



Courtesy of Colby College

Cornel West is no stranger to Colby; he shares long standing relationships with members of Colby's faculty and staff, particularly Professor Cheryl Gilkes, and received an honorary degree from the College in 2018.

## Dr. Cornel West delivers humanities keynote speech

By EMILY PRICE  
News Reporter

The College community had the honor of welcoming prominent activist Dr. Cornel West to campus on Tuesday, April 3. West came to Colby to speak on behalf of the Center for Arts and Humanities. Each year, the Center for Arts and Humanities chooses a theme upon which to focus and organize events. The Center chose Origins as the theme for this academic year, which “encourages a detailed and critical reflection of the social, historical, political and cultural contexts that inform our understanding of who we are as humans, where we come from, and the trajectory we choose to follow in an increasingly interconnected global landscape.” West graduated mag-

na cum laude from Harvard University, and after obtaining his M.A. and Ph.D. in philosophy from Princeton University, went on to write 20 books and edit 13 others. West uses his powerful voice and role as a public figure to educate individuals about his democratic beliefs and the importance of striving for acceptance. West connected his philosophical beliefs to the Origins theme in a passionate speech in which he emphasized the importance of learning about our past for the sake of moving forward.

Associate Professor of French Audrey Brunetaux explained, “this year's theme Origins has encouraged the Colby community to question, deconstruct, challenge and redefine the very notion of Origins. In his inspiring

presentation, Dr. Cornel West illuminated the central role that the arts and humanities play in our understanding of what it means to be human in this time and age. In a society where success and the pursuit of happiness are narrowly defined and tied to money, fame and other superficialities, and where the so-called ‘American dream’ leaves many behind, we need to hear powerful voices that challenge simplistic discourses and advocate for love, compassion, empathy and equality.”

West began his speech by expressing his gratitude for the opportunity to come to Colby. After many rounds of applause for those responsible for bringing him to campus and the connections he shares with members of Colby faculty and staff, West dove into a series of anecdotes to teach the audience about how our origins

have shaped present-day society. He connected the Center's theme of Origins by explaining that everyone is born as an echo from the past: we must first critique ourselves before we can change our society. He suggests that in order for us to learn, we must give up parts of our past.

West used this ideology to connect individual behavior to the origins of America: “America isn't beautiful. But it is great in many ways.” He examined the flaws in America's system, touching upon race and the capitalist society. He also encouraged the audience to stop searching for their profession or career, and rather find their vocation. “Martin Luther King was true to his vocation. An unexamined life is not worth living,” West said. West exposed his hope for the future of America, but

recognized that Americans must rally the courage to keep the activist spirit alive.

The presentation has sparked West's discussion across campus. His critique of modern-day America made many in the audience take a step back and question what they had already accepted as history. West questioned the importance of intelligence and money in the greater picture of equality and change in America. “I thought the discussion was interesting and dynamic, presenting a conversation that adequately touched on the complexities of racial and social dynamics in relation to the origins of our nation,” attendee Sayer Harrison '19 said.

Colby faculty were equally impressed by West's presentation. Brunetaux enthused, “Dr. West's talk is

by far the most powerful and inspirational presentation I have ever attended at Colby. His presence on campus had a huge impact on the community because he touched on very important subjects that speak to each and every one of us. Bringing in distinguished speakers of this caliber to Colby is highly necessary, especially when chaos is shaking this country and the rest of the world. We need inspiration! We need to be reminded that we have to look deeper in ourselves to confront the ugly realities of this world and face the uncomfortable truth! We need to accept failure as part of being human! Dr. West instilled in us the will and energy to delve deeper into the origins of the catastrophe, the origins of love, the origins of the voices that shape us.”

## 2017 Nobel Peace Laureate comes to the College

By ALISON LEVITT  
Online Editor

On April 4 Dr. Kathleen Sullivan, 2017 Nobel Peace Laureate, nuclear disarmament activist and educator, presented at Colby. Sullivan sat down with the *Echo* to talk about her career path, thoughts on the current state of the country and her definition of activism.

Sullivan has been a disarmament educator for almost 30 years, and an activist for almost her entire life. Sullivan attributes her beginnings in activism to the Reagan-era fictional film “*The Day After*.” This film, focusing on a nuclear winter, piqued both Sullivan's interest and fears about nuclear weapons and the importance of advocating against them. Sullivan followed through on this inter-

est when she was in college in Boulder and returned from a disturbing trip to Rocky Flats, the site of all production of plutonium cores for nuclear weapons in the United States. She returned to campus after this visit and founded Rocky Flats Student Action Coalition and led teach-ins about the perils of nuclear weapons. The main material used at Rocky Flats is plutonium, a substance so deadly that the smallest contact could be lethal. Sullivan educated her peers and family about Rocky Flats, but it was not until the government raids in 1989 that her fears were validated.

While Sullivan's activist career began in college, that is certainly not where it ended. Education has been a major part of Sullivan's career, and her program Hibakusha as well as her involvement

in International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) are testament to that. Sullivan and a friend founded Hibakusha after learning about a Japanese non-government organization called Peace Boat that is dedicated peace and sustainability. Part of Peace Boat's mission is to allow atomic bomb survivors around the world to share their stories. Sullivan believes in the importance of sharing testimonies with young people, which is one of the key values of Hibakusha Stories, an activist program from New York. Their main goal is to pass the knowledge of the devastating impacts of the atomic bombings onto a new generation of students.

In terms of ICAN, Sullivan points to atomic-bombing survivor Setsoko Thurlo as the “main inspiration” for the

movement. Thurlo was able to give both the ICAN movement and non-proliferation treaty review meetings at the UN a sense of humanity. He spoke to Sullivan and the UN committee about the human impact of nuclear weapons rather than strictly focusing on the technical aspects of weapons, which appeals to individuals' pathos and has changed the way nuclear weapons have been discussed. Sullivan became involved with ICAN in 2007 when she was invited to a conference in Australia and since then has worked to develop the program, which culminated in a 2017 Nobel Peace Prize.

Sullivan expressed some wariness towards the current state of the world in terms of nuclear weapons. She calls this a “scarier time than the Cold War” because of the per-

vasiveness of nuclear weapons today. Sullivan explained that the world has moved beyond just five nuclear powers to nine, with Israel not admitting to having nuclear arms and the United States and North Korea having “unstable human beings in charge of launch codes.” This is a frightening notion, which is why Sullivan argues that we need to focus on “consequences rather than the abstraction of nuclear weapons.” Sullivan believes that the current White House administration is actively operating against her theories on how to abolish nuclear weapons. She states that the “military budget is obscene,” and some of the money could be used to meet human needs, which would “go a long way in human security.” She also feels that climate change will cause

further displacement in terms of nuclear weaponry, and is not being properly addressed by the government. Sullivan states that “we are still investing in technologies that lay waste the world” and “as long as that keeps happening, increase in violence and war will continue.”

Sullivan's main emphasis in her conversation with the *Echo* and her presentation is the importance of activism and standing up for what is right and important. She stated that “activists make people scared. I think it's really important for us to recognize that people can and do make a difference, and that's the only thing that ever brought change to our world.” She emphasizes that with activism and education then we can create a more “passionate and interesting world.”

For local  
coverage,  
see pg. 3



Courtesy of Claire Cahill

# Student Government campaign platforms

## Platform for Student government president and vice president

By **TAYLOR HABERSTOCK & SAM LEE**  
*Running for Student Government President and Vice President*

My name is Taylor Habershtock '19 and I am running for SGA President. I grew up in a small town in central New York called Skaneateles and graduated high school from the St. Paul's School. At Colby, I am a CA in Heights, #36 on the lacrosse team, a member of the Academic Integrity Board, a tutor for economics, and a participant in a Healthy Masculinity working group, amongst other things. I am super excited for the opportunity to continue connecting with Colby students and working to give everybody the resources they need to have the best Colby experience they can!

My name is Sam Lee '20 and I am running alongside Taylor for the position of SGA Vice-President. I was born and raised in Wellesley, MA. On the Hill I am a Class Co-President, a CCAK mentor, and a research assistant in the microbiology lab. SGA has been and continues to be an incredible part of my Colby experience and I am excited to run with Taylor to continue working towards making Colby the best place that it can be!

