

Students, faculty and staff say #ENOUGH to gun violence

By **ADDIE BULLOCK**
Associate News Editor

March 14 marked exactly one month since the shooting in Parkland, FL at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, which left 14 students and three staff members dead and many others injured. In response, The Planned Parenthood Generation Action Team, with support from dozens of other student organizations and departments across Colby's campus, organized an #ENOUGH walkout

ty and staff were invited to leave their classes, meetings, and other commitments to meet on the steps of Miller for 17 minutes of silence, where one of the Parkland victims' names was read every minute by Maggie Burgos '18. Student Body President Elizabeth Paulino '18 and Class Senator Brandon Park '18 held a sign that read #ENOUGH. The event took place in the midst of a nor'easter storm, but still attracted hundreds of members of the Colby community.

Hundreds of students and members of the Colby community attended the #ENOUGH walkout. Following the 17 minutes of silence, several students registered voters in high traffic areas on campus as students returned to class.

The *Echo* spoke with Kat Restrepo '18, Senior Class President and walk out attendee, about the event and its significance. "It can feel at times like there's nothing we can do to impact significant change. But this isn't the case, there is something we can do, something more than just hopes and prayers and that's why the walkout is so incredibly important. It was an active stance against violence and for meaningful, necessary change and I'm so grateful that my peers and classmates took the initiative to organize the event."

Kat Restrepo
Class of 2018

in solidarity with millions of other students across the country. The walkout intended to show support for ending gun violence in America and honor the 17 lives taken in Parkland. Students, facul-

Groups who co sponsored included the Student Government Associ-



Hundreds of students lined the paths of the academic quad in front of Miller Library on March 14 to protest gun violence on campuses in America following the Parkland shooting.

ation, Feminist Alliance, the American Studies Department, the Biology Department, the Asian Student Association, the Women's Hockey team, Students Organized for Black and Latinx Unity, and the Multi-Faith Council, among others.

Similar marches took place across the country, all led by the Women's March Youth EMPOWER orga-

nization. In total, almost 3,000 walkouts took place nationally, from college campuses to pre-schools. Students across Maine also participated, including at Portland and Falmouth high schools, and St. Joseph's college in Standish.

This is just one of three protests against gun violence that are taking place nationally and around the world. On March 24,

March for Our Lives will protest gun violence with over 700 events across the world and a main march in Washington DC. March for our lives was organized by the survivors and teen activists of the Parkland shooting and the organization Everytown for Gun Safety. Another walkout, supported by Indivisible, is occurring nationwide on April 20, the anniversary

of the shooting at Columbine High School.

The College has voiced support for student protesting, with the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid announcing that they would not penalize students who participated in the walkout or any protests surrounding this issue for missing class, even if they were punished in their own schools.

Hockey wins DIII NCAA quarterfinals, heads to Lake Placid for Frozen Four

Colby hockey advances further in the Tournament than ever before and is heading to the semifinals.



Phil Klitirinos '18 readies for his shift in game against SUNY Geneseo on Saturday where the Mules won 2-1 with a last second "miracle" goal. The hockey team will battle St. Norbert in Lake Placid, NY in the semifinals as part of the Frozen Four.

For local coverage, see pg. 3



Courtesy of Claire Cahill

Senator Susan Collins announced as 2018 Commencement speaker

Vice President of Advancement Andrew McGadney announced the Commencement Speakers for the class of 2018. US Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) will deliver the commencement address on May 27 and artist and current inaugural Lunder artist in residence at Colby Theaster Gates will deliver the May 26 baccalaureate address. The College will also be awarding honorary degrees to assistant managing editor of the New York Times Rebecca Corbett '74, P '09 and Gregory W. Powell P'15, the executive chairman of the Harold Alfond Foundation. Commencement begins at 10 a.m. on Miller Lawn.



Courtesy of Susan Collins

Collins is a senator known for her commitment to the middle class and works to reach across the aisle.

Colby's regular decision acceptance rate hits 13% for Class of 2022

By CLAIRE BORECKI
News Reporter

Since arriving at Colby in 2014, Colby President David A. Greene has consistently advocated for a higher performing, better funded and more diversified Colby. As admissions-decision season returns, it can only be expected that the College's incoming class would

be even more competitive than the last.

"Wow...is it the most talented, diverse class Colby has ever seen?" Aidan Tokarski '21 asked sarcastically when informed of application decisions, poking fun at oft-repeated rhetoric from College administration.

Although the statement may get old, it does seem to be

the truth, though Vice President and Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Matt Proto makes an important qualification: "I would tell you they will be the most talented class Colby has ever seen," he said, "but until we see who enrolls, we can't say."

On March 16, Colby released 12,313 regular admissions decisions for the Class of

2022. 13 percent of these students— or 1,602 of them— received acceptance letters. This is the lowest acceptance rate in Colby's history, a continuation in the rapid decrease of this number in recent years.

Accepted students come from 923 high schools in 47 states and 67 countries. 90 percent of students who submitted a class rank were in the top ten percent of their class, and SAT and ACT scores increased significantly, with a median ACT of 33 and median SAT scores of 730 for reading and 760 for math.

"They are extremely academically talented," Proto said, "and they come from extremely diverse walks of life. They've made a positive impact in their communities, and Colby will give them the opportunity to do more."

The academic statistics of the Class of 2022 add to Colby's narrative of increased selectivity. Along with improved test scores and class rank, representation from high schools across the country has grown. For the Class of 2022, the percentage of first-generation students will remain about the same (roughly ten percent), although Colby has increased its diversity significantly over the past decade.

Colby's numbers are beginning to compete with NESCACs who have traditionally received greater name recognition, funds and selectivity. Colby's Class of 2022 is about as selective as Bowdoin's Class of 2021, for example, and rivals Amherst's Class of 2020 data. Even diversity of high-school

representation is beginning to match colleges with a more established pull in guidance departments. It's likely that other NESCACs have also increased their selectivity in admissions decisions for the coming year, though this data has not yet been published.

However, we have yet to see which students and how many commit to actually joining Colby's Class of 2022. Once they arrive, Colby must consider a more important part of their narrative. How will these students experience Colby in new and better ways? Will the football team get better? "I hope so," Proto responds.

On a more fundamental level, there are many resources the Class of 2022 will have access to as first-years that current students did not. Significantly, the Class of 2022 will be the first to benefit from new financial aid commitments that provide families making under \$60,000 a year with free tuition. This policy makes Colby immediately financially accessible to half the population of the United States.

However, it's likely that this new policy did not significantly affect the demographics of the Class of 2022. The policy was only rolled out in December, and is unlikely to have influenced the students' decisions to apply this year. Proto expects that the policy will have more significant implications for the Class of 2023.

Similarly, the Class of 2022 will be the first class to have applied with the knowledge of DavisConnects and its op-

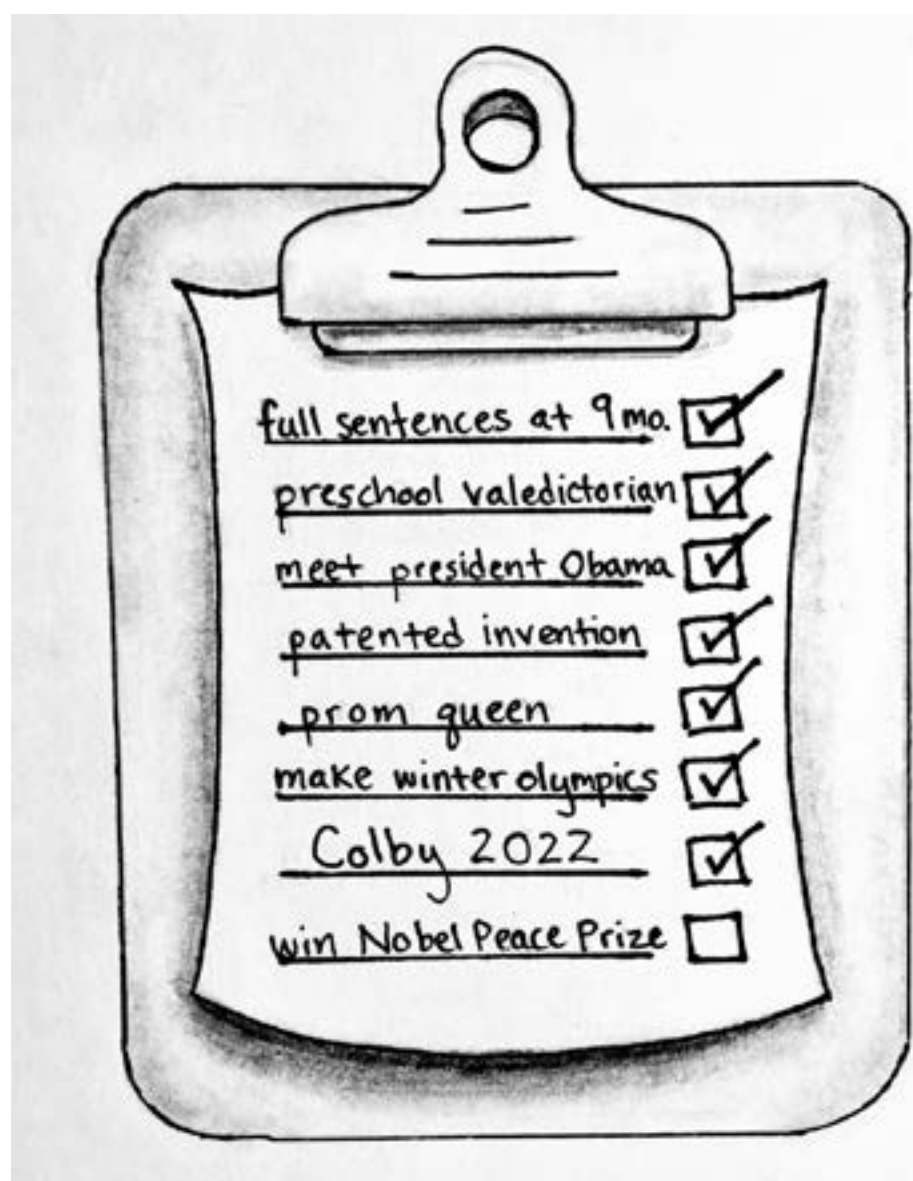
portunities, which was first announced during admitted students weekend for the Class of 2021.

