual mandate, a provision of Obamacare that forced people who could afford health insurance but did not buy it to pay a tax. Such policies are necessary because otherwise too many young, healthy people, for whom health risk is low and thus insurance is cheap, would choose not to buy insurance, pushing up the price of insurance out of the reach of the old and sick. The GOP, nevertheless, branded the individual mandate as an autocratic attempt to force people to buy health insurance and promised to repeal such provisions.

However, the AHCA would have simply redirected this penalty. Instead of being penalized by a tax, people found to have had a lapse in their insurance of 63 days or more out of the year would have been forced to pay a 30 percent surcharge on all premiums paid to their insurance company over the next year. The merits and pitfalls of redirecting the penalty fee to insurers notwithstanding, this shows that the right rallied against the individual mandate as a breach of freedom, despite knowing that such a policy was necessary.

These flaws in the bill led to criticism from all sides. Thankfully, the effort collapsed—bringing down with it the GOP's credibility.

The case for a longer spring break

By CHARLEE MANIGAT
Staff Writer

Spring break tends to be everyone's favorite time away from overwhelming school responsibilities. After all, it is the last one we get before everyone's real favorite break: summer. Colby's spring break is only a week, similar to that of other schools'. However, some schools have two weeks off. Considering how hard Colby students work in addition to our infamously short winter break, spring break should definitely be longer.

Spring break is almost bittersweet. Once it nears its end, we all realize that it's the last real time we get to enjoy our week of freedom and time spent with our family. We're all painfully aware of the fact that we have to make the most of it in order to survive the last two months of the semester and worst of all, finals week. Spring break is important and I think I can speak for everyone when I say we all just need a little bit more of it.

School holidays and vacations are meant to serve as a time of relief and relaxation to recover from the incredible amount of stress all college students go through at school. More importantly, it gives students who attend a college far away from home some time to reconnect with friends and family and to tend to their homesickness. After months of being away from home and being under constant stress, seven measly days is not nearly enough time to refuel. Students need to unwind and sleep in their own bed and shower without shoes.

College students endure an immeasurable amount of stress and sleep deprivation. Both of which prolonged could be increasingly detrimental to one's health. Colby



Rameez Sadikot | Flickr

A longer spring break would give more time for rest and relaxation.

students are especially hardworking and days without class, i.e. the weekends, are usually seen as an opportunity to do even more work than what was done during the week. For us, weekends are simply just longer days for us to be productive. Therefore, we need breaks and vacations to force us to put our pencils down, close our books, and close our eyes. To say that a week is enough to constitute a 'break' would be an overstatement.

Unfortunately though, unlike winter break, students still have a pile of papers and exams waiting for them when they return. Therefore, most students have no other choice but to spend part of their break tending to their academic duties. This takes the 'break' out of spring break. No student can fully enjoy their vacation when they have responsibilities in the back of their minds. A longer break would allow us to dedicate more time to keeping up with our academic duties while also leaving us enough time to also take care of ourselves.

Moreover, Colby College is one of the very few colleges to have a JanPlan. Most students of other colleges and universities are given a month or even longer for their winter vacation. This generous time provided allows these students to have a relaxing step back from their rigorous academic lifestyle and rejuvenate for the next semester. JanPlan ends up granting us Mules only 14 days of vacation, while most of our peers are allowed a month. Therefore, it would only make sense for us to have a longer spring break.

The short length of the spring break does more harm than good for college students. It doesn't give us enough time to recover from school and the stress that comes along with it. A longer break would be a much healthier and beneficial gift, even professors and faculty. Colby should consider lengthening our spring vacation in light of and to better serve the mental and physical health of its students. We all work hard everyday, a little breather is all we need.

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The Colby Echo

Published by the students of
Colby College since 1877

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Student Government Association Election Overview

Molly Wu '18 for SGA Treasurer

By MOLLY WU
Candidate for SGA Treasurer

Hi, I am Molly Wu, Class of 2018, and I am running for Student Government Association (SGA) Treasurer! The job of the treasurer is to help bridge the gap between student organizations and SGA in order to make financial responsibilities become physical realities. As the SGA treasurer, I will strive to optimize these results for the largest number of student run clubs as possible.

If I get elected to be the next Treasurer, it will be my job to pick next year's Finance Committee. The Finance Committee is responsible for voting on decisions for club funding requests. As an active member of multiple clubs on campus, it is extremely important for me to pick a diverse, competent, and committed group of students to make these impactful decisions. I find it particularly important to give a voice to students on campus who are often silenced because they do not share the same views, ideologies or priorities of the majority of campus. I will do my best to hold myself accountable to these values and responsibilities. SGA is the voice of the student body. Every voice, no matter how small deserves to be considered and represented.

I am not blind to the difficulties and aggravations that can come with getting rejected funding for events and believe that this frustration can regularly be mediated through transparency. For this reason, transparency and open dialogue are aspects of the Treasurer position that I will strive to achieve. This can be seen in many physical forms. SGA has worked on many of these in the past but transparency is something that can always be improved. From thoroughly justified email responses, to open in-person communication between SGA and students regarding funding requests, little changes can make a big difference for the Colby community. Student's voices deserve to be not just heard, but actively listened to. As Treasurer, I will be responsive, thoughtful, and considerate to everyone's input and ideas.

Additionally, in order to be the best Treasurer possible, I think it is crucial to not only do the logistics of the job but to have the personality to do the job well. I am not afraid of asking for help. I am energized by listening and surrounding myself around people. I am driven by holding the school and myself accountable for my actions and promises. The learning curve for many new executive positions can be large, but with these personality characteristics I know that mine will be a short one.



By LIZ PAULINO AND MARQUES HOUSTON
Candidates for SGA Co-Presidents

Hi everyone, our names are Liz Paulino & Marques Houston and we are running to be your 2018 SGA Co-Presidents!

Liz has been on SGA since her first semester at Colby and has worked to change the culture, accessibility and effectiveness of student government itself. She has changed the diversity requirement in academics, advocated and provided coats for low income students and worked on countless other policy and programming initiatives. Liz has seen SGA create change and that has made her passionate about the potential student government holds.

Marques is a breath of fresh air for student government. He is passionate about making Colby the most diverse, inclusive and accessible place possible. His passions towards changing campus climate has been formulated through his involvement with the Hall Staff program, Students Organized For Black and Hispanic Unity's executive board, Colby's track and field team, and other initiatives working on a range of topics.