Our goal for next year is to focus on three overarching themes: social life at Colby, communication with administration, and Waterville-Colby relations.

We want to create a lasting leg-

acy of the Colby experience by embracing and maintaining iconic traditions, working to break down social barriers, creating spaces for community gatherings, and working to identify the core of Colby's social scene. We plan on doing this by maintaining Colby traditions such as Field Day, Story Time, Doghead, Take Back the Night, Pig Roast, First Weekend, Sounds of Blackness, and Spring on the Hill. In addition, we will create even more signature Colby experiences by supporting student-run events around campus, while also listening to students about new traditions they would like to see. We would also like to continue working with the student body and administration to address drinking culture on campus. This starts by continuing conversations surrounding drinking culture and working with administration to increase the amount of common spaces on campus to support community gatherings. Lastly, we aim to work with a variety of student clubs and groups to bridge the social gaps within the Colby community by reinforcing what it really means to be a Mule. Our goal is to maintain clear communication between the student body and administration, especially pertaining to the Dare Northward campaign and support services for all students on campus.. We want to enhance resources for student health on campus. Our hope is to find and secure ample amounts of support for all students, so that



Courtesy of Izzy Ward '21  
Sam Lee '20 (Left) and Taylor Habershtock '19 (right) smile for the camera while they brainstorm their Student Government platform on Miller steps.

they have access to help when help is needed. We plan to increase support outlets for students to voice their concerns, work with SHOC to provide students with the support they need, and reach out to administration to ensure that student voices are being heard.

We have heard a shared sentiment of feeling left behind as a result of the Dare Northward campaign. Our goal is to incorporate

diversity and inclusion task forces in conjunction with administration to provide students with direct financial and administrative support. There is no community without a cohesive relationship between Colby's students, faculty, staff, and administration. We hope to discussions with the administration to change the dorm vandalism charging system. Students should be held accountable

for their actions, and it is unfair that others must compensate for the disruptive behaviors of their peers. Additionally, we want to communicate to the administration that Colby's campus needs to be more accessible to all students as our campus continues to diversify. This includes investigating ways to make the campus more wheelchair friendly and providing increased lighting around commonly walked areas of campus. Accessibility is key, and we want to be able to assist students in gaining access to the resources they need.

We want to create a Colby community downtown that is open and inclusive to the residents downtown, students who live on campus, and the greater Waterville community. We want to clearly articulate administrative and local police expectations for the downtown space. First, we want to strengthen the relationships that have already been established with local Waterville businesses. Then, our hope is to establish new connections with more businesses to increase a stronger sense of togetherness on and off of the Hill. We would like to work with the Alford Youth Center and other local organizations to increase Colby student participation in the Waterville community, and encourage the Waterville youth and their families to feel more welcome on the Hill.

We want to work with Colby students, administration, and the Waterville Police Department to explicitly state and communicate

the expectations for the downtown dorm. For example, we want to articulate to the student body where it is one exactly enters into Waterville PD response zones rather than zones to which Colby security will respond. Next, we want to do everything we can to support Campus Life, the Pugh Center, and other groups on campus who plan on working and hosting events in the downtown space. We also plan to hone in on and fully comprehend the parking policy so that students have the most accessible parking possible by identifying all parking options within the downtown area. Lastly, we want to try to create a space on campus for students who will be living downtown to be able to store clothing, textbooks and other materials, so that they do not have to constantly commute back and forth between campus and the downtown apartments, and therefore ensuring they will be able to fully participate in the large variety of on-campus activities students host on a day-to-day basis.

Overall, our platform is based upon building bridges. We want to build bridges between students, bridges between Colby and Waterville, and bridges between administration and the student body. We talk about the Colby community and how it is a defining characteristic of this campus, but sometimes it becomes more of an abstract concept than a real-life experience. Thus, we hope that you vote Taylor and Sam so that we can all work together to build bridges to a better Colby!

## Government treasurer

  
By **TRYA DARUWALLA**  
*Running for Student Government Treasurer*

Hi everyone! My name is Tyra Daruwalla and I am a junior running for SGA Treasurer for 2018-2019.

I am a junior majoring in government and economics with a concentration in financial markets. I am involved in a handful of activities on campus that have made me grow closer to and fonder of the Colby community. This past year I was co-captain of the swimming and diving team, a COOT leader, a Sexual Violence Prevention Peer Educator, and worked on Class Council in the fall. I enjoy partaking in Colby Dancers as well and understand the benefits of having such clubs in order to find a happy and healthy balance at Colby. I hope to continue to expand my involvement in these groups as well as actively aid the goals and desires of other powerful organizations on campus. I am running for treasurer in order to have a more direct hand in engaging the larger Colby

and Waterville communities and to help my peers do the same.

Here is my platform on how I plan on improving Colby:

- 1) Transparency – Improved transparency about goals and guidelines of budget spending. By establishing standards and uniform practices, we can ensure that we have a fair and unbiased approach to the process of determining whether or not a club is fit to receive funding.
- 2) Resource Allocation – Responsibly allocating funds by understanding and balancing the needs and wants of the student body.
- 3) Impact, Engagement and Support – As treasurer, I will continue to ensure that clubs have the resources they need to make a powerful impact in the community. I recognize the role these activities play for individual students, the communities themselves, and in making Colby a more vibrant, diverse and connected campus. I will use my role to push further for creativity and engagement in clubs and schoolwide activities that will make the entire student body grow closer and stronger.

I hope you will all participate in this year's election process and exercise your right to shape Colby into a better place for everyone.

## Running for class senator and president positions

<b>Class of 2019:</b> Maddie Taylor Holly Lallis Olivia Silverman James O'brien Tanner Boucher	<b>Class of 2020 (fall):</b> Amanda Norchi Will Philips Sarah Bibeau Shivani Trivedi Julia Gonzalez <b>Class of 2020 (spring):</b> Amanda Norchi Will Philips	<b>Class of 2021:</b> Justin Zhang Hannah Johnson Genesis Cazalez Connor Wilson Sam Leppo Chioma Akali Justin Zhang	<b>Other Co-Presidents running:</b>  Katie Winslow & Caroline Fowler: Class of 2020 (fall)  Matthew Garza & Sarah Kaplan: Class of 2020 (spring)
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## Government treasurer

  
By **SCOTT GOSNELL**  
*Running for Student Government Treasurer*

Hi everyone! My name is Scott Gosnell, and I am in the Class of 2019. I am a government major and a managerial economics minor here on campus. This past year I served on SGA as one of the senators for the class of 2019. In this upcoming election, I will be running for the Treasurer position on SGA. As Treasurer, my two primary goals would be to maintain the budget equally and maintain clear

communication with the members of the community.

I know that many people need support from the school to help fund their clubs and other important events on campus. As Treasurer I want to be someone who people feel comfortable asking for help, but also maintain the budget in a fair way. I will strive for clear communication, so every student or group who makes a request will know exactly where they stand in the process at all times.

Overall, I am hoping to be someone that can help SGA and the school community in a positive way. As a senior, I want to stay involved with SGA at Colby and hope I can help facilitate a fun year for everyone. I appreciate your Vote!

## 2019 co-presidents

  
By **MATT MITCHELL & MERRILL READ**  
*Running for 2019 Co-Presidents*

As committed SGA veterans, we will promote friendship, inclusion and respect throughout our grade and the greater Colby community. We will use our grade's diverse experiences and backgrounds to make our class's senior year the best it can possibly be. Both of us understand the responsibility and

privilege it is to represent the class of 2019 and we will continue to build on the progress we have made during the 2017-2018 school year. Whether it be planning bar nights, senior week, or listening to and understanding how to articulate our classmates' opinions and views, we will be there to represent you!

We believe that representing our is bigger than ourselves and that we have the real opportunity to make an impact on Colby.

Between our hard work on our SGA committees this year and planning events for our grade to enjoy, we have worked to make this year enjoyable. We hope that you'll help us keep our streak and vote us for senior co-presidents!

## 2019 co-presidents

  
By **ASHLEE GUEVARA & ALI RAMI**  
*Running for 2021 Co-Presidents*

We, Ashlee Guevara & Ali Rami, are running to continue our Co-Presidency for the Class of 2021, after serving you all in one of the most fulfilling, challenging and stimulating years of our lives. his year, we have successfully faced adversity and grown in a community of open-minded c and talented individuals.