"These students— as well as [your class] won't know a Colby before President Greene," Proto added, with rhetoric familiar to those with knowledge of Dare Northward: "We want to compete at the highest level, in athletics and all aspects [of the College.]"

These students will also never know a time with off-campus housing independent of the College, or without the downtown dorm. The Class of 2022 may be the first incoming class to experience the Colby-Waterville partnership in action.

Predictions from admissions estimate a class of 525 to 545 students, though it could still turn out to be smaller or larger than the Class of 2021 (552 students). Admissions consistently watches how many students enroll each day, and it's too early to know if students will be taken from the waitlist.

Colby students will have an opportunity to influence the incoming class with admitted students weekend. This year, Colby students will host 300 to 400 prospective students, who will be invited to attend 80 optional events over three days. During that time they will get to experience the College, and Colby students will be able to judge for themselves if the incoming students truly represent "the most talented, diverse class Colby has ever seen."



Courtesy of Claire Cahill

Lee '20 producing a documentary on Colby Asian American experience

By EMILY PRICE
News Reporter

Colby's Annie Lee '20 is on a mission to raise awareness about Asian and Asian American student experiences on campus. According to last year's inaugural campus climate survey, over half of Asian American student respondents reported that they did not feel a sense of belonging on campus. Furthermore, this community was the only racial or ethnic group from the survey that was specifically mentioned as being discontent.

In response to the alarming results of the survey, Lee has decided to dedicate her semester-long project for her Advanced Documentary Production class towards dissecting the past, present, and future of the Asian and Asian American community at Colby. "As someone who is on the executive board of the Asian Student Association (ASA), I felt this," expressed Lee, "I was obviously frustrated with the state of our community. It was the reason I joined the board in the first place."

Lee comes from an area of southern California that she described as having an "Asian plurality." She found

the transition into Colby's predominantly white demographic to be difficult, especially without a strong Asian community presence on campus.

"I am interested in learning about why certain students with an Asian background do not want to identify with the Asian American community on campus."

Annie Lee
Class of 2020

After discovering a passion for digital production in one of her first classes at Colby, Lee has decided to channel her frustration and curiosity about the future of the Asian and Asian American community through a semester-long

documentary project. Lee explained, "I began to message other members of the ASA board, telling them we need to do something about these survey results. This documentary project was the perfect opportunity to work on something important to me."

Lee plans to speak with a wide variety of students who identify as Asian and Asian American. She hopes that her interviews will span across first generation students, multigenerational students, queer and trans Asian and Asian Americans, faculty and staff, and students who have an Asian background but do not identify as Asian or Asian American.

"I am interested in learning about why certain students with an Asian background do not want to identify with the Asian and Asian American community on campus. I want to learn why they don't seek out this community and how we can make ASA events more attractive to students who might not currently identify with this community," Lee said.

The documentary project will be mainly interview driven, and will culminate in advertising spaces on

campus that might offer a sense of inclusivity and community to Asians and Asian Americans at Colby. Lee expanded, "I'm thinking Global Friends Dinners, International Coffee Hours, Asian Student Association events...where are the spaces that people who do feel isolated on campus can go."

The idea is to create a showcase of Asian and Asian American experiences on campus to help anyone who does feel isolated find places of community. In terms of providing a solution for the future of the Asian and Asian American community, Lee will document experiences from Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (APAHM) events. "APAHM is a month-long celebration of our community. It is an opportunity to increase our visibility on campus. This celebration also functions as way for us to externalize issues with which we are struggling," Lee offered.

Lee expects that one of her greatest challenges will be finding enough students willing to be involved in her documentary in order to provide an accurate representation of the Asian and Asian American popula-

tion at Colby: "I think it is so important to capture the diversity of the Asian and Asian American population on campus. We're so complex and diverse, and not many people understand that we have such a wide range of experiences. So I want to talk to as many people as possible."

Lee posted on Colby Now

"I am hoping this documentary will help validate my feelings as a person of color at Colby."

Jamie Schwartz
Class of 2018

to alert anyone who identifies as Asian or Asian American about her documentary, in addition to offering an anonymous Google Form for anyone who feels uncomfortable being interviewed in person or included in her documen-

tary. She has received a number of positive responses from individuals who are willing to participate. The Echo sat down with Jamie Schwartz '18, who volunteered to participate in Lee's project. Schwartz explained, "I think this documentary is important because it highlights an issue in a community that is often overlooked in discussions about inclusivity and diversity on campus. I am hoping this documentary will help validate my feelings as a person of color at Colby."

The most important message Lee wants to express to Colby students is that ASA is open to anyone in search of a community. She wants everyone to check out ASA's events, even if they do not identify as Asian or Asian American. Lee emphasizes "this is a pinnacle moment for Asians and Asian Americans on this campus. We're really trying to turn around the club. Even if you didn't like it last year, try it again. The people on the board right now are really committed to creating a community environment."

ASA event dates and times can be found around campus on billboards, and any student is welcome to join the email list to receive club updates.

Colby terminates relationship with The Olympia Companies in the wake of sexual assault allegations

By LOUISA GOLDMAN
Associate Editor

Kevin Mahaney's life trajectory seemed to put him on track to become yet another talked-up, NESAC success story. A 1984 graduate of Middlebury College, the former Olympic sailor and Lacrosse All-American became CEO of his father's Portland-based real estate development company only four years after earning his Bachelor's degree in Economics. And it appeared as though Mahaney's rise in the business world was endless.

Less than two months ago, an article on the hospitality insider website *Hotel Online* cited The Olympia Companies, which the Bangor native has run since 1988, as "one of the most fully integrated real estate companies in the hotel industry," and predicted that under Mahaney's reign, it was "on track for growth in 2018." Indeed, the hotel management firm has been hired recently by the likes of Bowdoin, Williams and Yale alike to develop boutique inns within their respective towns.

The Colby Department of Planning, impressed with Mahaney's solid track re-

cord and success with similar projects, contracted The Olympia Companies in January 2017 to construct a boutique hotel in downtown Waterville at 9 Main Street. Formerly known as the Levine's building, the property was bought by the College in 2015, with hopes that it could be transformed into a functioning hotel by 2018. Since the former department store was demolished in 2016, however, the lot has remained a vacant pile of rubble, even after Colby hired Mahaney to take over construction last year. It nevertheless came as a shock to the College's administration when the NESAC golden-boy was implicated in a multi-million dollar sexual assault case just weeks ago.

"Since learning of the allegations [regarding Mahaney], Colby College has terminated its agreement with The Olympia Companies," Colby's Vice President of Planning Brian Clark said in an email to the *Echo* on March 15, "and is currently planning to self-develop the project, as it has done with its other downtown properties."

Seemingly the first and only client to cut ties with

the hotel management company, the Colby has kept this decision under the radar, issuing the same statement it gave the *Echo* to both the *Morning Sentinel* and *Portland Press Herald*. The articles in which the statement appeared, published on the evening of March 13, were removed from the news-

"[Colby College] is currently planning to self-develop the project, as it has done with its other downtown properties"

Brian Clark
VP of Planning

papers' websites soon after their release; it is unclear if this was decision made by the individual periodical companies or if it was influenced by either Colby or the Olympia Companies.

When the *Echo* contacted Paul Ureneck, the College's director of commercial real estate, it was told that no further comment would be made beyond Clark's statement. Similarly, the Olympia Companies declined to comment on the story.

Although the College administration has only just recently terminated its relationship with Mahaney, the lawsuit itself was actually filed in early January. On the 10th of that month, *The New York Daily News* reported that a woman, who wished to remain anonymous, filed a civil lawsuit in the Manhattan Supreme Court against both Mahaney and Howard Rubin, a wealthy Wall Street executive whose high-stakes dealings were featured in *The Big Short*. In the suit, the woman alleged that Mahaney had introduced her to Rubin in 2015, when she was just 20. According to the *Middlebury Campus*, The Olympia Companies CEO had met the plaintiff when she was living in Los Angeles, where they developed what the lawsuit referred to as a close "friendship." Shortly after, the *Middlebury Campus* reported, "Mahaney flew the woman to New York," where

he introduced her to the investment manager.

After signing a non-disclosure agreement, the young woman was allegedly escorted by Rubin to a specific chamber of his New York penthouse which, according to the plaintiff's testimony, he referred to as his "play room." There, the 62-year-old Wall Street executive restrained, beat, and brutally raped the woman, instructing her to use the safe word "pineapple," which he ultimately did not respond to.

The plaintiff allegedly visited Mahaney following the attack, divulging the events that had just occurred and asking for advice. There, the Middlebury Campus reported that "Mahaney discouraged her from seeking legal or medical attention, telling her that Rubin could destroy her with his wealth and power, as well as the non-disclosure agreement." Mahaney then allegedly supported the woman financially following his meeting with her, paying her full college tuition and rent in Los Angeles.

Mahaney's lawyers have vehemently rebutted the allegations, denying that he even knew Howard Rubin

personally. Nevertheless, Colby stands by its decision to terminate its relationship with The Olympia companies as soon as they became aware of the lawsuit. The College's choice to keep their response to these allegations under the radar, however, is surprising aspects of the scandal, seeing as the upsetting accusations Mahaney is facing give Colby reasonable cause to end their relationship with his business.

Now being "self developed" by the College, it is unclear who in the administration will take over the project, as not many (if any) members have a past in the hotel administration business/development. Nevertheless, the College has a history constructing downtown projects. The Bill and Joan Alford Main Street Commons and redevelopment of the Hains building, for instance, have all been managed by either the College itself, or a business affiliate. Along with plans to develop a downtown arts center within the next few years, Colby will simply have to tack on the boutique hotel to its metaphorical, Waterville revitalization "to-do list."