We want to 1) Advocate for school policy changes 2) Foster better communication and campus dialogue and 3) Work to strengthen Colby-Waterville relations.

Some policy changes that we want to advocate for are changing the IAM party limit and providing an academic common hour for campus-wide speakers. An effective leader has the ability to defend something they believe in and stick with it. We have been advocates for change on campus and are not afraid to present and defend any of your concerns in the future.

Fostering better means of communication is also something that we feel strongly about. Attending an elite institution comes with the responsibility to listen to one another; we can work to create an environment that does. Our work with promoting the civil discourse and making it opt out instead of in, and the countless suggestions we have made to the Communications Department are evidence of this.

Colby-Waterville relations are something we feel passionately about. We live in Waterville, but there is often a disconnect between students on the Hill and Waterville residents. This means continuing the Colby deal, bringing businesses up to campus, providing some open lectures to Waterville residents, bringing the Farmer's Market to campus, and having events jointly designed for Waterville residents and Colby students.

As your Co-President, we would make it so that every member of the executive board had a semester or yearlong projects. We will actively strive to provide a larger platform for diversity and inclusion, sexual violence prevention, mental health on campus, lessening the athlete and non-athlete divide and providing measures for sustainability on campus in two parts 1) A new position on the executive board around one of these issues and 2) Fully utilizing the new senatorial position. We want to continue mentoring senators next year.

SGA Co-Presidents should encompass the difference you want to see at Colby. Regardless of what you're passionate about, you should feel like this school cares about you. That is at the core of what we want to do for you.

SGA Elections

Voting is open from: April 13 - April 14

Smith and O'Brien for SGA

By CHANDLER SMITH AND GRETCHEN O'BRIEN
Candidates for SGA President and Vice President

Work Smart, Play Well! From Sexual Assault prevention to bridging the 'athlete divide,' "Work smart, play well" is a personal mantra that we believe Colby can get behind. As SGA President and Vice President, we would serve to help this student body grow in its most organic way: by working smart and playing well. There are over 2,000 students who belong to Mayflower Hill, and we will bring experience and perspective to make Colby the most vibrant, dynamic, and inclusive student body possible. We are experienced, we are ready, and we have a plan.

I, Chandler, served as the SGA treasurer for the past year. My experience on the Executive Board has exposed me to the type of work and responsibilities that an effective and informed member of student government must understand. I've made mistakes in this role and will be the first to admit that I am far from perfect, but I've also learned a great deal about how to accomplish change. For both Gretchen and me, we see change starting with an understanding for the vast diversity of thought, background, and aspiration on campus.

David Greenfield once said, "Diversity is inviting someone to the party, but inclusion is being asked to dance at that party." This underscores the importance of a committed and genuine approach to diversity and inclusion at Colby. We will approach the many conversations on student life at Colby not just as fellow students, but as allies and comrades, ready to grow in this place where we all must feel welcome.

As members of both the Class and Executive branches of SGA, we believe that sexual assault and issues of mental health are two major epidemics that demand attention at Colby. We plan on using our experience with multiple Sexual Violence Prevention programs and Mental Health Awareness week to help us break down the stigma associated with these issues. We plan to facilitate community dialogues, partnering with contacts that we've already worked with in student health services to make this change a reality.

Finally, we want to enhance the programming that we currently have by encouraging greater collaboration between groups on campus. If there's one thing I've learned as Treasurer, it's that Colby has so many incredible people who do incredible programming on a daily basis. Simply put: We believe Colby can do a better job at ensuring all students know about the remarkable programming available to them.

On April 13th, we hope that Gretchen and I will have earned your vote. We are tested leaders who will approach campus collaboration, inclusion, and the issues of mental health and sexual assault with the dedication that Colby students deserve. As SGA President and Vice President, we want to help this student body work smart, and play well, together.

Pen to Paper

\$10

by Anonymous

His profile picture is of him playing the drums, a picture echoing one he had when he was sixteen except his hair is shorter and the beard is more pronounced; his casual scruff has turned into a neck beard that's always there, turning from effortless to negligence. He looks older, leaner, more weathered. He seemed special once a long time ago, holding joints with shitty weed and mastering the cool, troubled soul with ripped jeans and shoes beat up with toes poking through various holes. He still has them but it's not clear why he doesn't just get new shoes because it's been going on for long enough. That's the aura around him. This has been going on for long enough. He's started smoking cigarettes because he says he was starting to get addicted to pot, which isn't hard to believe because he's been smoking it every day multiple times for six years, but now he smells like tobacco and can't stop even though this might kill him.

He goes into the city, drumming on his legs with big headphones on as he stares out the train window, trying to be edgy or blanketed in an aura of successful alternative grunge instead of just plain grunge because it makes him feel better. He walks along streets during rush hour with people in pressed three-piece suits and fitted dresses and high heels walking tall with purpose while he's going to take drum lessons somewhere on the West Side.

He meets up with her after the lesson, getting the text to grab Shake Shack even though he hasn't hung out with her in years, and he walks down to Madison Square Park. She's going to order food and pay for the two of them because she doesn't have time to wait for him to get there. What does he want? Something big with bacon, he says. When he gets there, he calls her and she's waiting by the side of the shack to get the food, buzzer in hand. She's wearing heels and a dress, she's almost as tall as him, she just came from work, she asks what he was doing in the city, and he mutters about his drum lesson and has a hard time meeting her eyes because he's kind of nervous or embarrassed and has always had trouble maintaining eye contact and asks her about her job to be polite. It sounds complicated and he says that's sweet. She agrees.

They sit together in the park eating their burgers and he finishes his instantly while she watches, taking small bites and swirling single fries in ketchup before transferring them cleanly into her mouth. She asks about his band and he says they had a show recently and she says she meant to go but didn't and he wants her to come to the next one, maybe to show off the band, maybe to prove to himself that he's doing something credible that he wants to invite people to. He asks her about her job and she tells him, complicated and financial, and then What's he doing? Just playing music... Hanging out. You know. She's too polite to say anything but he's still blushing, feeling like he's making a fool out of himself, suddenly self-conscious of his grungy black T-shirt and ripped pants and feels like it's way too hot and thinks he has pit stains.