During our time in office we have consistently worked on creating awesome events that both the Class of 2021 and the wider campus community could en-

joy together. This year we have had some of the most well attended class dinners, provided inclusive programming during Doghead, and ensured that all first-years received a class t-shirt during our time in office, delivering on our campaign promise. Additionally, we participated in the NesGov Conference where we strengthened our relationship with other student governments in the NESAC. We pledge that if you choose to elect us again, we will work hard to make sure that every member of the Colby community finds their unique support system!

Our goal is simple: We want to build a community that is invested in Student Government and encourages everybody to exercise their voice! We want to increase transparency within SGA, improve relationships between the administration and students, work to lower or eliminate dorm damages, and ensure that everyone has fun.

## 2019 co-presidents

  
By **LAURA POLLEY & WALTER THILLY**  
*Running for 2021 Co-Presidents*

We would strongly represent the unique perspectives and backgrounds of the Class of 2021. Through our hard work and dedication we believe we can truly make next year more enjoyable for each and everyone of us. A major initiative we wish to pursue going forward would be our "Arts Exhibition Week" in which we strongly publicize and encourage all students to attend various art presentations. SAAC (Student Athlete Advisory Committee) has a

similar practice in which athletes attend each other's games and we hope to build a similar mutual interest between athletics and arts. Another idea we have is our Class of '21 'Meet a Mule' initiative in which every day the Class of 2021's instagram will feature a post of a student in our class and a little bit about themselves. The goal surrounding this project would be that we not only learn about each other as a class but that we also have the opportunity to meet others with similar interests. We would also like to begin strengthening our bond with the Waterville community by holding a Senior Citizen Prom which would allow students to meet the residents and allow Colby to open its doors to the community. We look forward to rewarding the incredible achievements and talents our class has to offer through these events! We will always be open to ideas and suggestions!

## 2019 co-presidents

  
By **SAM KANE & BEN FREELAND**  
*Running for 2020 Co-Presidents*

We are Sam Kane & Ben Freeland, and we are running to represent the Class of 2020 as co-presidents for the fall semester! Both of us are engaged community members - leading COOTs, campus tours and participating in clubs like the Colbyettes and Rugby. We wish to host fun events for juniors to have an outlet to de-stress and socialize – from hosting a fall Spikeball tournament to providing a special 2020 discount for juniors' first drink at the pub to organizing a karaoke night and a "trip to the beach" day.

We intend to foster a sense

of communication between our class and SGA, proposing that each SGA motion require 25 signatures from non-SGA members in order to vote on it. We will address concerns about the athletic center: we want to publish which spaces in the AC teams will be using and when, as well as information on the number of people visiting the weight room at a given time. As well, we are planning a "welcome back" mingle event in the downtown dorm, and our class' Instagram page will feature a different junior abroad every week, functioning similar to "This Colby Now" Instagram page,. We hope to reinstitute the Colby Deal, which offers Colby students discounts at select shops and restaurants in Waterville. This is simply a sampling of the many ideas we have brainstormed and of our enthusiasm that we'll bring to our class and the greater Colby community. We would be honored to serve as the junior class co-presidents this fall!



Woman sues former employer in #MeToo sexual assault case

By HANNAH SOUTHWICK  
Position

Beyond dethroning formidable Hollywood executives, the #MeToo movement has inspired a collective awakening. In Waterville, Maine, Angela Agganis' allegation of workplace sexual harassment by a supervisor at a T-Mobile call center in Oakland is slated for trial in federal court.

In a prepared statement from Agganis' legal team, the use of the #MeToo Sexual Harassment identified her case as a local manifestation of the national reckoning organization.

"This decision is important because it re-emphasizes that it's not enough for an employer to simply have a sexual harassment policy, it must have an effective one," Valerie Wicks, one of the attorneys representing Agganis, said in a statement. "A policy is not effective if women are subjected to sex-based slurs, unwanted massages and leering in the workplace."

Agganis filed her lawsuit in October 2015, predating the #MeToo movement, but it has taken over two years for the case to reach trial. Jeffrey Neil Young, a second member of Agganis' legal team, said that the case has "taken on a life of its own."

"The allegations and the complaint are contested and denied by T-Mobile and my client feels equally strongly," Young said in an interview with the *Echo*.

Agganis' alleged sexual harassment began after eight years of work as a customer service representative at T-Mobile. The complaint states that following a management reassignment, her new supervisor Gary Rochon allegedly began to sexually harass her through massages and other unwanted physical contact, repeatedly staring "in a sexual manner," and offering her a ride home against company policy.

According to the complaint, when Agganis brought her situation to the human resource manager's

attention, she was instructed to "just stick it out" until managers were reassigned in the future. In order for an internal investigation to occur, she was allegedly required to sign a confidentiality agreement stating that she would not mention her complaints to her coworkers or anyone other than T-Mobile's corporate investigators and human resources staff. The National Labor Review Board later found this policy to be illegal and required T-Mobile

"This [court] decision is important because it re-emphasizes an employer to simply have a sexual harassment policy"

Valerie Wicks  
Attorney

to rescind it.

"We feel that any woman who has been subjected to sexual harassment needs to have the right to be able to talk about it and seek support from her coworkers and find out if other women have been subjected to similar types of harassment," Young said. "In this case, we found that a number of other women had felt they had been sexually harassed by the same individual... and the company had not adequately handled those complaints."

Prior to being hired by T-Mobile, Rochon, a former physician, had his medical license revoked in Wisconsin for having sex with a patient and was later terminated from a job at Kennebec Behavioral Health under accusations

of sexual harassment. T-Mobile claims to have been unaware of any past transgressions.

After leaving T-Mobile in 2014, Agganis has given press conferences and collaborated with labor unions to spread the word about her experiences. National periodicals such as Cosmopolitan and the Huffington Post picked up the story. While she has held various jobs, including a brief time working in Colby's dining halls, Agganis has not had steady employment since leaving T-Mobile.

While #MeToo has amplified the conversation surrounding workplace harassment, the struggles faced by women at work have persisted in the years since the lawsuit was filed. According to Young, most cases of sexual assault go unreported and it is rare for a case to make it this far.

"Right now, in my view as an attorney who has been practicing in this area for thirty years, the law is not serving as a sufficient deterrent," Young said. "We need more and better training. We need to change the culture in the workplace, and we need to make sure that the women speaking up are not retaliated against."

And although sexual harassment can occur in any setting, the power imbalance behind some workplace relationships makes reporting complicated. As the Agganis case is on track to go to court, the Maine legislature is reevaluating practices regarding workplace sexual harassment.

Assistant Senate Minority Leader Nate Libby, a Democrat from Lewiston, was inspired to modernize the state's legislation on sexual harassment after realizing there was no make-up session offered for legislators who did not attend a sexual harassment training when they first took office. After speaking in confidence with women who work in and around the State House, Libby found that most female staffers and some female legislators had experienced sexual ha-



Mihai Surdu

The #MeToo movement has inspired a collective awakening regarding sexual assault and workplace harassment. Here in Waterville, Angela Agganis' allegation of workplace sexual harassment by a supervisor at a T-Mobile call center in Oakland is slated for trial in federal court.

rassment throughout the years and nothing had been done to report or combat the issue.

In February, the Maine legislature passed a rule requiring every legislator to attend an annual harassment prevention training. Libby is currently working on a bill to extend this requirement to everyone who works in the State House.

"All of the conversations we have been having across the country have spurred this examination of practices around human resources and harassment prevention," Libby said in a recent interview with the *Echo*. "I think without the #MeToo movement perhaps we wouldn't be looking at these issues here in Maine at the State House."

For businesses outside of the legislature, Maine law requires workplaces with 15 or more employees to conduct a sexual harassment prevention training for all new workers within a year of hiring.

"Maine was one of the first states to pass a really strong sexual harassment prevention training requirement among businesses and institutions, but that was back in the 90s," Libby said. "If a business complies with that law you can

have a person who has been working there for 15 years who hasn't gone through a sexual harassment training for 14."

In addition to strengthened legislation, organizations offering support for survivors of sexual harassment and assault play an integral role. Funding sexual assault support centers throughout the state, the Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA) ensures that survivors have access to necessary support.