Maine marijuana update: ready for 'kushy' legislation

By ALI NASEER
Local News Reporter

Maine's history with marijuana has been hazy, to say the least. Since 1998, medicinal use of the colloquially known "wacky tobacc-ey" has been legal in the state, and a referendum in early 2016 formally legalized the drug for recreational purposes. Governor Paul LePage has consistently opposed to the decriminalization of marijuana, and vetoed a bill passed by the 2017 Maine referendum detailing how such legalization would be implemented logistically. His views are not necessarily echoed by every Republican politician in the state, however; even Waterville's own Mayor Nick Isgro has some opinions contradictory to those of the governor.

"I believe there are adults who can use marijuana responsibly," Isgro said in an interview with the *Echo*, maintaining that his stance on the legalization of its recreational use is "torn." Nevertheless, he confirmed that he is "a strong believer in the benefits to many of medical marijuana so I wouldn't say that we should not host any business."

Despite LePage's opposition to any steps in a direction suggesting future acceptance of recreational legalization of marijuana, a state committee approved a rewrite of the original bill, as reported by the *Portland Press Herald*. Legislators

on both sides of the issue, including marijuana businesspeople and Republicans alike, believe it has a better chance of becoming law.

The differences between the law originally approved by referendum voters (the Marijuana Legalization Act) and the newer bill are vast. The bill passed in 2017 permitted adults to grow six personal marijuana plants on private property, whereas Friday's agreement limits this to three. While initial legislation contained a provision permitting marijuana use in public areas such as bars, the agreement reached Friday removed this section, amidst Republican concerns that it may increase the amount of people driving under the influence.

Isgro echoed this apprehension, explaining that by "making it easier for people to drive or operate machinery under the influence as well as the access of edibles to minors in the home, I have to stand against [legalization of recreational marijuana] at this time."

Further, the new bill contains a more complex tax structure than that proposed in the Marijuana Legalization Act, which set a 20 percent retail sales tax on all marijuana sales. If the new agreement is signed into law, Maine will tax marijuana at an effective rate of 20 percent, among the lowest of all states with legal recreational marijuana. This effective rate would be reached via a

10 percent direct sales tax and a 21.5 percent excise tax on wholesale marijuana charged to processors and retailers. None of these revenues would benefit towns which host marijuana businesses, however.

This adjustment has not been met with bipartisan approval. Noting that the tax structure proposed in the rewrite belies corruption in the state government, Isgro expressed his dislike of the prospective framework. He stated that the tax structure proposed "is a great example of how corrupt our state government is and operates. At the same time the state as cut revenue sharing owed to municipalities under state statute, in the last eight years the legislature has increased biannual spending by over \$1 billion. In the meantime they continue to look for ways to make new revenues to pay for their out of control spending while municipal budgets are squeezed and local infighting over spending priorities has become commonplace. If the state is looking for a honypot on marijuana they should using those funds to reimburse municipalities the money they are owed including back pay for unpaid revenue sharing."

The Maine Department of Administration and Financial Services predicts that state revenues from marijuana sales will total \$16.3 million in the fiscal

year of 2021, the first full year of legalized marijuana sale. Total marijuana sales in this year are projected to reach \$85 million.

While marijuana legalization has historically been a partisan issue, Friday's agreement was hailed as a compromise by individuals on both sides of the aisle. Committee House Chairman Rep. Teresa Pierce, D-Falmouth, stated in an interview with the *Portland Press Herald* that the bill "protects our kids, our public safety, and our communities while also giving adults the right and privilege of using marijuana." Rep. Patrick Corey, R-Windham, who voted against the original bill, stated to the *Herald* he approved of the "amazing give and take" captured in the latest rewrite.

Isgro similarly praised the parties' ability to compromise in reaching Friday's agreement, and noted that, while the bill may not pass through the Blaine House before getting vetoed by LePage, both Republicans and Democrats should try to continue this trend of bipartisanship. "I believe the compromise has a good chance to make it through, although I always hate to predict what could happen in the legislature. In order to compromise, each party needs to be willing to step away from the political posturing and get to the underlying issues rather than talking on the



Courtesy of Louisa Goldman
In Hallowell, Maine, a medical marijuana dispensary sits upon Water Street, beckoning customers to venture inside since its official opening in 2017.

surface. That said, there are going to be issues where because of varying values, compromise is never going to be possible," Isgro said. "We all have to live by a set of values and we elect people to represent those. I would warn, however, against walking away from partial victories because we can't necessarily get everything we want."

But most importantly, when will we start seeing pot shops on Main Street? Asked whether Waterville should host marijuana businesses once the law passes, Isgro said, "I wouldn't say that we shouldn't host any business. We should work with those in the industry and our community to determine proper zoning

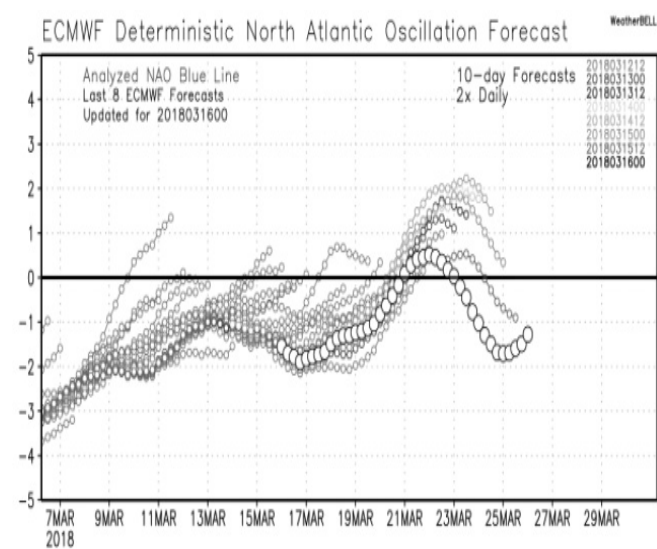
requirements. I do not, however, believe we should have smoking dens or recreational clubs. Principally this is because I believe this sets up discriminatory law whereby under current law we've perverted the idea of private buildings and public buildings so that we have laws that would discriminate against the owners of buildings to allow tobacco smoking indoors and yet we'd be allowing marijuana smoking in the same privately owned buildings (which under law are improperly called "public spaces" because the public is allowed to occupy the space as patrons). Fix this problem and then you can talk to me about allowing marijuana smoking in our many local businesses."

Weather or not: meteorologist Dave Epstein '86 talks snow, wind, and senior week

By DAVE EPSTEIN
Contributing Writer

Looking across the landscape from Miller library it's hard to believe that spring will ever arrive with more snow on the ground now than there was just a few weeks ago. Spring in Maine can indeed be an enigma with temperatures often going from a winter-like chill to summer warmth in just a matter of days. Slow spring arrivals just do not happen around here in most years, and often we go from snow on the ground to mud season in very rapid succession.

This year seems particularly frustrating with the early cold followed by not much snow during the month of January into February. There were even some hopeful signs that spring might arrive a little bit early to Mayflower Hill, but alas something called the North Atlantic oscillation (NOA) decided to move into its negative phase and voila, not one, not two, but three nor'easters in eleven days. And perhaps at least one or two more even before the month closes out.



Courtesy of Weatherbell

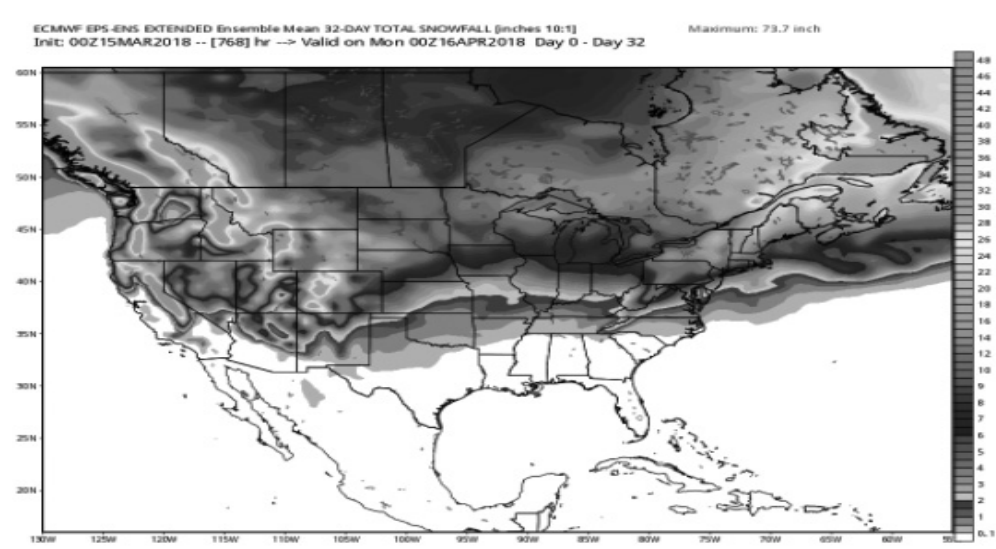
The North Atlantic Oscillation forecast did not tell a promising story, indicating the possibility of not one, but two Nor'easters over the course of 11 short days.

THE NORTH ATLANTIC OSCILLATION (NAO)

When the The North Atlantic Oscillation becomes negative, storms are more likely to take a path across the United States then move up the coastline as a nor'easter (see above).

The past several years have seen more winter in March than you might like. It has been interesting as we have had some very mild weeks during the time we call meteorological winter, which is December through

Feb., but then in March it seems like winter makes a comeback before we finally going to Spring. This month a big-blocking, high-pressure system over Greenland is forcing both storms and colder air through New England. This is the reason why we keep having nor'easters and continued snow and it has been colder than last month. March is generally a wintry month, but this year even more so.