She's nice, gives him a hug, says she's glad they got to hang out for a moment, they should hang out again, and he agrees, definitely, totally, and casually she says hey, she just remembered, do you have ten dollars? He falters. He doesn't. Can he run to an ATM to pay her back? She checks her watch again and says she doesn't have time and he can just pay her back later, and he nods, and she disappears across the street to the Q train after pointing him in the direction of the 6 train that he wants to take back to Grand Central. He turns and leaves, surrounded by people like her in dresses and suits with obligations and things to do and thinks that he just wants to smoke and walks away in his old sneakers and T-shirt, but he has to remember to pay her back ten dollars, because she's kind but he knows that he's never going to remember and he's going to let her down again because that's just who he is and he can't change it.

Want to see your creative writing featured in The Echo?

Contact A&E Editor Cleo Aukland at caukland@colby.edu

BMR spring show closes with humor and farewells for seniors

By JACQUELINE BETZ
Asst. A&E Editor

In a weekend packed with Colby shows and concerts, you might have caught a jazzy rhythm and a lot of laughter bursting out of Page Commons. This weekend, the Colby student theater group Broadway Musical Revue (BMR) sang and danced their final show of the year. An energetic spectacle filled with humor, sequins, and some touching moments for seniors, BMR never fails to entertain. Despite being a smaller group this semester, the performers kept the show as lively and hilarious as ever.

The show opened with a group number on the well-known showtune "It's Not Where You Start" from *Seesaw*, pulling out some classical Broadway dance steps. We saw these moves again in act two, in another old favorite, "Consider Yourself" from *Oliver!*. In this number, a BMR tradition in which seniors share a song with the newcomers, the sole senior Joseph Malioneck taught new member Zoe Getchell '20 how to pull off a jazz square, kicks, and a chorus line. For a less traditional number, the ladies sang "The Coolest Girl" from the internet musical *A Very Potter Sequel* with attitude, followed by the men's number, the hilarious "Agony" from *Into the Woods*. Returning to some classic showtunes, BMR featured a duet on "I Can't Say No" from *Oklahoma* and a group number with some elaborate choreography for *A Chorus Line*'s "I Hope I Get It." The first act closed on a serious note with the expected 'black clothes' number on "You've Got a Friend" from the jukebox Carole King musical *Beautiful*.

Act two began with a bang, featuring a BMR cast covered in as many sequins as possible performing a spirited comedic version of the title song from *Cabaret*. Continuing the humor, Chris Collmus '19 sang a Colby-themed version of "Sixteen Going on Seventeen" to

Zoe Getchell '20. The cast called for audience participation for "Bruce" from *Matilda*, covering the stage in popcorn in the name of theater. A high point of the second act was the duet on "If My Friends Could See Me Now" from *Sweet Charity* by Emily Dunn '19 and Ellie Geoghegan '18, which featured some impressive belting true to the Broadway style. In a perfect song choice, the only current senior, Joseph Malioneck, sang the hilarious number "I'm All Alone" from *Spamalot*, with the original Broadway staging. This song was a duet — although Malioneck's character did not realize it — with ex-BMR member Tommy Webel '17, who reassured him throughout that he actually is not alone, as Malioneck and the BMR cast insist that really, he is. Finally, the show ended with

a full cast singing and dancing to "I Am What I Am" from *La Cage Aux Folles* with pizzazz.

The songs were, as usual, interspersed with creative skits and improvisation, including some audience participation and an emotional round of the BMR game 'miniature tanks' between cast members and visiting BMR alumni. "The show was very funny," says Siyuan Li '17. "My friends and I all enjoyed it a lot."

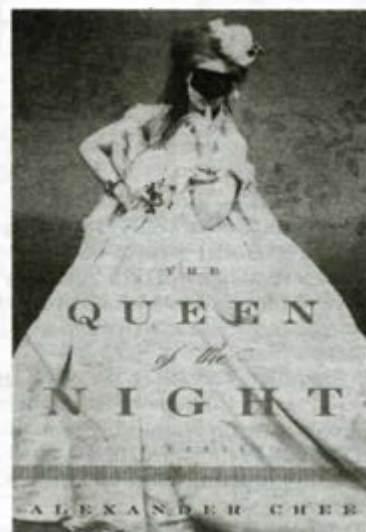
Aside from the end of a season, this is the end of BMR for their single senior. "I'm a little sad that BMR is over for me, but I'm very happy that I was a part of it," Malioneck commented. "I hope that next year, there will be more people, but even with reduced numbers, BMR was still really fun this semester!"



Courtesy of Ellie Geoghegan

The small but powerful members of Broadway Musical Revue, who bid goodbye to Joseph Malioneck, the only senior member this past weekend.

Book review: Queen of the Night



Courtesy of Alexander Chee
Queen of the Night details the story of Lillet Bern, an American singer in Europe.

By MICHAELA MORRIS
Staff Writer

Queen of the Night by Alexander Chee is a haunting, beautiful depiction of love, sex, theater and royalty in 1890s Europe. Published in February 2016, the text traces the life of Lillet Bern, an orphaned girl from the midwest of America with a beautiful voice — so beautiful, in fact,

that her mother claimed the vanity in her voice to be impious. After tragedy strikes her family, Lillet travels to New York, joins a circus, and travels with the troupe to Europe.

Lillet's story truly begins in Paris after she runs away from the circus troupe. To survive, she constantly transforms herself, from farm daughter to circus performer to prostitute to singer to maid to friend and even fiancé. Each experience has its own distinct plot and is populated by brilliantly developed characters, providing a detailed look into what life may have looked like in turn-of-the-19th century France.

Lillet's career as an opera singer is a focus throughout the book, including the peak of her career when a composer offers her a role in a performance written specifically for her and her voice. The role is proposed after Lillet has studied for years of under one of Europe's finest teachers and has gone on to earn fame and fortune. Her European life is a far cry from the bleak Minnesotan farm where she spent her childhood. As a singer, her voice is the rare "falcon" tone, a beautiful but fragile voice named after singer Maria-Cornélie Falcon, whose voice failed in the middle of a performance and never returned to its former splendor. Lil-

let's role promises to immortalize her as a star of the industry. However, when she reads the role, she discovers that the piece is based on dark pieces of her own past. There are only four people who could possibly have told her secret past: one who died, one who wants to own her, one who loves her, and one who, she assumes, never thinks of her. The text weaves between past and present, filling in Lillet's past as she tries to determine who could have exposed her secrets to the composer.