"#MeToo has impacted our organization in a number of ways," Cara Courchesne, communications director of MCASA, said in an interview with the *Echo*. "I think that people who wouldn't have necessarily thought that our services were for them have identified us. We've always been responsive to people who have been sexually harassed, but I think a lot of the time people don't connect sexual harassment with sexual violence and I think that's changing."

In an effort to expand beyond 24 hour phone service, MCASA introduced a text/chat service in March allowing survivors to receive confidential support by text from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday

through Friday.

Serving as a voice for women on a myriad of issues, the Maine Women's Lobby partners with MCASA to provide survivor support and to promote legislation.

"I think after #MeToo there's greater awareness among all of us about the degree to which virtually every woman has experienced some degree of harassment, unwanted attention...and that it's that much more complicated at work," Eliza Townsend, executive director of the Maine Women's Lobby, said in an interview with the *Echo*.

In the wake of #MeToo, Maine women are seeking support and change in workplaces from the customer service industry to the state legislature.

"No working woman should have to endure sexual harassment on the job. And no woman should be denied the right to speak to others about what occurred," Agganis said in a statement. "I hope this suit will ensure that women working at T-Mobile are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve and encourage women everywhere to come forward and put an end to intolerable working conditions."



Attribution

Waterville mayor Nick Isgro (center), who has been criticized recently for an insulting tweet against Parkland shooting survivor David Hogg, sits next to Colby President David Greene (right) at a 2015 city event.

Recall efforts started for Mayor Isgro

By LOUISA GOLDMAN  
Associate Editor

On Wednesday, April 4, Waterville mayor Nick Isgro retweeted an article discussing Fox's support of news anchor Laura Ingraham, who criticized Parkland shooting survivor and gun regulation advocate David Hogg for getting rejected from his top-choice colleges. Isgro captioned his now-deleted tweet, "Eat it, Hogg." Now, facing unhappy Waterville residents pushing for his resignation, Isgro has retreated out of the spotlight as many push for a recall election.

This is not the first time Isgro has spoken out against the idea of gun regulation. In an interview with the *Echo* last month regarding the proposed #Enough student walkout against gun violence, Isgro defended his opposition to both the protest and gun control in general, stating that he believes "this goes beyond politics. I don't believe our school should be taking a side on this issue anymore than if someone proposed an pro-NRA march." Ultimately, he stated, that "In the greater context of the national gun control debate, the reality is [that for those who handle guns

regularly] an AR-15 has no more potential to be harmful than most home semi-automatic hand pistols. We shouldn't be demonizing legal gun owners for crimes they don't commit."

Instead of gun regulation, Isgro blamed our nation's violence issue on mental health. "The reality is that use of guns is a byproduct of much greater problems in our society. When we look at the case of Florida not only were there obvious mental illness issues but also severe failures of law enforcement on all levels leading up to this great tragedy," Isgro said. Indeed, students at area Waterville schools were forbade from participating in the walkout, consistent with the mayor's views.

Colby grad Karen Heck '74, who served as Waterville mayor from 2012-2014, has started to gain momentum in a campaign to hold a recall vote in response to the tweet. She had, in fact, campaigned for Isgro when he ran for mayor following her term, but has now decided that he is no longer the best person to represent the town. Heck has joined forces with residents Jim Chidix and Hillary Koch to file an affidavit, the first step in the

recall process, according to an article in the Morning Sentinel. "I believe his tweet attacking David Hogg and his recently revealed Facebook posts are clear indications...he no longer feels treating others with respect is necessary," Heck said in a press conference. "In so doing, I believe he is no longer representative of the feelings of most residents of Waterville. Undertaking the recall will determine if that is true."

Mayor Isgro recently stepped back in the public eye for the first time since the now infamous tweet, issuing a press release regarding the possible recall. "I have always been a tireless advocate for you-the people of Waterville and our record of success speaks for itself," Isgro said, never actually mentioning the tweet itself. "This effort they [Heck, Chidix, and Koch] have started with their friends in the media and dark-money-funded outsiders who do not live in our city is not simply an attack on me, it is an attack on all of us."

Despite the Mayor's push-back, the recall campaign has gained momentum. It will require 857 signatures by May 1 in order for the recall to occur.



Courtesy of Peter Brown

The Waterville Brewing Company, which opened in late January in the Hathaway Creative Center, offers locally sourced beers and a fun environment.

Brewery opens in the Hathaway Creative Center

By ANNABEL McLAUGHLIN  
Position

The Waterville Brewing Company is the latest addition to the rapidly-growing downtown Waterville at 10 Water Street. Since its recent opening, Waterville's first microbrewery has found tremendous success. The business is looking to sustain this momentum as it continues to grow.

According to the business's website, Co-owners Ryan Flaherty and Eric Willett share a passion for quality craft beer, and this energy translates particularly into the business. Located in the Hathaway Creative Center, Waterville Brewing Company is a four-barrel brewery that features a rotating selection of craft beer. Flaherty and Willett rotate a selection of five beers: WBC Blonde Ale, Autopilot Session, 5th Floor IPA, Infinity Mulligans Amber Ale and Steely Eye Oatmeal Stout.

As the company continues to grow, Flaherty and Willett hope to add more beers to the rotation based on feedback from customers. According to the website, the duo, in their own "biased" opinion, believe they brew some of Maine's "best beers".

Locals have taken a great liking to the new business. The location provides a unique, cozy, welcoming atmosphere that perfectly compliments the overall

The convenient location of the Brewery provides a unique, cozy, welcoming atmosphere that perfectly compliments the overall experience.

Although there is no food available for purchase in the brewery's location, customers are invited to order delivery to the brewery or bring their own food to enjoy with their craft beer.

This flexible, "bring your own food" policy allows for the creation of a warm, friendly environment.

The prime location in the Hathaway Creative Center should also add strong business potential for the brewery. Last year, the building sold for over 20 million dollars, and is now being revamped into apartments and office and retail space in the heart of downtown Waterville. As businesses continue to enter the building, as well as in downtown Waterville in general, Waterville Brewing Company is sure to see steady business.

The brewery's commitment to quality beer and customer satisfaction should lay a strong foundation for what is sure to become a favorite amongst local residents. Waterville Brewing Company is open Fridays from 3-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 12-8 p.m. Flaherty and Willett hope to extend hours during the summer months. To stay updated on the latest information regarding hours and new beer additions, visit the Company's website ([watervillebrewingcompany.com](http://watervillebrewingcompany.com)) and their Facebook page ([facebook.com/therealwatervillebrewingcompany](https://www.facebook.com/therealwatervillebrewingcompany)).





Courtesy of Claire Cahill

# Runs in the family: legacies on the Hill

By JAMES BURNETT  
Features Reporter

Over parent’s weekend on the Hill, it is not uncommon to find doting parents barging into the rooms of unfamiliar students proclaiming that they “totally used to live” in that very dorm. Indeed, quite a few legacy students attend Colby College. These students—who have at least one relative who graduated from the college—often forge deep and meaningful connections with Colby before they even applied.

Because of the value that these connections bring, Colby’s admissions office considers familial connections as part of their review process for admission to the college. As Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Matthew T. Proto explains, these connections are considered “as part of an applicant’s personal context.” However, Proto states that legacy is never a “defining or deciding factor in ad-

missions decisions.” Proto also adds that the school seeks students “from all backgrounds with different experiences” as long as they will “contribute to the Colby community in meaningful ways.”

Dean Karlene Burrell-McRae ’94 elaborates on specific experiences that legacy students bring to Colby. She explains that “our legacy students have more familiarity with the college as family members have often shared stories and experiences that made them fond of their college experience. It is likely they heard of faculty and staff members who have impacted their academic, intellectual and life journeys.” Burrell-McRae hopes that the legacy students at Colby share their knowledge and helps other navigate the college when possible.

One legacy student, Hailley Reed ’20, said she never felt a strong familial connection to Colby per se, but it helped her “shape [her]

idea of what college is when I started to look for where I wanted to go.” Both her father ’85 and grandfather ’56 were Mules, so Reed “really associated college with a small liberal arts school with brick buildings in New England.”