Courtesy of Weatherbell

This map indicates that snowy conditions may unfortunately continue well into April. Hopefully, May will be a clear month and graduation will not be snowed out.

THE UPPER WINDS

The weather is controlled by the jet stream, a band of winds blowing at roughly 30,000 feet (see above). This tube of wind can take on all sorts of configurations, and depending on the exact placement, dramatically changes what you observe walking to class.

Because Maine sits so far north and the waters of the Atlantic are so cold, it is often hard for the warm air to make inroads into Central

Maine until well into April. Over the next several weeks a broad dip in the jet stream over the East Coast will keep colder and stormy or conditions more likely.

The latest version of the European model indicates snowy conditions to continue right into April with the 32-day map having some significant snow amounts across much of the Northeast (see above).

Although the prediction

will not necessarily be right, the trend is clear: it's going to be chilly. The map above shows the average temperatures into the middle of April, and once again the odds favor cooler than average conditions until just a few weeks before finals.

If all this holds true, it may mean that classes outside will be less common than in years past. Let's just hope all those big piles of snow are gone by senior week.

Colby's chronic illness support group starts on-campus dialogue

By JAMES BURNETT
Features Reporter

Tuesday was a momentous day for the College's chronic illness support group. For the first time, the group organized a community-wide event called the Chronic Illness Narratives during which Colby students and administrators spoke about their experiences with chronic illnesses. Afterwards, the students led an interactive panel discussion with the audience in order to instigate a campus-wide conversation about the ways in which chronic illness affects both students and faculty members alike. This event marked the group's first official gathering as an SGA-approved club rather than as an informal organization.

E. Hopf '19, a member of the group, believes that the event helped address an issue many members of the Colby community face as they suffer through chronic illness: invisibility. Hopf argued that "a lot of chronically ill folks don't use mobility aids, and a lot of the time our symptoms aren't visible. People look at us and just assume we're able-bodied like them. So when we can't do things the same way, people assume we're lazy, or just want attention, or want to take advantage of the system, but that's not it at all. We want people to question their assumptions about people and to see that we exist."

Other members of the group agree that starting a conversation at Colby regarding chronic illness is of the utmost importance. Adrienne Tracy '20 mentioned how an open

dialogue can help fight the implicit stigma that these students face on a regular basis. Another sophomore, Emma Balkin, mentioned the value in educating students about how chronic illness is a spectrum. Camille Owsley '19 argued that the Chronic Illness Narratives allowed people to ask questions and become educated about a topic that she believes "deeply affects some people's lives but has very little effect on others."

Although the organization only recently received official club status, the support group has been quietly lobbying the school to increase resources and accessibility for students with chronic illnesses since the first semester of this academic year. The group felt it necessary to become a formal club so that they would have more clout



Courtesy of James Burnett

The chronic illness support group held its first event as an official SGA-approved club on March 20. Participants discussed their experiences at Colby, starting an on-campus dialogue about chronic illness that has long been absent.

when advocating for their priorities. The group hopes to reform the accommoda-

tion request and housing processes. The group meets at 4:00 p.m. on Thursdays

in the conference room on the 2nd floor of Garrison-Foster health center.

Club Spotlight: Colby Figure Skating dazzles on ice!



Courtesy of Peter Brown

Jenny LaChance '20, Joelle Young '18, and Amy Kopec '18 enjoy figure skating as a part of the SGA approved club.

By ELIZA ADAMS
Staff Writer

Each winter and spring, Colby students flock down to the rink to watch Men's and Women's Ice Hockey play head-to-head against their opponents. However, these athletes aren't the only ones shredding up the rink: the Colby Figure Skating club is an active, student-led club that engages in both recreational and competitive skating throughout the semester.

The club is led by seniors Joelle Young '18 and Jianing Yang '18. Young, who skated for years before coming to Colby, knew she wanted to get involved when she got to campus. One of the biggest contributions she has made as captain has been the adding a coach who comes in two times each week to train skaters. Young has served as president of the club since her sophomore year, and said that this addition has helped her achieve her goal of adding more programming for both experienced and new skaters.

This Feb., Colby Figure Skating participated in its first competition. The team, which is registered as an official U.S. Figure Skating Intercollegiate team, sent five people to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to compete against other college students. Club members competed in everything from

ice dance to junior and senior ladies free skate, and two students took home medals for their performances in the short program. Young said, "We would love for this to become routine and send five to 10 students each year to compete against other schools. We've already racked up some points this February and it would be great to continue this trend." Sophomore club member Jenny LaChance '20 added, "I would really like to go to more competitions in the future. It's nice because you don't have to be at a high level to compete." LaChance in fact noted that even beginners can work with the coach and attend competitions.

Colby Figure Skating also has goals for the future that its members hope to see come into fruition. Young said, "I would love to have a performance on campus before or after open skate. We've also discussed the idea of giving lessons to students as a fundraiser." The club will also be holding its final Open Skate event of the year on Monday. LaChance noted that one of the great things about these open events is that students come from all different areas to try out skating. She looks forward to hosting more of these years to come.

So what draws club members to the ice? For Young, it's the challenge and fun that comes with

gliding on the ice and mastering new skills. She said, "The sense of accomplishment I feel when I finally get a jump, execute a good spin, or show improvement is unparalleled." LaChance appreciates how the sport serves as a de-stresser and a time when she only has to focus on the ice beneath her blades. She noted that she enjoyed the sport growing up and was excited to find the Colby Figure Skating table at the club fair last fall.

LaChance and Young noted that the club certainly faces its fair share of challenges. Getting ice time can be tough, and the rink closes in late March. Young hopes that the administration will realize how much the club utilizes the space and consider keeping it open for a longer period of time. However, both acknowledged the great support they've received from funding through SGA and equipment rentals from the Outing Club.

Interested in Colby Figure Skating? The club, which has an e-mail list of 80 members, is open to anyone, regardless of skating level and experience. For more information, check out Colby Figure Skating's Facebook page and Instagram account: @colbyfigureskating. Hopefully you were able to check out the Open Skate event on Monday, March 19th from 7-8:30 p.m.!

Faces of Colby: Garrison-Foster Health Center Nurse Laura Patterson

By SARAH WARNER
Staff Writer

In the face of Maine's harsh winter and the endless onslaught of midterms, the Garrison-Foster Health Center is a virtual mecca for Colby students. Whether it's an awful case of the stomach flu or a simple checkup, Health Center employees are equipped to treat a wide array of ailments and offer a vast number of services. Laura Patterson, who has worked at the College since 2006, is one of the Garrison-Foster health center's many full-time nurses. And after spending nearly 12 years on campus, Patterson certainly is not afraid to call Colby students out about their bad habits—especially those exhibited over the weekend.

The nurse, a native of New Jersey, moved to Houston at age 14 before deciding a year later that she much preferred the chilly climate of York, Maine over the hot Texas terrain. "Houston is too hot for human habitation! I went back for college [at UT Austin] but we didn't have AC or a car, and it was so unbearably hot. Living someplace like that is nice for a week or so, but not much more."

Patterson lived in York

until 2006, when she moved to Waterville and began her career at Colby. Before that, she served as an obstetrics nurse, delivering children and working with pregnant women. "First, I was [at] a hospital, and then I worked in prenatal care in a clinic. I still got to use a lot of the knowledge that I had [from the hospital], but prenatal wasn't quite as stressful," Patterson said. "When a couple or a woman is expecting a baby, it's one time that they're very open to learning. They want to get it right, and they're very open to hearing what I have to say. I'm also with them through many months, so you really develop a rapport, a relationship with those people," she stated. "So it was very satisfying in a lot of ways, but also very frustrating because a lot of people in this particular clinic had difficult lives and often did not make good choices. They didn't really drive their own lives."

Patterson has not been able to create as many lasting relationships at Colby as she was able to in the Prenatal clinic. "Here, you see someone once for their sore throat and never again." Although the nurse says these differences made her "totally terrified" to work at Colby,

she has grown to truly love her job.

"There's not really anything [at my job in Garrison-Foster] that I don't like. I have fantastic coworkers. I like taking care of the students and meeting new people all the time. College towns are great places to live because there are always different things going on. It's always changing, and I find that interesting."

Patterson also cites her location as another benefit of working at Colby. She often takes advantage of her proximity to both downtown Waterville and campus to bike to Main Street for food and attend lectures or performances at the College.

"I love the Quarry Road area and it's within walking distance of my house, so I enjoy just walking the trails. I can ride my bike downtown and walk downtown too, which I like a lot.... I love coming to the campus as well. Everytime I walk here, I just think it's beautiful. I like to make use of the library sometimes. I go to lectures, not really sporting events. Music and theater and lectures, all that."

However, due to the nature of her on-campus job, Patterson has had to deal with the dangerous decisions college

students frequently make. When asked if she knew what Doghead is, Patterson confidently retorted that she had "been here for 12 years. When I started here, it was a 24/7 clinic. And we had inpatient beds, and I was the overnight nurse on the weekends—so yeah, I know what Doghead is."

Needless to say, Patterson has seen her fair share of intoxicated students, whether during Doghead or an average Saturday evening. She's even offered a few choice words of advice for all the weekends to come.

"Just hydrate, pace yourselves, and don't be stupid. Oh, and on Doghead, please stop eating goldfish."

Besides the weekends, Patterson hopes that students do their best to stay healthy during the school week. She places particular emphasis on washing your hands and getting enough sleep, something that many Colby students are not able to achieve. Patterson also encourages Mules to take advantage of the mental health services offered by the Health Center.