Additionally, her forays into prostitution, theater, and opera offer powerful commentary on era gender dynamics. Chee artfully describes a society where lovers' games, fights, and alliances rule the political word. Women, without formalized political positions, exert power over royal and political men. As men visit elegant prostitution houses again and again, they are ecstatic to find their fantasies fulfilled, yet half-frightened that they will never again find someone to please them. Signals between parties are sent through dress and jewelry. The text gives voice to stories hidden behind hierarchies of politics and gender, and, ultimately, is a thrilling, captivating read.

Andrew W. Mellon Distinguished
Fellow in Environmental Humanities

WINONA LADUKE

TUESDAY
APRIL 11 | 7 P.M.
LORIMER CHAPEL

WINONA LADUKE

ACTIVISM | JUSTICE | FUTURE GENERATIONS

WINONA LADUKE is an internationally renowned writer and activist working on issues of climate change, sustainable development, and the rights of indigenous communities. She lives and works on the White Earth Reservation in northern Minnesota, and is a two-time vice presidential candidate with Ralph Nader for the Green Party.

TICKETS AVAILABLE in Pulver Pavillion, Thurs., April 7 and Friday, April 8, 9 am-2 pm, or as long as tickets last.

STUDENTS: One ticket per person **FACULTY AND STAFF:** Two tickets per person

Colby ID required to obtain tickets. Students may pick up tickets for others with multiple Colby IDs

Photo by Todd Cooper/jasontoddecooper.com

Colby

Tickets for students, faculty, and staff will be distributed in Pulver on Thursday, April 7th - Friday, April 8th, 9:00am - 2:00 pm, or as long as tickets last. Please note you will need your ID to be able to obtain your tickets. Students are allowed 1 ticket per person. Faculty and staff are allowed 2 tickets per person. Students, you can pick up tickets for others as long as you have their Colby IDs.

Every year the Echo has traditionally worked together with the Education Department to produce a special section on social class awareness. This year, we are happy to feature project reports from four groups working with Professor Adam Howard to study issues centered on social class at Colby.

For the past decade Colby has sponsored Social Class Awareness Week, which includes a series of events designed to bring awareness to social class distinctions and their sociopolitical shadows in both our local environment and across the United States. Among the educational discourse aimed at addressing social injustice, disproportionately few formal discussions consider the inequitable representation of socio-economic minority students at Colby; elite institutions rarely celebrate and reflect on differences in social class. As indicated by a recent *New York Times* article, highlighting the overwhelming reality of extreme affluence dominating the nation's elite schools, institutions like Colby reproduce social class in problematic ways.

To explore the ways in which Colby's culture is plagued by and perpetuates social class distinctions, Social Class Awareness Week will offer students an opportunity to engage in critical conversations about socioeconomics and how social class informs our educational experiences in complex ways. Themes of the week's events include the impact of social class on CCAK, Colby and Thomas College student relations, the impact of social class within the athletic department, outdoor education, and improving the Waterville-Colby relationship. Please consider attending these events to learn and discuss the implications of social class in our community. Below is a schedule of this week's events in celebration of social class awareness.

Making the (Elite) College Transition

For our participatory action research (PAR) project, we looked at the transition from high school to elite colleges. By sending out surveys to Colby students asking questions about their family income and their transition to Colby, we found that students of a lower income bracket rated their academic and social transition as more difficult than students of a higher income bracket. After finding these statistics and reading the *New York Times* article "Some Colleges Have More Students From the Top 1 Percent Than the Bottom 60: Find Yours", which found that 20.24%

of Colby students are in the top 1% while only 11.1% are in the bottom 60%, we wanted to look into ways of making the transition to elite colleges smoother for students who are not a part of this upper class society. After looking at summer transition programs at George Mason University and Cornell University, and looking at recommendations to ease the transition from Colby students through surveys, we now have a deeper understanding of what the transitional challenges are that incoming Colby students face and ideas for how Colby can help ease this transition.

Colby, Thomas, and Social Class

One group in ED322 focused on the relationship between Colby and Thomas College, and how social class affects interactions between the two schools for our PAR (Participatory Action Research) project. We chose to both film a video and conduct a survey, questioning students from both schools on how they think of social class, as well as how it affects Colby and Thomas. It was telling that in terms of perceptions of Colby's social class, both Colby and Thomas students had the same stereotypes in mind—rich, white, preppy, involved in athletics, and entitled. One Thomas student commented that dressing nicely is negatively associated with Colby; if a student at Thomas wears something nice, others will joke that they're going to Colby. Meanwhile, when asked about Thomas's social class, some respondents from Colby said

that Thomas students are more vocation-oriented and generally lower class than Colby students, but the vast majority simply stated that they do not cross paths with Thomas enough to say anything about it. Thomas students described themselves as mostly middle-class but barely clinging to the bottom of it. Many of them work part-time jobs where they interact with people of both higher and lower social classes than them, so many interviewees felt that they can get along with people of all classes. This demonstrates a disconnect between Colby and Thomas, but also how differences in social class influence knowledge. Colby students don't know about Thomas students because they don't have to, while Thomas students know about Colby students because of our, and Colby in general's influence over their lives.

Class Demographics of Colby

For our PAR project, we investigated what choices and actions have led to Colby being comprised of mostly the top 1%. In the past 30-40 years, Colby has generally consisted of the same demographic in terms of the economic well-being of students. More specifically, about 75% of the student body is from the top 20% of the population and about 15% from the bottom 60%. We see similar results from financial aid access, as roughly the same percentage of the student body, 40%, has received financial aid grants in the past 5 years. In addition, the same ratio of tuition to financial aid has been given out as the average aid package. On average, approximately 65% of tuition is provided for with financial grants for those with financial aid. This shows how Colby has remained committed to meeting the financial need of students.