Unlike some legacy students, Reed did not choose Colby specifically to follow in her father’s footsteps. Rather, she explains that she saw “how big of a role Colby played and still plays in my dad’s life, and that helped me contextualize the school outside of what you can get on a tour. I saw from my dad and his friends how much of a connection they felt to the school, and I was looking for a school that you didn’t just go to for four years and leave. I wanted a school that felt like a community even after you left.” Fascinatingly, Reed thinks her family’s connection to Colby pushed her brother in the opposite direction. He chose to attend the Univer-

sity of Miami, the polar opposite experience of a small liberal arts college.

Senior Jenna Isaacson ’18, on the other hand, placed more importance in the continuation of her family’s rich tradition at Colby. “I really liked the idea of being third generation and the fourth person in my family to come to Colby, since the school has been so important to my family for many decades,” Isaacson said in an interview with the Echo. “I grew up hearing stories about their time at Colby and it’s exciting that I now get to have my own experience here but I definitely feel like I share a special connection with my family because of Colby.”

Clearly, legacy students like Reed and Isaacson bring unique and valuable experiences to Colby. Despite this, considering legacy when evaluating a student for admission is fairly controversial. In fact, the University of Geor-

gia—which is the oldest public school in the United States—ended legacy as a factor in their admissions process a few years ago. A number of other colleges and universities around the country have also discontinued this practice.

One study in the Chronicle of Higher Education conducted in 2007 by Harvard University across 30 “elite” colleges found that applicants with any type of legacy were admitted to colleges at a 23.3 percent higher rate compared to students without legacy. For students with parents who attended an elite college, (a primary legacy), this rate skyrocketed to 45.1 percent. Many, however, argue that cases of primary legacy are fairly rare. Of the 290,000 applications studied in the Chronicle of Higher Education, only 6 percent held any legacy status at all, let alone direct parental legacy. Because of how few students are legacy, the perceived “advan-

tage” those students hold does not greatly affect the chances of non-legacy students in getting accepted.

Interestingly enough, the study also found a positive correlation between SAT scores and legacy status—that is, in general, as an applicant’s familial connection to a school intensified, so too did their SAT scores. And although it is impossible to determine specifically what has caused this correlation, it points to the fact that while legacies may have a perceived advantage in the admissions process, they generally are just as qualified (if not more so) for acceptance to the school as non-legacies.

Ultimately, regardless of whether they are legacy or not, Dean Burrell hopes that all students take advantage of the resources at Colby--both academic and co-curricular—in order to “challenge themselves to grow and leave with a renewed sense to be change agents.”

# Faces of Colby: counseling service’s Alissa Benziger

By SARAH WARNER  
Staff Writer

As society’s understanding of mental health continues to evolve, so too has the range of services offered. Here at Colby, the counseling offices in the Garrison-Foster Health Center are constantly developing. Bustling with activity, they are filled with trained professionals, all willing to help students with a range of concerns. Amongst all the action, Administrative Coordinator of Counseling Services Alissa Benziger helps keep things running smoothly so Mules can get the support they need.

Before coming to Colby in 2015, Benziger had worked various health-oriented jobs, serving in administration at a massage and acupuncture center and then as a behavioral health professional for children. It was this interest in health and administration that she says drew her to Colby.

“I’ve always been quite good at managing things and juggling schedules. I also have an interest in health from different standpoints-- not necessarily traditional medicine

but Eastern medicine, mental health, things like that,” Benziger said in an interview with the Echo, “They all go hand in hand. It’s a holistic process.”

This enthusiasm for her work helps her stay focused in her position at Colby.

“As the administrative coordinator, I wear a lot of different hats. I am responsible for scheduling everything-- both scheduling students’ appointments with us and the schedules of the counselors, especially those of the director Eric Johnson. I also handle the business side of things-- budget, finances, orders, things like that-- and just generally making sure everything is running smoothly, which has a lot of different elements from day to day. No two days are alike.”

Despite the rigor of her position, Benziger says the community at Colby makes the work worth it. “I love the community. I love being able to interact with so many different types of people, the people we work with as colleagues and also the students. I just like seeing what everyone is up to because there’s so many interesting things happen-

ing on campus. Also, just the ideas that everyone has. It really makes you look at things from a different perspective.”

Beyond her love for the community, Benziger also expressed her love for Maine. A Mansfield, MA native, Benziger’s family often spent summers in Belgrade, instilling in her a passion for the Maine wilderness that she carries with her today. She particularly enjoys walking in the Arboretum, which she describes as “a mini vacation.”

“There’s a certain attraction in the proximity to nature, I think, in feeling like you’re a million miles away when you’re still right there in Waterville. It’s all just beautiful-- even the winters, though they can be intense.”

In between work and walks in the woods, Benziger also finds time to dabble in art. At home, she enjoys painting and making mixed media sculpture, and she has been a part of the Colby Pottery Club for over two years now as a self-described “amateur” trying to master the wheel. There’s one piece of pottery in particular, though, that she is especially proud of.

“Recently I made a bowl



Courtesy of Peter Brown

Garrison-Foster’s Counseling Services Administrative Coordinator, Alissa Benziger, enjoys meeting students and getting involved within the Colby community.

with a spoon rest. It started off as a small bowl, but then a little chip came off the side and I was able to reshape it into a perfect indentation for a spoon to lay in. I’m quite proud of myself for that one. It was good for me because I’m a bit of a perfectionist, so when those mistakes do happen and I have to reroute myself. It is so helpful. I am

trying to learn that just because something doesn’t go the way you planned or originally intended doesn’t mean that it’s not perfect in its own way.”

This philosophy of learning to not only live with your mistakes but love them is one Benziger wants Colby students to understand, too.

“I want to tell Colby

students to remember to breathe. Ask for help when you need it. And don’t take life so seriously. Look for the humor in everything. Life goes on, and things get better. Like I was saying with the pottery, something you think could be a mistake or setback now could actually turn out to be even better than you intended.”

# Local exploration: trivia night at Mainely Brews



Courtesy of Louisa Goldman

Mainely Brews, located at 1 Post Office road on main street in downtown Waterville, hosts trivia night every Thursday from 7pm-9pm. Paying participants are eligible to win a monetary reward if they have the most correct answers of the evening

By LOUISA GOLDMAN  
Associate Editor

For underage Mules without valid identifica-

tion (or those who have learned from last year’s mistakes), Thursday nights off the Hill might seem like an impossibility. Instead of

mourning the loss of bar night, however, underclassmen and jeopardy-lovers alike should consider trivia at Mainely Brews, which

provides an equally entertaining Thursday evening and even carries with it the allure of monetary reward.

Although the weekly event begins at approximately 7 p.m., its popularity amongst Colby students, professors and Waterville residents alike causes tables to fill up quickly, so arriving about 15 minutes earlier is definitely advisable. This also leaves time to both claim a spot and order a delicious meal before the main event begins. The restaurant’s menu consists of American pub fare along with some unique treats, ranging from Mac n’ Cheese to Ahi Tuna to lobster rolls, a Maine favorite.

Trivia begins with the emcee of the evening passing out answer sheets, and asking each table if they would like to play for fun or for money. In the case of the former, no financial contribution is needed,

only a pencil, piece of paper, and low speaking voice (to dissuade cheating from other groups). For the latter, each member of a given team (which can range from a single individual to several tables), is required to pay \$2 in cash; the cash prize for the winner of the evening is the sum of all trivia contributions. Due to this, the ending reward varies based on the level of participation each week. Last week, the winning total was around \$58, and was awarded to a trivially-inclined Colby professor.

The questions themselves do not consist of run-of-the-mill bar trivia, but are very specific and quite difficult for the uninitiated. After always beginning with “this week in history”, the event continues with six other categories, consisting of five questions each totaling to 30 overall. Categories range from astronomy

to comics to Maine history, and questions are anything but surface level. One week actually included math problems, which required scratch paper and numerical minds.

Throughout trivia, the mood of the restaurant is relaxed and collaborative, with non-participants (somewhat illegally) helping along struggling teams. This helps groups who might not otherwise interact bond, forming a greater sense of community amongst guests. Language flowing freely, Colby students discuss US history with local residents they, under any other circumstances, would not be exposed to.

Even without the potential monetary reward, trivia night is definitely a worthwhile experience, and lasting only until 9:00 p.m., puts Mules back on campus for a reasonable bedtime.