"The mental health piece [of the Health Center] has really expanded. Whether students' issues have changed or they're just more comfortable asking for

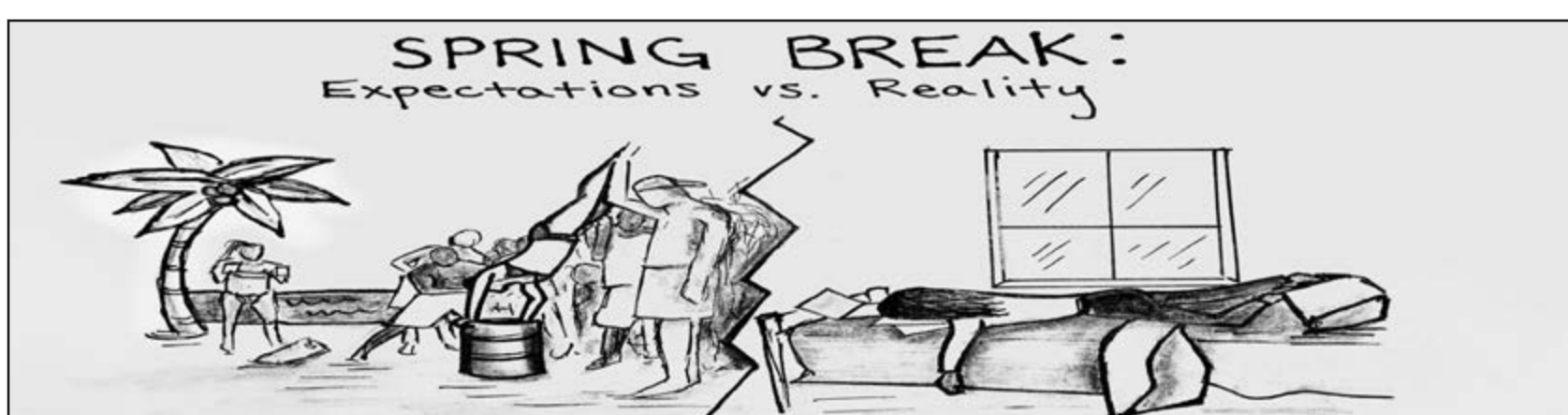


Courtesy of Sarah Warner

Nurse Laura Patterson has worked at the Garrison-Foster Health Center since 2006, and oddly enough, recommends students not eat live fish on Doghead.

help and accessing what's available, I don't know. But they're certainly taking advantage of the mental health offerings more than ever before, which I think is wonderful. Who even decided to split the mental and physical health departments in the first place?"

Laura Patterson can usually be found in the Garrison-Foster Health Center, helping out under-the-weather students get back to feeling 100 percent. She loves Colby and is truly passionate about improving the well-being of each and every student.



Courtesy of Claire Cahill

Boo-yah! Sprang break is coming and you know what that means???? STUDY SESH BABEZ!!!! While many go into this March vacation expecting beers and butts, most mules will be forced to stay inside, studying with textbooks and tea. Got some sick pics of your spring break shenanigans? Send them on over to the Echo and we definitely look at them. Stay golden, Ponyboy!

American art goes global: Art history seminar travels to D.C.

By NINA OLEYNIK
Associate Editor

“Global Labs allow faculty to engage students in important global issues through different pedagogical approaches combining academic and/or experiential learning; to connect on-campus courses with off-campus experiences and engagement; and to utilize new and existing partnerships to expand student opportunities for directed research and collaboration.” This is how the Office of the Dean of Global Engagement describes one of Colby’s newest academic initiatives. But in practice, what do these courses or the opportunities they provide look like?

American Art in a Global Context, taught by William R. Kenan, Jr. Associate Professor and Chair of the Art Department Tanya Sheehan is one of the first Global Labs of its kind at Colby. With only seven students in the class, it is an intimate and immersive learning experience. Ranging from sophomores to seniors, all of the students bring to the class a background in art history as majors, as well

as various other disciplines. The course is designed, at its core, to question and reimagine what it means to study American art in a global context. The course itself is described as answering this question through “experiential learning at the Smithsonian Institution, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and Colby College Museum of Art.”

Students of AR458 got the unique opportunity, afforded to them by a grant from DavisConnects, to travel to Washington D.C. this past weekend and experience leading experts in the field engaging with American art at the global level. Not only was this trip practical in nature for students to explore possible career paths, but it also put their studies in conversation with scholars at every level.

Sheehan said of the trip, “It was wonderful to see Colby students interacting with doctoral students, postdoctoral fellows, and curators at the Smithsonian. This is the kind of unique professional experience that we hope to offer more of at Colby, through DavisConnects and the new Lunder Institute for American Art.”

The first stop of the day was at The Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM) in Chinatown to meet with curator Carmen Ramos and view the show that she put together titled *Tamayo: The New York Years*. Prior to the trip, students had a chance to do a close reading of the catalogue entry that accompanied the show, written by Ramos herself. The essay outlined much of Mexican born artist Rufino Tamayo’s life and his formative years as an artist in New York City. Her essay raised questions of identity and influence — how can we view artists that are not born in America but spend time creating work here and thus change the artistic landscape as well as their identities themselves? Students had the chance to discuss questions like this with Ramos as they weaved through the exhibition, which was closing that weekend. Ramos offered a unique and critical perspective on Tamayo’s work and his place in American art as curator of Latino art. She recognized her important position in

cultivating a more inclusive narrative of American art at SAAM — one that will hopefully be replicated at other institutions.

The next portion of the day included meeting with SAAM doctoral and postdoctoral fellows for presentations on their PhD dissertations. Each of the fellow’s work touched on issues of globalism in American art — navigating transnational borders, understanding globalism’s role in American art as well as reimagining common art historical narratives that aim to whitewash or exclude othered peoples from American art history. Each presentation gave fascinating approaches to studying American art in a global context and allowed students to see how scholars of art history are engaging with these challenges in real time.

Professor Sheehan then led the students a few blocks to the Archives of American Art to meet with Josh Franco, the National Collector there. Franco’s job at the Archives is to collect documents surrounding American art: anything from personal documents to letters, artist correspondents, doodles, lists and notes. His aim is to preserve these papers surrounding the history of American art so that others can use them as resources in the future. The space was jam-packed with a sheer amount of stuff — students toured the storage space of the Archives, which features over 6,000 documents. When discussing his role as collector, Franco clearly articulated his position as writer and protector of art history. He is readily aware of the responsibility he has to present the most full, accurate and diverse picture of American art for posterity, and it is not a job he takes lightly. To think about one person being responsible for writing art history is incred-



Courtesy of Nina Oleynik

Do Ho Suh’s structures remind viewers of what it means to be home, even if miles from that place. The silk and wire structures surround visitors in color and light.

ibly powerful, and all the more reason for students to be able to understand and contextualize American art in such a global context.

At the last stop of the day, students found themselves back at SAAM to experience Korean born artist Do Ho Suh’s interactive exhibition *Do Ho Suh: Almost Home*. This large-scale installation exhibit featured architectural structures constructed out of wire and hand woven from silk. These sculptures were exact copies of the homes Suh had lived in, in Seoul, Berlin and New York. These life-size recreations were colorful and see-through and allowed for visitors to walk through them. Experiencing and interacting with them was a fully immersive activity,

inviting visitors to contemplate physical space and the idea of home.

Trips like this, largely made possible through DavisConnects and The Lunder Institute for American Art, are challenging the ways in which students at Colby experience learning and the world. It is through asking critical questions, remapping and reimagining commonly told histories and engaging with many different disciplines on a global scale that students better understand the place they come from and help shape and preserve it for future generations.

If you will be in D.C. over spring break, make sure to check out *Do Ho Suh: Almost Home* at SAAM, on view until Aug. 15, 2018.



Courtesy of Nina Oleynik

Students discussed how to create a more inclusive American art archive with National Collector Josh Franco (above).

Dynamic new downtown arts center announced, Gift for Schupf Gallery

By CHARLOTTE MARRATTA
A&E Reporter

With the Dare Northward Campaign in full swing, Colby and Waterville Creates! recently announced their collaboration on a Downtown Arts Center to be built in the heart of Waterville. The building, located at 93 Main Street, is one of the only intact historical buildings on Main Street. “We want to preserve a portion of this history and honor its civic purpose,” Vice President of Planning Brian Clark said.

The arts center will house Waterville Creates!, Common Street Arts Gallery and Programs, the Maine Film Center and Railroad Square Cinema, as well as connect to the entrance of the Waterville Opera House, effectively bringing the Opera House right onto Main Street. Thanks to the \$2-million gift of Colby College Trustee Emeritus Paul J. Schupf, LL.D. ’06, announced last week, the center will also serve as an expansion of the Colby College Museum of Art. The gallery, to be named in Schupf’s honor, will be dedicated to contemporary art. “We’ve been talking to Paul for a while about how we can leverage our contemporary collections in a much more effective way. The vision, and what we’re going to be able to do, is to display some edgier, more contemporary, and possibly even experimental, art,” Clark said. “It’s going to be the quality and caliber of the Colby College Museum of Art right in the heart of downtown.”

President and CEO of Waterville Creates! Shannon

Haines is excited to bring the Colby Art Museum downtown, as well as create a building in which all the arts can come together in a multidisciplinary way. “I think it’s incredibly exciting for Waterville and for Colby. We’ve always dreamed of having some annex of the Colby museum in downtown,” she said. One of the major hopes of the downtown gallery is to emphasize the accessibility of the Colby College Museum of Art, and encourage Waterville residents to come up to campus to check out more of the museum.

The structure of the building is deliberately designed to revitalize downtown. Located in the center of downtown, the building will be equidistant to the locations of the hotel and downtown dorm, and is intended to provide stronger visibility for the Waterville Opera House. On the ground floor, along with the Schupf Gallery, Common Street Arts, a program of Waterville Creates!, will provide a gallery space, a pottery studio, an educational space, and continue its community programming. A shared box office between Railroad Square Cinema, the Maine Film Center and the Waterville Opera House will greet visitors in the lobby surrounded by glass walls facing Castonguay Square. The glass walls will enable warm sunlight to illuminate the lobby’s café and study space, where students and Waterville residents can do work, grab a bite to eat after visiting the galleries, or chat with friends in between show times. At night, the glass façade will light up Main Street. “We want it to be

glowing. Presently, it’s a little dreary on Main Street at night and this project would literally glow and be a beacon for activity,” Clark commented.