However, there have been many recent changes in admissions. There has been a tremendous admission surge in recent years, which comes hand-in-hand with the removal of the application fee and supplemental essays. This

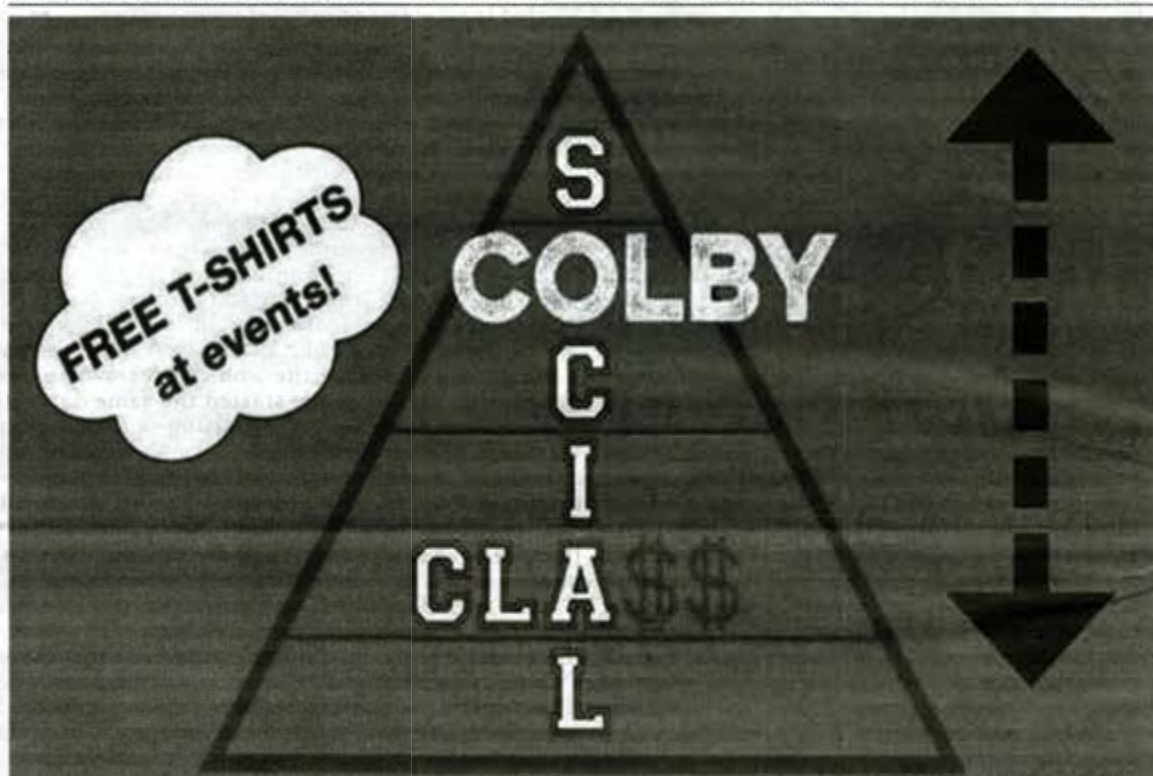
increases access for people, especially from lower socio-economic backgrounds, to apply to Colby. As a result, there has been a large increase in the number of student of color in the applicant pool, as well as students from the West Coast and Southern states. In addition, these numbers have brought Colby's rank up and acceptance rate down. It is unclear if these changes have widened the social class diversity at Colby or if it continues to remain stagnant. Furthermore, it is unclear how much of a priority this is for Colby's administration. In the 2016 college handbook, although there is a non-discriminatory statement, it does not acknowledge "social class" or "socio-economic status". The administration's disregard of social class promotes the elitist culture at Colby. The elitist culture is seen through careless and disrespectful behavior, in particular in regards to dorm damage. Their is a minimal culture of self-monitoring and reprimanding of peers, which is encouraged by how administration deals with these types of situation. In conclusion, it seems like Colby continues to perpetuate its elitist culture.

Students' Perceptions of Colby's Spending

Do you think Colby spends too much money on grass to make its campus look pretty? Do you wish Colby spent less on one program or project and more on another? According to the "Students' Perceptions of Colby's Spending," survey administered last week, you are not alone. Nearly 100 students took this survey, and our results suggest Colby students' perceptions of how the school prioritizes spending do not match up with how students wish money

were being spent. According to this survey, Colby students believe faculty salaries and the Downtown Revitalization project are Colby's top priorities, while Student Entertainment and staff salaries are Colby's lowest priorities. However 64.9% of our sample (which represented students across all socioeconomic classes) wants Financial Aid to be Colby's top priority, while nearly 66% said they want Commencement Ceremonies and the Downtown Revitalization to

be Colby's lowest priorities. Since Colby does not publicly disclose its annual spending, students are left to speculate where the school's money goes. Regardless, it seems Colby students wish the school were funneling less money into commencement weekend and the Downtown Revitalization project, and more towards financial aid. What are your thoughts on these findings? Do you agree that Colby should be reprioritizing its spending, or is it fine just the way it is?



Social Class Awareness Week

Sunday - 6:30-8:30pm - Beth Israel Congregation

Community Conversations: Wealth and Dignity

Monday - 3:30-4:30pm - Spa

Presentation: Making the College Transition

Tuesday - 7:00-9:00pm - Pugh Center

Movie Screening and Discussion: Homeless to Harvard

Wednesday - 4:00-5:00pm, Marylow Coffeehouse

Admissions and Financial Aid Social Class Panel

Wednesday - 9:00-10:00pm - Pub

Social Class Awareness Pub Night

Thursday - 11:00-1:00pm - Spa

Student's Perceptions of Colby's Spending

Friday - 1:00pm - Spa

Community Perceptions: Colby and Waterville

Friday - 7:00pm - Miller 014

Community Conversations: Social Class in Waterville

Thank you to the Education Program and PCB for their generous support

Softball splits weekend after snapping four-game losing streak



Katie McLaughlin '17 has led the team with at bats this season (42). She's had 14 hits and eight runs batted in with a .333 batting average. *Courtesy of Colby Athletics*

By KEVIN AHN
Position

After heading down to Clermont, Florida over spring break, the women's softball team broke a four-game losing streak last Friday against Husson before falling to the same team the next day. Over the break, the Mules played an impressive 10 games in just six days. The team had mixed results over this break, ending up 4-6. In the first game of the season, Colby fell to Plymouth State in a close 2-5 match after taking the lead in the top of the third inning before Plymouth answered with five runs over the next two innings. However, Colby handily beat D'Youville College 9-1 in just five innings due to the league's eight-run rule that same day. Perhaps the most interesting games of the trip to Florida were those in the series against St. Lawrence. In the first game the Mules won 7-5. After being down two runs in the third, the Mules tied the game up in the bottom of the

third before going on to score five more runs in the fourth inning to take a lead of 7-2. St. Lawrence scored three more runs in the final two innings bringing the score to 7-5. In a strange turn of events, the Mules went on to lose to the same team 2-13 the same day. St. Lawrence had strong batting all game and put up runs each inning, with six runs in the fourth to bring the game to an end after the fifth inning. Other wins for the Mules from this break include a 2-0 win against Union College and a 7-2 win against Oberlin College.