# Arts & Entertainment

## Theaster Gates joins Colby community, accepts 3-year residency

By CHARLOTTE MARRATTA  
A&E Reporter

Prominent Chicago artist Theaster Gates, known for his innovation and engagement with social and urban issues, has been appointed the first Distinguished Visiting Artist and Director of Artist Initiates at the Lunder Institute for American Art at Colby. This decision comes on the heels of plans for the new downtown arts center last month, and is a move that the College is making to increase Waterville's engagement with art, hoping to make Waterville a premier destination for creativity. Gates is a successful social practice installation artist, and aims to use art to enhance communities. In the past couple of years he has established himself as one of the world's biggest

stars in the fine arts. His work has been exhibited at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, the Whitney Biennial, and the National Gallery of Art. Gates uses his artistic vision to turn run-down buildings into art, creating an aesthetic intersection between art, urban development and finance. Economics major and art minor Devin Mullaney '18 is thrilled that such an influential artist will be coming to Colby. "When he came to speak at Colby I was really interested in a project he talked about involving a bank. Gates transformed the inside of a bank into a beautiful space and explained how this would help develop the blocks surrounding the bank and help to enhance the overall status of the South Side of Chicago. As someone interested in both art and

economics, Gates' appointment is particularly exciting," Mullaney said. The bank of which Mullaney is referencing is an incredible story, as he purchased

Gates' work has been exhibited at the Smithsonian, the Whitney Biennial and the National Gallery of Art.

it from the city for just \$1 and flipped it into a gallery and community center that holds valuable resources for study of black history. His work far extends past the



Courtesy of Theaster Gates Studio

Theaster Gates' initiatives aim to infuse Waterville and the Colby community with discourse surrounding art and artmaking — what it means to make socially conscious art and what that would look like in a college setting.

success of the bank as he and his team have rebuilt over 75,000 square feet of unwanted commercial space and turned them into a valuable area.

In 2017, Gates visited Colby for a four-day residency at the Lunder Institute. During his stay, Gates spoke in a variety of different classes and as the Lunder Institute for American Art's inaugural speaker on Sept. 19. "I think it's great that he's coming here," art history major John Egner '18 said. "He has a lot of experience in artistic urban development and I think that's something that Waterville would really benefit from right now." Gates visited Egner's class, "Art, Community, and Ethical Urban Development," in the fall of last year, and accom-

panied the class on a tour of Waterville's South End. Later in the course, Gates traveled with a number of students to Chicago to give them the opportunity to see his projects firsthand. Julia Grady '20, also a student in "Art, Community, and Ethical Urban Development," is very excited Gates will be returning to Colby, and commented, "When Gates entered our classroom, it became a brainstorming arena brimming with charm. He asked questions to help read his crowd, generated ideas amongst the group, and told stories that would spark inspiration beyond that class period."

As the director of artist initiatives, Gates will work to bring artists and intellectuals to Colby, providing students and

faculty with unprecedented opportunities. "We feel immensely fortunate to be able to bring Theaster Gates to Colby, to help us realize the ambitious mission of the new Lunder Institute for American Art," Colby President David A. Greene said in a recent press release. Gates will reside at Colby for the next three years. In the near future, he will be setting up a studio downtown where he can continue his work, organizing art events for the summer and delivering the baccalaureate address on May 26 for the class of 2018. In 2021, the Colby College Museum of Art plans to install an exhibition of the work Gates creates throughout his time at the College.



Courtesy of Chris Mordecai, The Chicago Detours

The Johnson Publishing Archive is a part of his installation at the Stony Island Arts Bank, which Gates purchased for one dollar and rehabilitated in an effort to reimagine visitor's experiences with public documents.

## Museum in Profile: Center for Maine Contemporary Art illuminates Maine art

By NINA OLEYNIK  
Associate Editor

The Center for Maine Contemporary Art (CMCA) occupies a unique space in Maine, highlighting the artists whose work has been impacted by their time spent here. Just a short hour-or-so drive from Colby, Rockland offers an art lover's alternative to

recently designed by Maine architect Toshiko Mori. The museum was previously part of a Maine artists' cooperative when it was founded in 1954, but traded up its old barn structure and moved to downtown Rockland in 2016. All of the work that hangs on the walls of CMCA is by artists with a connection to Maine,

removal from everyday life and fosters a connection to nature. Rockwell Kent famously painted landscapes of Monhegan Island, ME for a number of years, invigorated by its rocky coastline and the Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture has long promoted artistic expression through its residency program. Prominent artists

trait of an Artist. A Kennebunk local, Shows' art recreates artist portraits through their shoes. Since 2008, Shows has explored the ways in which we construct identity through our choices in footwear; shoes of artists can be especially interesting because of their role in the art-making process. Shows acquires the footwear through many different channels, contacting artists and foundations for those artists that have already passed. Several portraits of famous deceased artists include Frida Kahlo, Jackson Pollock and Lee Krasner.

Size, color and method of displaying works are all components considered when putting together a show. Associate Curator at CMCA Bethany Engstrom spoke on the challenges and joys of arranging an exhibit such as the one by Shows. Engstrom said this show was particularly rewarding because many of the portraits are the same size and could be hung right alongside each other, something atypical for an exhibition, which usually leaves room between each image. This method allows for direct comparison between the works and allows each image to flow into one another. The visual aesthetic also packs a particular punch as all of the portraits have a uniform white background. Portrait of an Artist is on view until June 3.

CMCA is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 12-5 p.m. on Sundays. Learn more on their website: <http://cmcanow.org>.



Courtesy of Nina Oleynik

Shows' exhibit reimagines the artist portrait through artists' footwear, leaving viewers with an eclectic product.

Portland with many shops and galleries as well as the Farnsworth Art Museum, right across the street. CMCA is tucked right off of the main drag in Rockland, ME. The sleek building, with its impressive floor-to-ceiling windows and clean white lines, was

whether they were born here, spent some portion of their life living here, or were simply inspired by the state of Maine. The collection emphasizes a longstanding tradition of artists' fascination with Maine. Often, the state is seen as a place of

that have shown at CMCA include Jamie Wyeth, Alex Katz and Bernard Langlais. CMCA has three major exhibitions on view currently: John Moore, Resonance; Richard Blanco and Jacob Hessler, Boundaries; and KJ Shows, Por-



The shoes are often marked by artists in many different ways such as paint splatter, sharpie, visible wear and signatures.



Courtesy of Nina Oleynik

The administrative offices at CMCA wrap around the building so that they overlook the galleries; the bright windows encourage visitors to peer into both sides.

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# The increasingly blurred lines of public political stances

By **ETHAN SCHULER**  
Associate Editor

It is no secret that colleges tend to be hotbeds of political activism, and it is usually pretty clear the political leanings of a college's student body. However, the institution and administrations at colleges themselves theoretically tend to try to officially remain politically neutral. Generally, they favor open debate between students and will support protests and events for any cause. Colby is no different, but particularly in the present day, actually following through with political neutrality as an organization can be very difficult. Not only are there social issues that colleges must address, it is very easy for anything from a fundraising campaign to a social media post to be interpreted as taking a political stance.

A few weeks ago, I wrote a piece on my conflicted attitude towards the Dare Northward program at Colby. One thing I discussed in the article was that many people critical of the campaign have pointed out that although Colby has made a point to remain neutral regarding many specific political issues, they have implicitly supported neoliberal political ideas by partnering with the Nasdaq, which has led to hypocrisy on the part of the College. One person on the Civil Discourse specifically pointed out President David A. Greene's refusal to support the Paris Climate Accord on the grounds of not taking a political stance as an example of this hypocrisy. When stating his refusal over e-mail, President Greene specifically stated

...the College should be transparent about when they will and will not take political stances.

"On most political issues of the day, I will choose not to affix Colby's name."

This was but one shred of a point regarding the controversy of Dare Northward, but the larger issue of Colby as an institution taking a stance on political issues, both explicitly and implicitly, is very much worth discussing. To be blunt, the idea that Colby could never take a political stance is impossible. Beyond implicit stances, the College is even required to take stances in a direct manner at certain points, particularly regarding social issues. Colby faces dilemmas that force this, whether or not it is what we want. While this certainly does not leave them at a fault, and allows space for the College to remain politically neutral, it is also

important to point out the implicit ways Colby affirms its political views.