Heading up the stairs of the arts center, one arrives at the entrance for the Waterville Opera House and three state-of-the-art movie theaters, enhancing and improving the viewing experience of the Maine Film Center and Railroad Square Cinema. “The location and improvement of facilities is very important. It’s going to bring a tremendous amount of energy to downtown. We already know when the Maine International Film Festival is in town that it has a huge impact on businesses. I think this will bring a lot more life to Waterville,” Haines said.

With all of Waterville’s strongest art programs under one roof, Waterville Creates! will be able to work on enhancing collaborative programming between disciplines. “I think the success of this project is rooted in Waterville’s strength as an arts and cultural destination. We’ve long been known for the film festival, the Opera House, the Colby Museum. It’s this existing strength that I think can really take us to the next level,” Haines said. Currently in the fundraising stages, the project will require about \$18 to \$20 million in order to begin about nine months of design work and construction documentation, and a subsequent 18 months of construction. If everything goes as planned, the arts center should open in 2021.

COLBY CAMPUS BUS STOP

is at the main entrance of the Harold Alfond Athletic Center




SPRING BREAK SERVICE

- ▶ Additional Southbound service Friday, March 23rd, 2018, and Saturday, March 24th, 2018, schedule #59 (7:30 am).
- ▶ Last day of service is Saturday, March 24th, 2018.
- ▶ Northbound service resumes Saturday, March 31st, 2018.
- ▶ Additional Northbound service on Saturday, March 31, 2018, schedules #62 & #72, and Monday, April 2, 2018, schedule #50.
- ▶ All other service resumes Sunday, April 1st, 2018.

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Digesting the Susan Collins commencement decision

By WILL WALKLEY
Co-Editor in Chief

Given that this article is written on Tuesday, March 20, being the same day as the announcement that Susan Collins, a notable Republican from Maine, is our 2018 commencement speaker, it's difficult to forecast how the student body will respond before this piece is released. Having said that, this article serves as a reply to my predicted feedback about Collins from the Colby community, and an examination of her merit as someone who will be remembered for years by my graduating class at Colby.

While securing a four-term senator is by all means a big-name acquisition for a small school in Maine, I suspect many students will feel uneasy about her gutless affiliations with our President despite seeming more moderate and opposed to him upon his election. *Fivethirtyeight.com* predicted that Collins would vote for measures in agreement with Trump just 47.8 percent of the time, and yet she has voted with him on 80.6 percent of decisions. Notable "yea" votes that many Colby students may disagree with include the Trump tax plan, the repeal of the Affordable Care Act, and, most recently, the rollback of some bank regulations put in place by the Dodd-Frank Act.

However, to focus only on these facts would be to discount Collins's notable disagreements with Trump on issues many Colby students socially subscribe to. Collins has voted against the President in matters that include immigration, abortion and the environment. She also vocally supports sanctions against Russia, Iran and North Korea. For the nominations of two of the most controversial figures in the Cabinet, Betsy DeVos and Scott Pruitt, she voted "nay." Yes, she has affirmed our president more times than expected, likely to maintain her status as a beloved leader of her party, but she has not given up all of her more moderate political viewpoints.

I suspect that the simple fact that she is a Republican will raise some eyebrows around campus as well, but I contend that her political status is positive for most departing se-

niors, who have now been in a liberal setting for at least four years. Having a speaker who disagrees with many Colby students, represents the sentiments of an older generation, and currently sits in power over our beloved Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren, challenges our perspective in a positive way. Listening to a speaker who so many members of the Colby community agree with for the second year in a row would have only added to a community bubble that often searches for opinions that only to confirm its own similar viewpoints.

It is also refreshing to have a more neutral Republican on campus. Current Democratic news sources, such as the *New York Times* and CNN, fall under the more moderate label, while Fox News and Breitbart are more radical, and are the only consistent exposure many young people have to Right outlooks. A more moderate politician like Collins adds a different outlook to the mindsets of graduating seniors about to enter the "real" world, and demonstrates what an intelligent Republican looks like. Her status as a powerful woman and dynamic Mainer who has chaired important Senate committees on multiple occasions only makes her presence here at Colby more exciting.

My qualms with her as our commencement speaker, though, have to do with her existing ties to Colby.

Collins has already received an honorary degree here, spoken at Colby at the 2015 Mitchell Lecture, and visited the construction site for our downtown dormitory. Her links to the College make this speaker choice feel like a cop out. I worry that her speech will spend time discussing the now boring topics of Dare Northward campaign and the revitalization of Waterville. Instead of creating a confirmation bias for the students, I suspect Collins will represent a positive confirmation bias for the College on its recent actions. Surely, the administration will advertise the fact that an influential Maine politician will speak at graduation amidst its integration into a Maine downtown in an attempt to gain more publicity.

Could the College have gotten someone other than the

senator who just last year is pictured smiling with a hard-hat on in our new looming apartment complex? How long did it take to convince Collins to speak here? The reliance on a partnership seems too easy, and like a missed opportunity to bring a more refreshing voice into our community. The three additional speakers also already have strong ties to Colby.

Theaster Gates is the current Lunder Fellow and has spoken here before. He is also currently employed at the University of Chicago, where President David A. Greene and many members of the administration previously worked. Gregory Powell serves as chairman of the Harold Alfond Foundation and spoke in downtown Waterville last year. The name of the foundation he chairs shows up in plaques all over campus. Rebecca Corbett '74 formerly served on the selection committee for the Elijah Parish Lovejoy Award and as a trustee for the College.

These facts are not listed to discount the merit of any of these people. I will happily listen to all of them because they are all interesting, and I recognize that speakers with ties to our beloved College are important for students currently reflecting on their experiences here. I also recognize that connections are necessary for gaining notable speechmakers. But do all four need to be so obviously tied to our president? What worries me about this is that commencement will be more about the College and what it is doing than the accomplishments of the Class of 2018, who are preparing to leave Colby, as well as reflect on it, not preparing to listen to more propaganda about what is happening here.

So, to students graduating with me: I hope you are not too critical of Collins because of her political affiliations. Instead, I urge you recognize that she will challenge us with valuable, stimulating perspectives. I feel lucky to have our other speakers who bring distinctly diverse professions to the podium. However, I hope you will be critical of who exactly our four speakers are here for, and will demand that they give critical advice for the future, rather than compliments of a community we are soon to leave.

Gun violence is not the problem, and gun control is not the solution to violence

By ROGER PARSON
Contributing Writer

As I am writing this, it has been just under a week since the #ENOUGH walk-out was held to protest the alleged lack of action by Congress to address the "public health crisis" of "gun violence." The official demands released by Women's March include an assault weapons ban (S.2095), not passing concealed carry reciprocity (HR 38/S 446), and not passing "any legislation that would aim to fortify our schools with more guns." I will not dispute that there is much unnecessary violence in this country, and that steps can and should be taken against it. However, the claims of the walkout's organizers are inaccurate, and their policy proposals are both misguided and ineffective. The reasoning behind the current advocacy for gun control is flawed, and this anti-gun push will do nothing to stop more tragedies like the Parkland shooting.

The flawed arguments are illustrated by the word choices in the anti-gun community. Their choice of language is focused on firearms, to the exclusion of any other problems or solutions. "Gun violence" includes homicide, suicide, accidents and police brutality. Each of these categories of violence can be further subdivided by motivation and contributing factors. However, the choice of measuring "gun deaths" rather than total deaths serves to cleave incidents involving guns from the wider context of violence and suggests that these disparate kinds of violence are a part of a unified phenomenon of "gun violence." The problem of violence is thereby framed as a "gun problem" without demonstrating any causal link.

The obvious solution to a gun problem is gun reform. However, the overall violence problem is not with guns: study after study has failed to identify any significant link between gun laws and overall violence. Even the word "action" has been redefined. In a recent exchange that I had with Adrienne Carmack '18 on Colby Now, I argued that Congress was already taking action on violence, par-

ticularly in schools. Here, I cited the bipartisan STOP School Violence Act. Carmack called the bill "movement towards action," but said that "we are demanding congressional action to enact gun control." The goal is not reducing violence, with gun control as a possible means to that end. The goal is gun control.

Even if we accepted the premise that the solution to violence in the United States lies with gun control, the specific policy proposals of the walkout are clearly not useful. Consider the proposed assault weapons ban. Firstly, there is no such thing as an "assault weapon," except as defined by gun-control laws. The term is a politicized derivative of the military term "assault rifle," and it is used to falsely conflate some of the most popular firearms in the country with a particular and narrowly defined set of military rifles. The bill defines the term "Semi-automatic Assault Weapon" based on feature lists. I will note as an aside that "SAW" also stands for "Squad Automatic Weapon," an unrelated class of light machine gun. As we will see, the proposed law is extremely arbitrary on a truly impressive level.

The AR-15, of course, would be covered by the law. Strangely, the Ruger Mini-14, which fires the same round as the AR-15, and which was used in the 1986 FBI Miami shootout, is specifically exempted from the bill. Also exempted is the M1 Garand, a battle rifle shooting the powerful .30-06 round and capable of mounting bayonets and grenade launchers. Meanwhile, the Kel-Tec Sub-2000, a rifle that only fires a pistol round, is banned by name. The bill makes arbitrary distinctions between functionally equivalent weapons, without restricting some literal weapons of war. Finally, it places only the barest of restrictions on handguns, which are used in the vast majority of crimes involving guns. The proposed law is absurd and would accomplish nothing more than creating obnoxious restrictions for law-abiding gun owners.