This past Thursday the Mules returned for their first home game of the year against Thomas College. The game was close throughout, with Colby having a total of three hits during the game and Thomas having a total of six. The two hits for Colby came from Ella Hommeyer '20 and Skylar Labbe '18. Thomas College scored a single run in the fourth inning off a homerun. The next day, the women's team headed down to

Husson University. The Mules made a fantastic comeback during this game after being down three runs as at the end of the fourth. But during the next inning, Colby put four runners through home base giving the Mules a 4-3 lead. In the sixth inning both teams but up a final two runs to make the end score a tight 6-5. This game broke a four-game losing streak for the women's team. The next game started the same day with Husson getting a quick four run lead after the second inning. Colby didn't score any runs despite having seven hits throughout the game. Husson continued to run up the score with two runs in the fourth and a final run in the sixth to end the game 0-7 Husson.

Looking forward, the Mules will continue their season Wednesday at home against U-Maine Farmington at 4:00 p.m. The women's team will play their first conference series against Tufts away on Friday at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday at 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Baseball looks to improve after spring break trip

By KATIE KELLEY
Staff Writer

Despite traveling to Florida for the week, Colby baseball didn't spend the time off in a traditional spring break fashion: the 29-member team played ten games in six days while down in Ft. Myers, Florida. Their first test came against St. Lawrence, and resulted in victory to boost confidence going into the season.

The Mules beat the Saints 15-9, a strong start to an otherwise frustrating week. The next day, Colby beat Western Connecticut State in a much closer 9-8 victory. They then went on to drop the next three matches, losing to Western Conn and Johns Hopkins twice. They certainly didn't take the losses sitting down, and several players came out of the games looking particularly strong. The team went on to beat St. Joseph's in the first game, and lost the second, splitting the series. For the final three games of the break, the Mules lost to Wooster and Plymouth State, in three very close games.

Fortunately, there are many games remaining in the season and Colby was able to learn from their dropped runs. They will look to build on their strengths, including strong pitching and catching from veteran players. Tyler Mulberry '19 reflected on the trip as a whole, saying, "We had very high hopes going into our spring break trip in Florida. We definitely wanted to win games, but we were also focused on strengthening ourselves as a team, both on the field and off. Though we didn't necessarily come away with some of the results we were hoping for, we played some very good baseball and were overall proud of the way we competed."

Even with the tough sched-

ule, the Mules took no time off, jumping right back into practice and conference games just as other students were settling back into the routines of school. On Mar. 30, Colby took on Bates for the first true game, and conference game, of the season. Colby fell by only one run, losing the match 4-3 despite having 11 men on base who failed to score. Those numbers will certainly give the Mules something to think about as they look to improve strategy. Ryder Arsenault '17 and Matt Garcia '18 looked particularly strong for Colby, each earning runs and several hits. The two look to improve upon the game and their individual stats in a double header against Bates this weekend.

After games were moved from Bates to Colby as a result of poor weather conditions, the two teams battled it out further with two games on Sunday. Bates won both, the first 9-4 and the second 12-0. Colby has certainly not let the series set them back however, and has strong goals that they will continue to pursue. Mulberry offered a final reflection on the optimism of the team for the remainder of the season: "Since the NESCAC playoffs will be held at Colby's field this May, we have been emphasizing since day one in the fall that we expect to be the ones on that field competing for the title. We play a tough schedule, but we are confident that we have all the pieces necessary to achieve our goal."

Colby baseball travels to Connecticut next weekend to play a three game series against Trinity College, who are in both their division and conference. Tune in on Friday, April 7 at 3:00 p.m. or Saturday, April 8 at 12 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to see the Mules take on the Bantams.

Men's lacrosse struggles to find rhythm in early season losses

By AIDAN CYR
Staff Writer

After the tragic death of Coach Jack Sandler last year, Colby Men's Lacrosse has struggled to get back into form with three different coaches in the past three seasons. After a year with an interim head coach, Coach Guy Van Arsdale is trying to get Colby Lacrosse back on the map. The task is proving difficult as Colby sits at 1-7 after this weekend, and has not won over the past five games. After an 8-5 win over Trinity College on Mar. 12, Colby entered spring break trying to continue their momentum against the perennial superpower in Division 3 lacrosse, the Tufts Jumbos. Colby lost 10-7 to Tufts on Mar. 18 after falling behind 7-0 in the first quarter. Captain Austin Sayre '17 had three goals for Colby.

Following a close 10-8 loss to Vassar College on Mar. 21, Colby lost to Connecticut College 11-9. Colby took the lead going into the half but had no answers in the third quarter as Connecticut scored six goals to Colby's

one. Colby scored the only two goals of the fourth quarter but Connecticut's stifling defense prevented Colby from coming out on top. It was another big day for Sayre who scored four goals. The story of the game was Connecticut's face-off man, Ben Parens, who won 22 out of 24 face-offs, leaving Connecticut with a huge advantage after each goal. Colton Michel '19 finished with two goals and an assist and Lane Kadish '20 also tacked on two goals. On Mar. 29, the Mules lost to Keene State 17-10.

On Saturday April 1, the Mules faced off against Wesleyan University in Connecticut. After jumping out to an early lead at 2-0 at the end of the first quarter thanks to goals from Sayre and Tucker Dietrick '18. The second quarter was dominated by Wesleyan as they scored four unan-

swered goals to end.

Again, the third quarter didn't go Colby's way as Wesleyan scored six goals to Colby's two. Three of their third quarter goals came from Harry Stanton, who scored as time ran out in the third quarter to make it 10-4. This single-handed effort seemed good enough to put the game out of reach, but as the fourth quarter started Colby made things interesting. Goals from Sayre and Kevin Seiler '17 in the beginning of the fourth brought the game to 10-6 with nine minutes to go, but Wesleyan scored again to make it 11-6 after a few unforced errors from the Mules. Goalie CJ Layton '19 had 11 stops on 22 shots for Colby. The team will look to turn their season around, starting with a game against Amherst this Saturday April 8.