A perfect example of Colby taking an involuntary political stance came last September, when the Trump Administration announced they would end the DACA program in six months. That same day, Greene sent out a school-wide e-mail explicitly affirming the College's support for DACA. He specifically stated, "Our commitment to members of our

"...Colby... is strengthened... by our ability to admit and support students regardless of their national origin or immigration status. We oppose policies that obstruct our ability to provide the most talented students from all backgrounds with access to a Colby education."

President Greene

community affected by this decision is unwavering. And Colby as an institution is strengthened and its mission furthered by our ability to admit and support students regardless of their national origin or immigration status. We oppose policies that obstruct our ability to provide the most talented students from all backgrounds with access to a Colby education." Though this is about as transparent of a political stance as Colby could make on the record, they were in a situation where, due to many on campus being individually affected, the College needed to make their position clear. President Greene also made clear in the e-mail that he welcomed open discussion, and no one questioned the College's motives in this decision.

That being said, Colby also makes implicit political endorsements often. While this may not go as far as "affixing Colby's name" on record, as Greene puts it, it clearly makes people not have to speculate as to where the College's views as an institution lie. A recent example of this includes the post on the Colby Instagram of the National School Walkout Day that many Colby students participated in. While this is not the College stating specifically that it officially agrees with the views of the students who protested, it makes clear they want to publicize the fact that many students at Colby have these views. None of this is saying the College is being intentionally political - there are a

wide variety of reasons why the College would want to publicize this, and it is not fair to pretend to know the true intentions. They could simply want to show that students are active in supporting political causes, regardless of the cause itself. They could simply be trying to keep followers up to date on campus events. However, just as people view Colby affiliating themselves with the Nasdaq as an implied support of neoliberalism, despite their not explicitly stating this, Colby as an institution making a point to affiliate themselves with the walk-out could imply support of the gun control reform participants favored.

If one made a point to look back at Colby's history through its social media posts and e-mail announcements, years more of implicit political endorsements could probably be found. But arguing over whether the College intends to be political, or whether their current way of doing things is hypocritical probably is not productive. Instead, it would behoove us to discuss ways the College can deal with it from now on. A good start would be for Colby to establish a future policy regarding when they will or will not take a political stance. Greene's general views on the matter, though important to know, are not specific enough. The College's policy is too vague, and the fact that these kind of long-winded discussions about whether their intentions were political or not in the first place, like this article, speaks to this.

Obviously, this is not a Colby-specific issue. Particularly in the age of Trump, colleges all over the United States have to deal with how to address taking political stances, particularly with respect to social issues that directly and indirectly affect students. In this difficult time, Colby should set an example. Instead of being unclear, the College should be transparent about when they will and will not take political stances. The administration should consult with the community about when it is and is not appropriate. Of course, as Greene has stated, this does not mean that there should not be open dialogue even when the College does take a stand. But we should know when to expect it, and why.

Have an opinion you want published in our newspaper? Submit it to by e-mailing [nkoleyni@colby.edu](mailto:nkoleyni@colby.edu), [cwalkey@colby.edu](mailto:cwalkey@colby.edu) or [mkschrei@colby.edu](mailto:mkschrei@colby.edu) and get in next week's issue of The Echo.

# It's time for Colby to digest underground organizations

By **WILL WALKER**  
Editor in Chief

In Bangor, ME this year, after a wonderful meal in the student favorite Dysart's, I decided to buy a hat. Part of me knew it was an act of innocence and spontaneity, and yet part of me, a part that received later confirmation after chats with multiple friends, knew the hat was symbolic of something else.

The fact that there are underground fraternities and a sorority on campus is not surprising to most students, though they were banned in 1984. It's not news to our College president either, who has vehemently spoken against these groups since he took the job, at one point even threatening expulsion and investigation. Yes, there's no hard evidence for fraternities or the sorority, but does that matter? Do we really need that at this point? I am sure I know they exist. The deans know, students who have been here for long enough know, students who got tapped, denied the offer, and drunkenly discuss it know. We all know. If you've read this article simply to say, "finally, someone acknowledged the frats exist," then you can stop reading now.

At this point in the story, the frat critics have arrived, angry with the reminder of a prime, relevant example of privilege in the community. Many of the issues they bring up that I've heard over the years are absolutely factual and problematic. Yes, they are elitist, based on a high school social structure, and oftentimes (though not completely) devoid of diversity. They absolutely promote gender stereotypes and have separated themselves from the community through off-campus housing. They haze. For first-year males especially (or, further, Feb-frosh first year boys) they target those who are unable to find immediate acceptance, despite the fact that options other than illegal frats are available.

At this point in the story come the underground defenders, upset at my unfair labelling and misrepresentation of a group of people I do not fully know. What they argue to me in passing and conversation is merited as well. These groups create lifelong connections just like you and me, simply differently. They haven't had a major scandal in years, mostly keep to themselves, and, at the end of the day, are similar (though not in official label) to any other friend group at

Colby, right? Also, the non-member students who attend fraternity and sorority events off campus are only legitimizing them, and are in some ways even more problematic. If students really cared, they wouldn't show up. Even I, holy writer of this article, am guilty of occasionally attending. What right do I have to talk about these frats and srats?

But, both camps are wrong in that they ignore the administration's role in fraternity and sorority life, and solely focus on the students and label them as either completely in the wrong or still in the right. This brings me back to my hat, which garnered comments from people on campus who either were tapped, are still in the frat, or are close friends with someone in an organization. It's not secretive. Any observant student could notice where the frats (I know less about the sorority, as you can tell) hang out, live, and eat. They aren't that secretive, because they need people outside of themselves to know about their events to stay legitimate.

So, why haven't they been caught by the administration, who supposedly takes such a hard stance on it? Dean of the College Karlene Burrell-McRae '94 had an interesting answer in a recent conversation, where she mentioned that deans are "managing" the problem, which seems a bit passive. Is that OK that they are? If

Admitting to the fraternities and sororities on campus lets Colby look internally at it's issues, rather than externally at a group of students doing something illegal from a handbook.

they were to change and find all the students organized in underground fraternities and sororities, should each one be expelled?

I believe they shouldn't be expelled at all, because the College has taken such a confusing and apathetic stance on the subject. It feels like we're in a weird waiting period on what to do about these organizations, potentially because of donors still giving to the underground communities, or trustees who were

once a part of them, or apathy. What I propose with this article, is for them to stop being in this in between state. The College should either choose to take a softer stance on the underground fraternities and sorority, or a harder one. The easier route would be the latter. They could do some investigation, figure out who's in each group, and actually ban with threats of expulsion, as is claimed occurred years ago on tours and in official information. Given how much power the College truly has and how many students know something about each community, there's no way they couldn't.

The harder, but in my opinion more helpful route, would be the softer one. In this scenario, Colby would incite outrage and discussion among the College community by admitting the existence of these groups more publicly to students. The help of this option is it cuts at the real issues prevalent to the College. The fact that first-year males feel pressured into underground societies is not a problem of the fraternities themselves, but of the greater social culture on campus. The elitism of sororities continues across many more social circles. Sports teams also haze. The College itself has issues (although this is improving) with diversity. Admitting to the fraternities and sorority on campus lets Colby look internally at its issues, rather than externally at a group of students doing something illegal in a handbook.

This is not to say that, inherently, organizations like the underground fraternities are not conducted in a manner that wholeheartedly opposes the College's recent viewpoints and mission statements about inclusiveness. Something needs to be done about them further than what is happening, or else the College is simply acting hypocritical. The way to go about it, though, will be so impactful to certain students lives and will incite such debate and interest, that Colby and Greene need to thoughtfully consider the options of what to do. Either way, the limbo land we're living in (some discussion, but no action) is a perfect legitimization for organizations looking for buzz, but no consequences. As an objective outsider with little skin in this game, I can't help but think that needs to change.



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# Sports

## Weight room analytics seek to prevent overcrowding

By **KEVIN AHN**  
Sports Editor

Have you ever gone to the Athletic Center in hopes of getting a quick lift in only to find the weight room absolutely packed? It is always quite the disappointment to walk to one of the furthest buildings on campus only to discover an overly-crowded weight room. One student, however, hopes to alleviate this problem. Ben Freeland '20 has been working on a project to "examine Colby gym-traffic patterns and provide students easy access to gym-traffic data" by creating a system that allows students to view these traffic trends to determine how busy the gym is at any given moment. For Freeland, the problem of the gym being overcrowded came to light last year: "I noticed that there were certain times of the day and week that the gym was incredibly busy, and I thought one of the drivers of that problem was not being able to tell how busy the gym was until you got down there. I was frustrated by the inconvenience of walking down to a packed

gym and then having to pick between walking back to the dorm or working out in an overcrowded environment."