The opposition to concealed carry reciprocity is perhaps the best example

of the narrow anti-gun focus of this movement. If passed, the law would allow those who can legally carry concealed firearms in their own state to also do so when travelling to other states. Many states already have reciprocity with each other, but there are a few holdout states claiming that universal reciprocity would set back their "safe" gun laws. The demand is justified on the grounds that those holdout states have some of the lowest gun death rates. And yet, states like Vermont, Maine, and New Hampshire (with very liberal gun laws) have lower overall homicide rates. Gun-specific statistics are chosen over ones that provide a holistic view of this situation because those are the only statistics that give the impression that there is a gun violence problem. Concealed carry permit holders commit crimes at a very low rate even compared to police. There is no danger to a state from allowing us to travel there. Concealed carry laws have never prompted an increase in violent crime, and I find it hard to believe that this time would be different. What is most offensive is how this policy choice is linked to a protest against school violence. This is political opportunism at its most blatant.

What is meant by the demand for "action"? In the aftermath of the Parkland shooting, gun control advocates have called for new gun laws, ignoring any possible alternative. It has recently been discovered that school officials had recommended that the shooter be committed under the Baker act, which would have barred him from buying firearms. We have known for weeks that dozens of concerned calls were made to police without effect, and that the FBI failed to follow procedure. But enforcing these laws is not considered "action," and neither are proposals that would provide additional resources for preventing school violence. The anti-gun lobby is laser-focused on the red herring of guns and gun violence. If we really want to stop violence, we have to look at the bigger picture, beyond simply looking at proposed gun control measures.

The serious dangers of Colby's longtime ban on hard alcohol

By NICK McELROY
Contributing Writer

The hard alcohol ban currently in place on this campus is dangerous. Yes, you read that correctly. For some time I have thought about how to express my views on one of the College's more infamous pieces of policy. Ultimately, I've come to the conclusion that the ban of hard liquor on campus has furthered binge drinking culture, resulted in a dangerous environment for students, and been at the center of many of the more problematic aspects of Colby nightlife.

Over the last few weeks, I've spoken to many of my fellow seniors about their views on the outright ban of hard liquor on our campus. Most of them have expressed their concern about the policy and cited several compelling reasons for its abolition. The ban is almost entirely ineffective with regards to its ability to deter students from drinking spirits: cheap vodka, whiskey and rum are staples of Colby pre-games, even in underage circles. I have often wondered if the administration is aware of the fact that their policy towards high-proof alcohol is entirely disregarded by the average college student.

However, perhaps more important is the disregard the school shows for the creation of a dangerous social environment. Take a walk through any party on campus on a typical Saturday night and you'll find some variant of the following circumstance: two underclassmen attempt to reign in a friend who has clearly had "a few too many drinks." A few minutes later, the same friends stand outside the bathroom while the sounds of vomiting resound from within. Here's

the catch though: instead of the two students standing outside the bathroom talking about the well being of their friend inside, they're nervously scanning the hallway for a CA or Colby EMS member. Are they looking to enlist the help of an individual trained by the College in service of helping mitigate the circumstance or provide help? Nope, they're making sure their friend isn't caught in the act of vomiting and transported to Maine General. Look a little closer, and you'll notice these two students are concerned that the vodka they drank earlier in the evening might put the three of them in danger of being put on hard alcohol probation. The moral of this hypothetical scenario is obvious: the hard alcohol ban creates an environment in which students feel far more concerned about facing disciplinary action than seeking help for a friend in danger. In consulting fellow students privy to transport statistics, many told me that the amount of transports has declined in the wake of the College's policy towards spirits. However, the College shouldn't be celebrating this statistic. The real reason for the decline in transports can be largely attributed to students choosing not to call for help for fear of facing discipline. Each weekend, many individuals who likely should have been hospitalized are left without professional care as a result of the ban.

It should also be mentioned that security--responding to demands from Campus Life--has increasingly moved to shut down parties and loud events at 1 a.m. This situation actually compounds the dangers posed by the hard alcohol ban instead of alleviating

them. Many students begin drinking around 10 p.m., after finishing work and other commitments, fully aware that events around campus will be forcibly disbanded relatively early in the night. For students who are underage, leaving pre-games carrying alcohol of any kind is out of the question. So, many of these individuals decide to consume a large amount of hard liquor in order to avoid being caught transporting beverages to parties. This creates a situation whereby students feel the need to binge drink, using hard liquor, in order to get to social functions before they are disbanded. Here, we have an instance of two College policies interacting to create circumstances that are dangerous to the wellbeing of students.

The College has long struggled with the fact that banning certain activities does almost nothing to stop students from participating in these very same activities. In order to create a safer campus, we can not allow the administration to pretend that their policies are effective at curbing harmful behavior. I'm not here to offer the solution to the binge drinking that occurs weekend in and weekend out on our campus, but I am here to offer a simple plea to the College: your current policies are doing nothing to help improve the health of students or the nature of the social scene. The dangerous circumstances created by the intersection of these two policies should be of concern to each and every member of our community, and dealing with these serious issues rationally and effectively should be extremely high on the list of the administration's issues to address.



Courtesy of Centralmaine.com

Senator Collins and President Greene tour the downtown Waterville construction site together.



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Sports

Weekend recap with the Colby Mules: Tennis and Lacrosse

By ED POWELL
Staff Writer

Men's Lacrosse Drops Game in a Tough Tufts Matchup

Men's lacrosse lost 20-6 to the Jumbos of Tufts University in Medford, Mass on Saturday. A few costly mistakes lead to an early lead for Tufts, which they held for the rest of the game. Highlights for the Mules include two goals from C.J. Hassan '20 and goals from Tucker Dietrick '18, Scott Miller '19, Carter Vickers '21 and Riley Bergstrom '21. In addition to winning 12 of 25 faceoff attempts, Colby's faceoff get-off player, Joe Paolatto '21, was able to recover six ground balls throughout the game. Teddy Fenton '20 also had two assists on the day, while goalie C.J. Layton '19 had an impressive 12 saves. Clearing was a highpoint of the day, with the Mules com-

pleting 14 of 17 attempts. Colby now has a 1-2 record in the NESCAC and will continue their conference play at Connecticut College on March 24.

Women's Lacrosse Suffers Another Tight Conference Loss

In another hard fought game against Tufts, Women's Lacrosse lost 11-9 to the Jumbos on Sunday. Tufts started the game with an early lead, but the Mules were able to tie it up at three and then again at four. This effort was led by Sasha Fritts '18, who scored the first two goals for the Mules and then gave the assist to Kendall Smith '18 to tie the game at three. Smith scored again with an assist from Robyn Pirie '21 to tie the game at four. The Mules had a rough finish to the first half however, as the second period ended with a score of 9-4 for

the Jumbos. Though Grace Cowell '20 scored the first goal of the second half, making the score 9-5, the Jumbos quickly scored to make it 10-5. The Mules made a strong final push to end the game, led again by Fritts, who had two more goals, and Taylor Moore '21, but they could not complete the comeback. The Mules had a 1-3 overall record, following the loss, but rebounded with a 16-4 win against UNE this past Monday. Despite the win, the Mules still have an 0-3 conference record, and will continue NESCAC play against Connecticut College on Saturday, March 23.

Tennis wins 7-2 over Colby-Sawyer

This past weekend, the Colby women's tennis team won 7-2 against Colby-Sawyer. Lydia Vendetti '19 won singles from the first position and Jessica Tsai '20 won

from the third position. Isha Banerjee '20, Aleks Piibe '19, and Emily Dyckman '19 also had straight set wins. As for doubles, Callie Nesbitt '21 and Tsai won from the second position, while Piibe and Jamie Pine '19 won from the third position.

For yet another week, the Colby men's and women's tennis teams came out of the weekend with identical results. After both won 9-0 against Franklin Pierce and Hamilton, and then fell 9-0 against Middlebury, it was clear the teams were in lockstep as the men's team matched up against against Colby-Sawyer and, just like the women's team, won 7-2. Scott Altmeyer '20, Garrett Reiter '21, Jeremy Mendoza '18, Shaw Speer '18, and Hans Hwang '21 won in their singles matches. Altmeyer and Jonathan Hallal '20 then won their doubles match 8-1, while Speer and Reiter won theirs 8-2.



Courtesy of Colby Athletics

Sasha Fritts '18 score 5 goals and had one assist in the game against Tufts on Sunday. The Mules lost to the Jumbos 11-9.

Forum

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Community celebrates training staff for National Athletic Trainers Month

By JOHN STEENROD
Staff Writer

For many athletes at Colby and around the world, their success on the field could never happen if not for the care of an athletic training staff. They may not play out on the field, but as they tend to athletes on the sidelines, facilitate recovery after practices and games, or charge onto the field as a player lies injured, they play just as big a role as anybody. Often their accomplishments go unnoticed, but not in the month of March. March is National Athletic Trainers Month, which gives the spotlight to those who care so much for their athletes, especially at Colby.

If there is one thing that athletic trainers care about (apart from the health and well-being of the athletes under their care), it's the very important distinction between 'athletic trainer' and just 'trainer.' As an unnamed former Colby athletic trainer used to say, "I'm not a horse trainer. I'm not an animal trainer. I'm an athletic trainer." This distinction is not a trivial one: to be able to practice, athletic trainers not only must graduate from an accredited school, they must also sit before a national certification board and, in most states, face other legal requirements as well. Even when they become certified they are not done. Athletic trainers have to get recertified every couple of years, and are expected to continue their education in the same way doctors and nurses do by taking extra classes. Pair this with the irregular hours that they work in order to be available for changing team schedules, and the number of athletes each athletic trainer is responsible for, and you get a very intense job.