Colby sits at 1-7 after this weekend, and has not won in the past five games.

March Madness Recap

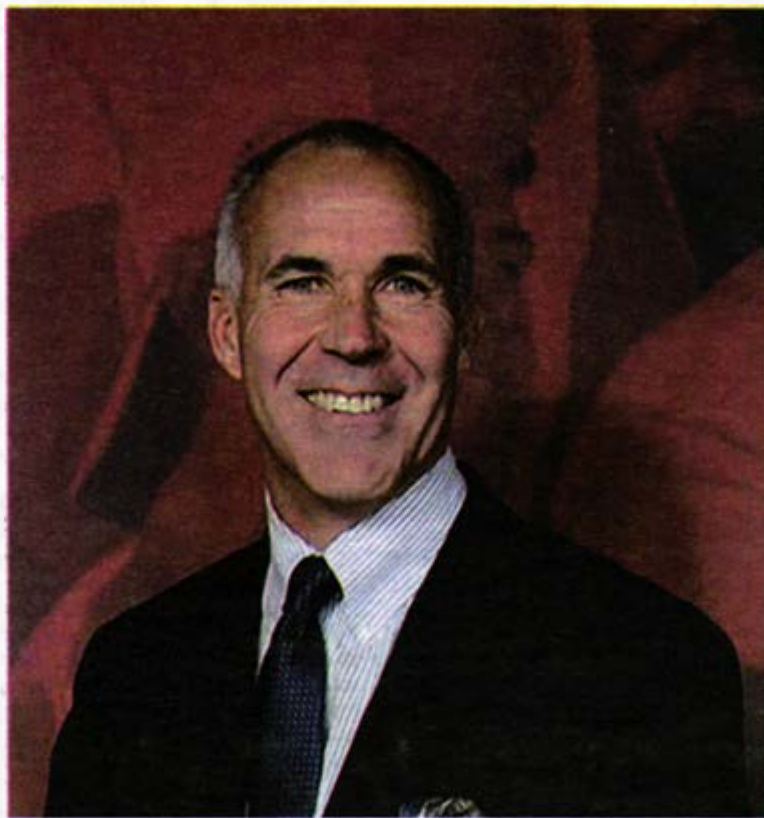
From, MADNESS. Page 12

minutes left. However, Gonzaga struck right back with a three to regain the lead. They never gave the lead up again. South Carolina had a chance down three with the ball, but Gonzaga fouled with 3.6 seconds left, sending South Carolina to the line to shoot two free throws. To win, the Gamecocks would have to make the first, miss the second, and get the rebound. They executed the first two steps, but Gonzaga got the rebound and held on to the ball for the win. In similar fashion, Oregon also lost to UNC because of a missed rebound. Their game went back and forth throughout the first half, but North Carolina got the lead at the half and held in through the second half. Oregon made a late comeback, getting within one with six seconds to go. They fouled Kennedy Meeks, who missed both of his free throws, but UNC pulled down the rebound and passed out to Joel Berry II. Oregon fouled Berry, who also missed both of his free throws. However, Meeks boxed out Jordan Bell and pulled down his 14th rebound of the game. He passed the ball out, and UNC was able to run out the clock for the win, setting up a UNC-Gonzaga championship game. It would be UNC's second championship game in

a row, and Gonzaga's first ever. A true blue blood against one of the best mid-major programs.

The stage was set. On Monday night, Gonzaga and North Carolina tipped off to determine the 2017 NCAA Champion. Gonzaga looked good in the first half, building up a five-point lead within the first ten minutes. However, UNC cut the lead to three by halftime. The teams went back and forth in the second half. Poor play by both sides and bad officiating prevented either team from finding an offensive flow. There was a long stretch in which neither team scored a field goal; all points came from free throws. With 1:55 left in the game, Gonzaga's Nigel Williams-Goss made a jumper to give the Bulldogs a 65-63 lead. These would be the last points Gonzaga would score. After Isaiah Hicks hit a jump shot that put the Tar Heels up three with 27 seconds remaining, Williams-Goss took the ball to the middle of the lane and tried to get a shot over North Carolina center Jodie Meeks. Meeks blocked the shot, and Joel Berry II passed to a leaking Justin Jackson for an exclamation point dunk. Gonzaga failed to score, and Berry hit one free throw with seven seconds left to bring the score to 71-65, the final score. Just one year after a buzzer beating three by Kris Jenkins put Villanova over UNC for the championship, the Tar Heels now stood at the top of the college basketball world.

Tim Wheaton resigns as Harold Alfond Director of Athletics



Courtesy of Colby Athletics

By DREW LADNER
Sports Editor

In an email sent to the Colby community on March 15 by Provost and Dean of Faculty Lori Kletzer, it was announced that Tim Wheaton will resign as the Harold Alfond Director of Athletics after just two years.

According to Kletzer's email, "family needs" were the reason for Wheaton's departure. Wheaton has a wife and three children, one of whom is an 11-year-old, at home in

Massachusetts. In an interview with the *Echo*, Wheaton described his desire to return to his family, "Like most situations there was a fantastic work opportunity...and you figure you'll work out the family stuff. 90 percent of the time you're able to do that. This time we just weren't. I felt this situation wasn't sustainable."

Wheaton joined Colby in 2015 after spending 30 years at Harvard University as a coach and administrator. He took over as the Director of Athletics from Marcella

Zalot, who held the position for 13 years. Wheaton was hired to help rebuild Colby Athletics and has laid the groundwork for the upcoming changes. He oversaw the construction of the new Baseball/Softball Complex and the approval of the new athletic complex. He has also hired eight of Colby's current head coaches.

Now, Wheaton will join his family's educational consulting firm. Though he is transitioning out of athletics, Wheaton says he enjoyed his time as an athletic director and hopes to find new opportunities to work in athletics. "I think it's an opportunity to do what's right for my family and then find the work," he said.

The Colby Athletic Department has already begun their search for the new Director of Athletics. The hire will enter a department in transition. The new athletic complex, which the College hopes to open in 2020, received a 10 million dollar donation back in February. New fields have also been planned. Wheaton said the timing of his resignation was intended to make the transition easier for Colby.

"I felt that this was becoming more of a challenge over time and the longer [my] decision waited, the more difficult it would be for Colby. This decision now was just going to allow me to leave as quickly and cleanly as possible and allow the school to move on quickly to get someone great in place. That was very important to me," he said.

Wheaton's resignation means just one more change to Colby Athletics. The Colby Athletic Department has a lot of work to do in Wheaton's absence, but there is still a lot to look forward to. The new hire will take over following Wheaton's departure from Colby on June 30.

Devastator of the Week



Courtesy of Dustin Sattloff '15

Sasha Fritts '18

Sport:

Lacrosse

Position:

Attack

Hometown:

Darrien, CT

5

The total number of goals scored by Fritts against Wellesley and Wesleyan.

A superfan's extensive recap of March Madness

By JOHN STEENROD
Staff Writer

March Madness is known for its mayhem and unpredictability, but the first round of the 2017 tournament proved to be an exception. All teams seeded one through four advanced for the fifth time ever, and the first time in the last ten years. The 5/12 matchup is always a hot bed for upset picks, and although Princeton and UNC-Wilmington put up solid fights, only Middle Tennessee succeeded in pulling off the upset, beating 5-seed Minnesota handily. However, this was a big year for 6/11 upsets. The University of Rhode Island, Xavier, and USC all won their games, over Creighton, Maryland, and SMU, respectively. With their win, USC continued the trend that a team that played in the First Four has won at least one game in every tournament since the First Four was introduced in 2011. However, the only other "upsets" in the first round occurred when heavily underseeded Wichita State beat Dayton in their 7/10 matchup, and when 9-seed Michigan State beat 8-seed Miami. It is worth noting that Wichita State was favored by oddsmakers in their game, and a 9-seed beating an 8-seed isn't really considered an upset. The six seeds were the only higher seed to lose more than one game, as they lost three, with only Cincinnati pulling off a win.

In the second game of the round of 32, No. 8 Wisconsin took down overall No. 1 Villanova on Saturday. The Badgers

looked at home against the favorite, and scored the winning basket off of a beautiful move by Nigel Hayes. No. 7 Michigan opened up Sunday with an upset of No. 2 Louisville, but despite close games the rest of the day, the higher seeds won all their games. However, there was one exception. No. 7 South Carolina thoroughly outplayed No. 2 Duke to win their second game in the tournament for the first time since 1973. However, the bracket was still top heavy. The four teams left in the South region were the top four seeds, while the West and Midwest regions still had three of their top four seeds. However, with losses by Villanova and Duke, the East region was blown wide open. Surprisingly, the ACC, which sent nine teams to March Madness, only had one team, UNC, advance past the first weekend.

The Sweet Sixteen opened with a series of close games, with No. 3 Oregon beating No. 7 Michigan and No. 1 Gonzaga beating No. 4 West Virginia. No. 1 Kansas looked like the best team in the country as the Jayhawks destroyed No. 4 Purdue, and No. 11 Xavier pulled off a thrilling comeback to upset No. 2 Arizona. The second day of the Sweet Sixteen featured No. 1 UNC and No. 7 South Carolina easily defeating their opponents. No. 2 Kentucky's De'Aaron Fox set a freshman tournament scoring record with his 39 points to lead the Wildcats over No. 3 UCLA, which left only one game to be decided. The No. 4 Florida Gators lead by 12 with 5:24 to go,

until an unlikely comeback highlighted by a running three pointer at the buzzer by No. 8 Wisconsin's Zak Showalter. As overtime went on, the Badgers took the lead, and were up two with just seconds on the game clock. However, Wisconsin could only watch as Florida's Chris Chiozza hit a running three pointer of his own at the buzzer to give Florida the win, and landed the Gators in the final spot of the Elite Eight.

The Elite Eight opened with Xavier trying to reach the Final Four. Unfortunately, standing in their way was Gonzaga. Led by Nigel Williams-Goss, the Bulldogs routed Xavier to head to their first Final Four ever. Before this game, Gonzaga and Xavier were tied for the most NCAA Tournament wins all-time without a Final Four appearance with 29 wins each. After looking like possibly the best team in the country as they eviscerated Purdue, Kansas looked bad against Oregon. Outside of National Player of the Year Frank Mason III, the Jayhawks struggled to find any offensive rhythm. Mason was their only consistent source of offense while Oregon's Tyler Dorsey exploded for 27 points on 9-13 shooting,

including 6-10 from three. Jordan Bell recorded eight blocks for Oregon, and shut down Kansas's interior scoring as Oregon advanced to their first Final Four since 1939. The next day, in an SEC matchup, Florida went into the locker room at halftime with

a seven point lead over South Carolina. However, South Carolina came back, and after the ten minute mark neither team could get more than a two point advantage. However, with just over two minutes left, South Carolina finally broke through, building a five point lead. The Gamecocks were able to hold off the Gators for the rest of the game, and eventually won by seven. This was South Carolina's first ever Final Four, a great

accomplishment for a school that hadn't even made the field since 2004. Next, the North Carolina Tar Heels faced off against the Kentucky Wildcats in a rematch of one of the best regular season games this year. This Elite Eight matchup had high expectations, and it didn't disappoint. North Carolina help a solid five point lead for most of the first half, with Kentucky doing their best to stay within striking distance with freshman stars Fox and Ma-

lik Monk in foul trouble. In the second half, UK quickly tied the game up. The Wildcats took the lead on a 14-2 run, but with 3:22 left, UNC regained a one point lead, which they rapidly expanded to a seven point lead with 54 seconds left. Two clutch threes by Fox and Monk in the span of nine seconds brought UK within one point. UNC answered as Jackson hit a tough layup to bring the lead to three. Monk got the ball at the top of the key, and hit a heavily contested three to tie the game up with ten seconds left. North Carolina didn't call a timeout, and sophomore Luke Maye got free from his defender. He caught a pass and stepped out to near the three point line, and fired the shot of his life. It went in with 0.3 on the clock, sealing the game for North Carolina. Maye had walked onto the team his freshman year, and with that shot transformed into a UNC legend.

Gonzaga faced South Carolina in the first game of the Final Four in Phoenix. Neither team had ever made the Final Four before. Gonzaga led for most of the game, but true to character South Carolina stuck around through grit and hard work. In the second half, South Carolina turned a series of defensive stops into points and made a 16-0 run to get a two point lead with seven