Despite all the difficulties, athletic trainers at Colby expressed a shared joy in helping their athletes. As Emily Vartabedian puts it, the best part about

the job is "getting kids from a point where they can't do any activity to the point where they are fully back in their activity and you see the happiness on their face." Tim "Westy" Weston, Colby's head athletic trainer, agrees, saying that seeing patients fully recover is an incredibly rewarding feeling. Westy has experience as an athletic trainer at every level from high school to professional sports. He says that the balance of athletics and academics unique to liberal arts colleges makes for an exciting workplace. Unlike professional sports, where athletic trainers work closely with relatively few athletes, at Colby each athletic trainer works with a huge variety of students from diverse backgrounds both athletically and academically. Each season brings a new group of athletes, and for Westy and the rest of the

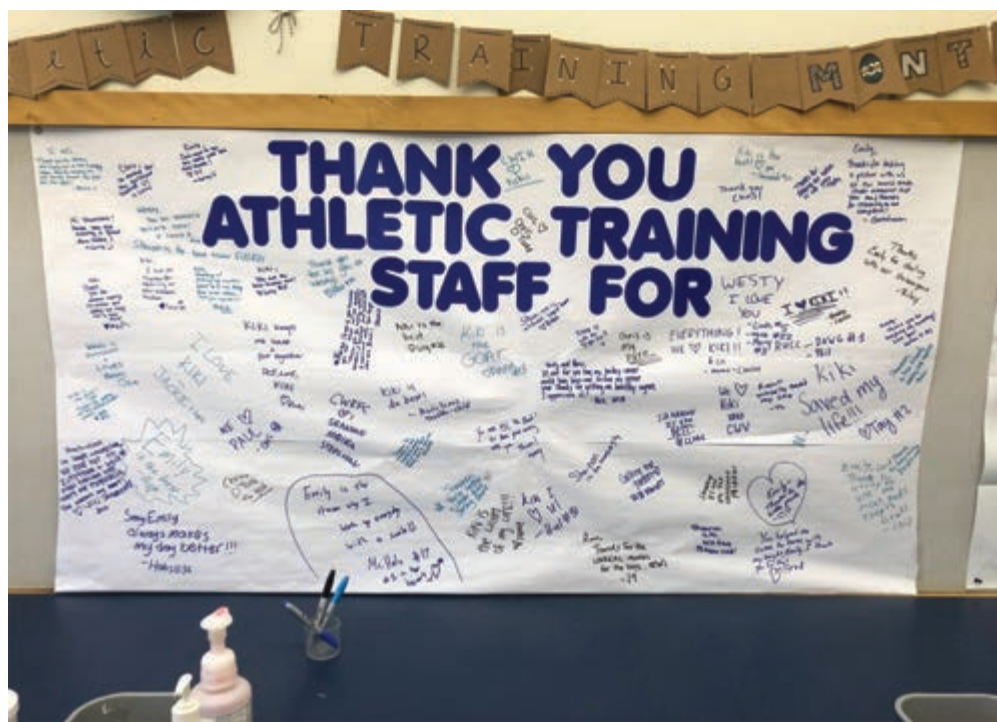
Colby training staff, this is one of the highlights of their job.

Each trainer has their own personal experience that drove them toward their current profession. Vartabedian and Shannon Steelman, another athletic trainer, were introduced to athletic training after suffering injuries in high school and college sports, and for both the experience had an immediate impact. For Steelman, this experience prompted her to stop studying nursing and move into athletic training as a career.

The stress in training room is made easier by the student helpers and interns who work with and help the athletic trainers. Colby hosts athletic training majors from local schools such as the University of Maine, giving them the opportunity to learn from our athletic trainers and practice in a new setting while helping out with treat-

ments and field work. Colby also hires student workers to help out around the training room. These student workers, many of whom are looking into going into medicine after graduation, get valuable patient observation experience while also learning the ins and outs of the job. Some Colby students who have had this job have gone on to become athletic trainers themselves.

The athletic training room has a great, passionate staff that care about every single athlete who walks through its doors, and their athletes appreciate their help. The new "I'm thankful for my athletic trainer because..." board in the training room is full of messages from Colby athletes who have to get back onto the field quicker because of the great work of the athletic training staff.



Courtesy of Drew Ladner

Athletes who get taped can show their appreciation for the athletic training staff by writing personal thank you messages on a poster in the training room. The poster is just one way Colby is celebrating National Athletic Trainers Month.

Colby M. Hockey wins NCAA quarterfinal game in buzzer beater



Courtesy of Brett Carlsen

The Colby men's hockey team beat SUNY Geneseo 2-1 in the NCAA quarterfinals after first-year Justin Grillo '21 scored a buzzer-beating goal. The win sends the Mules to the semifinals of the NCAA Division III Tournament. They will travel to Lake Placid, N.Y. to play St. Norbert College this Friday, March 23 at 6:30 p.m.

By MERRILL READ
Layout Editor

The Colby men's hockey team defeated SUNY Geneseo with a miracle last second goal and incredible third period defense to become one of the Frozen Four in the NCAA Tournament semifinals.

Saturday night the Mules defeated the third-ranked knights at Wilson Ice Rink.

Going into the match up, the Mules knew it would be a difficult weekend. Phil Klitirinos '18, one of the team's three captains, told the *Echo*, "It was our fifth weekend in a row on the road and this trip included a few flights and multiple nights in hotels, which is not something we were used to."

Travel wasn't the only disadvantage the team faced, as Klitirinos explained, "going into the game we weren't familiar with Geneseo, having not played them at all this year. We knew that they would be good as they were ranked third in the country." The Knights had not lost in their own rink all season and had outscored opponents 63-13 prior to this game. However, on the day of the game

the student announcers said they seemed to sense a mood change in Wilson Arena—whether it was the lack of the pep band or the fact the Geneseo students were on spring break, they were unsure.

During the first period possession was back and forth, with neither team taking a clear lead. Both teams finished the first period with 11 shots and no goals. Holding Geneseo at bay, the Mules gained confidence that would carry over into the second period. As Head Coach Blaise MacDonald said in a press release, "We came into this building knowing they were undefeated, they start very fast here. So our ability to get through that first period was critical to our success."

Under a minute into the second, Justin Grillo '21 received a pass from Michael Rudolf '18 and was able to create space in the offensive zone. Grillo slipped the puck to Thomas Stahlhuth '19 who tipped it past Geneseo goaltender Devin McDonald. Stahlhuth's goal energized the Mules and their play became more organized.

Throughout the second,

Colby played phenomenal defense. Between the multiple defensive blocks and another incredible performance by goalie Sean Lawrence '18, the Mules dominated the second period.

Geneseo came out of their locker room with intensity in the third period. The game began to get more physical when Joe Schuler '21 got a penalty for tripping at 7:40, and Geneseo fans were outraged when it was only a two-minute minor. Only 25 seconds later, Rudolf got a penalty for tripping. With Colby two skaters down, Geneseo took off on the offensive, and Arthur Gordon one-timed a pass from Andrew Romano past Lawrence. MacDonald recalled the play: "A five on three goal, that was a tough one... That kid has an NHL shot."

Lawrence had 38 saves in the game, 17 of which were in the third period. MacDonald revealed, "the reason we won the game was Sean Lawrence... It starts with him. He has confidence that transcends through our team. He's a real competitor and emotionally can take our team to

a different level."

With five minutes left in the game, Romano attempted to steal a second goal

The Cheap Seats



Courtesy of Colby Athletics

As the spring season shifts into high gear, the *Echo* sat down with softball captain Julia Saul '18 to discuss corgis, pick-up lines, and Disney characters in this edition of The Cheap Seats.

By ANNABEL McLAUGHLIN
Staff Writer

The Echo (Echo): When did you start playing softball? What's your favorite part of being on the team?

Julia Saul (J.S.): I have played softball ever since I can remember! I have so many memories of being a little kid and throwing a softball with my dad. I love playing for Colby because of my incredible teammates that I get to be around every single day.

Echo: Where is your favorite spot on Colby's campus?

J.S.: Any bench outside on a warm fall day.

Echo: Do you have any strange or hidden talents?

J.S.: I can make a pretty accurate crow noise.

Echo: What is your go-to workout song?

J.S.: I actually never listen to music while working out, but I would have to say anything by Kendrick.

Echo: If you could have any animal as a pet, what would it be and why?

J.S.: A corgi! Because I already have one (Mojo) and I love him.

Echo: What's your favorite pick-up line?

J.S.: Are you religious? Because you're the answer to all my prayers [laughs].

Echo: A TV show everyone should binge watch is...

J.S.: Gossip Girl... or Black Mirror.

Echo: Who is your favorite Disney character?

J.S.: Princess Merida from Brave or Moana.

Echo: At what store would you want to max out your credit card?

J.S.: Free People, without a doubt.

Echo: Words to live by:

J.S.: Happiness depends upon ourselves.

from the Mules. Lawrence, amazingly, was able to sustain the tie: "I closed my eyes and stuck out. Thank God he didn't elevate it. I tried to poke check him coming through the crease and he made a nice move and went around it so it was kind of just pure desperation at that point. Just tried to seal the cage the best I could." Romano knew it was an amazing save, and later told the press, "I have to elevate that shot. He made a great save and it's killing me. It's going to kill me all summer."

While the Knights outshot the Mules 18-4 in the third, Colby finished when it counted. As time dwindled and it seemed that overtime was inevitable, one final shot would win Colby the game. With less than two seconds left in the third period, Grillo found the back of the net. The

miracle goal started with a behind-the-back pass from Cam Macdonald '18 to Stahlhuth. Stahlhuth, aware of how little time was left, shot but was blocked by a Geneseo defender. Luckily, Grillo was trailing Stahlhuth and was able to wrist the puck from the high slot past McDonald. Grillo said, "I was insanely lucky to be in the right place at the right time."

Continuing their impressive season, the Mules advance to the NCAA Division III semifinals next Friday, March 23. The team will play against number one ranked St. Norbert of De Pere, WI at Herb Brooks Arena in Lake Placid, NY — the site of the Miracle on Ice. Klitirinos revealed the team's strategy: "The plan is to continue having fun, embrace this awesome opportunity, and soak in each and every moment."



Courtesy of Brett Carlsen

Joe Schuler '21, a first-year forward for the Mules, checks the opposition into the boards. Schuler has scored four goals this year and assist. Schuler will look to help the team when they play in the NCAA semifinals.