To be sure that he wasn't alone in his complaints with the lack of available information, Ben created a survey to collect data on students' thoughts on how an increase in information would change their gym experience. Out of 128 responses, 85 students (66.4%) listed five (1-5 scale) for how useful having accessible data on current gym busyness at any moment would be to them, with another 31 students (24.2%) listing four as their response. Furthermore, 41.4% of students responded that having access to said data would increase the frequency in which they use the gym. At this point, it was clear to Freeland that something should be done.

To start, Freeland began to formulate a plan on how to solve the gym traffic problem. His original thought was to place cameras in the gym to allow students to see at any given moment how busy it was. This idea was scrapped due

to privacy issues. Instead, Ben modified this plan to focus on adding an additional sensor weight room. Currently, there exists just a single sensor collecting data in the weight room at the primarily used front door. However, the data - especially the hourly data - is incredibly inaccurate because students will use the sensorless backdoor to leave, causing the system to drastically overestimate the occupancy. This problem compounds throughout the day, and the currently inaccurate data sheet sometimes suggests that "80-90 people are in the gym at 10 p.m. when really only a few people are."

To solve this issue of inaccuracy, Freeland secured funding from SGA for an additional sensor in order to collect more weight room data. The next step for Freeland is to aggregate the past term's day-to-day and weekly traffic data (which are more accurate than the hourly occupancy data because they're more macro and only count the number of people passing through the main door instead of estimating occu-



Courtesy of Colby Athletics

Though he only has day-to-day data for now, Ben Freeland's '20 weight room analytics system seeks to inform students how crowded the gym is at a given time, allowing them to schedule their weight room trips around optimal times.

pancy) and create a Facebook page, titled "Colby Gym Trackers," so students can see how busy the gym typically is on certain days of the week..

Looking even further ahead, the goal is to have "accurate hourly data" by the start of next fall and to then "build a platform for students to view that data in live time." For now, Ben

is working on getting up weekly data on gym traffic use: "I'm super excited to provide data when the gym is busy and hope to possibly improve some community members' experience at the gym. Most importantly, I really want to thank Rurik Spence - director of ITS Support Services — for all of his help.

He has been instrumental in both providing access to the data I need to make my ideas a reality and helping me with the step-by-step process of the project."

For those interested in helping with this project or learning more, Ben has offered for anyone to get in contact through his email: btfree20@colby.edu.

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Weekend recap with the Mules

By DYLAN PAUL  
Staff Writer

Women's Lacrosse Beats Middlebury in Home Victory

Colby Women's Lacrosse, formerly ranked 21st in the nation, beat the fourth-ranked Middlebury lacrosse team, 14-12 in a thrilling match this Saturday. Colby stormed the field, starting the game with four unanswered goals in the first 15 minutes, and leading 6-5 into the half. The game was tied 12-12 with only three minutes to play, but Grace Crowell '20 managed to score to win the game. Kendall Smith '18 was the high scorer of the game with five goals.

Crew Opens Season with Mixed Results

Men's Crew had mixed results at the spring opening regatta in Worcester, Mass. this weekend, competing against Wesleyan, Hamilton, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) and the University of Massachusetts. The four-man boat placed second out of five boats, with a time of 7:17.4, just over three seconds behind the winner, WPI. While the varsity four-man boat beat out three boats, both the first and second varsity eight-man boats placed fifth of five boats in their two races, with times of 6:23.5 and 6:38.0 respectively. Despite entering the season ranked 14th in the Divi-

sion III rankings, Women's Crew, led by captains Katy Donchik '18, Renata Levine '18 and Elli Mapstone '19, placed last out of the first varsity boats at their opening regatta this weekend against second-ranked Wesleyan University, seventh-ranked WPI, 11-ranked Pacific Lutheran University and Smith College. The first varsity boat had a time of 7:29. The second varsity boat placed also finished in fifth out of five second varsity boats, with a time of 7:31. Both teams will look to improve their finishes as they travel to Lowell, Mass. for their second regatta of the year.

Men's Lacrosse Suffers Close Defeat to Middlebury

The Colby men's lacrosse team couldn't get the shots of when they needed to in order to pull out a win against Middlebury College, ultimately falling 11-10. The teams entered the game evenly matched, Colby with a 1-4 conference record to Middlebury's 2-4. The game was highlighted by a breakout performance from Don Vivian '19, who led the team in scoring against the Panthers with three goals and two assists. Tucker Dietrick '18 and C.J. Hassan '20 also continued to be forces on attack, as they have done all season, scoring three goals a two goals respectively. With 15 goals apiece, the two have scored nearly 40



Courtesy of Colby Athletics

The men's crew varsity four-man boat performed the best at the team's opening regatta in Worcester, Mass., finishing second. The other boats finished fifth.

percent of the team's goals this season. Unfortunately, the Colby attack just could not get as many open looks as Middlebury did. The Panthers outshot the Mules 49-31.

Goalie C.J. Layton '19 continued his strong season this game. He saved over 60% of the shots that came his way. He is now fifth in the NESCAC in both saves (107) and save percentage (53.2), but in this game he gave up one goal too many. With the loss, the team's record drops to 3-5, 1-5 against NESCAC opponents. Colby will look to bounce back from two straight losses with a road stretch, beginning with a matchup against Bowdoin College. Their next game

will be a winnable one, as the Mules take on Williams College this Saturday, April 14 at 1:00 p.m.

Softball Pounced by Polar Bears, Continues Search for First Conference Victory

Ranked fifth in the East Division, Softball had a difficult tripleheader against the second-ranked Bowdoin. Colby lost both games on Saturday with a score of 12-0. Holly Lallis '19 had hits in both games. In Sunday's home game The Mules lost 13-1, with Lolo Niemiec '21 coming home off a double by Paige Hartnett '19 to score their only run of the game. The team hopes to turn it around next weekend against Tufts University.



Courtesy of Colby Athletics

Grace Crowell '20 scored the go-ahead goal late in the second half in the team's 14-12 victory Middlebury College. The goal gives Crowell seven on the season.

SAT	04/14	SAT	04/14	SAT	04/14
WOMEN'S TENNIS		BASEBALL		WOMEN'S LACROSSE	
10:00 AM		12:00 PM		12:00 PM	
Connecticut Col.		Trinity (Conn.)		Williams	

Baseball starts slow, finishes strong in 1-2 weekend against Bates

By AIDAN LARNED  
Staff Writer

Colby Baseball suffered back-to-back home losses against Bates College on Saturday afternoon in a double header.

In the first game, Brooks Parker '19 started on the mound. Parker started off hot, with a quick 1-2-3 inning. The Mules tried to catch Bates on its heels in the bottom half of the inning. The lead off hitter, Andrew Russell '21, flew

out, but this was immediately followed by a double by Will Phillips '20. Bates managed another out on a fielder's choice, but the duck was still on the pond. Keenan Iuliano '19 walked, but the two men on base were left stranded.

In the second inning, the Bates offense was able to get the bats going, as three singles resulted in a run, but Parker got out of the inning only allowing a single earned run.

The second inning remained scoreless, but in the

third, the wheels began to come off for the Mules. They had trouble containing Bates' bats and allowed seven runs in the inning. This came as a result of a couple errors, a stolen base and some good hitting from the Bobcats. Parker exited the game after going 2.2 innings and was replaced by Frank Driscoll '21. Driscoll got the job done in the next two innings, pitching 1.1 frames of hitless baseball before he was replaced with Patrick Carbone '21.

While the Mules' bats stayed quiet, Carbone allowed two runs on four hits in the fifth inning, leaving two men on base and getting out of the inning with minimal damage.

Colby would eventually bring in Alex Wieder '20 and Matt Reasor '20 who would pitch well, but in the first half of this doubleheader, the Colby Mules were unable to recover from early blows.

The second game of the double header was headlined by Emery Dinsmore's '20 great start on the mound. He went 5.1 innings, only allowing three earned runs on nine hits. The rest of Colby's pitching staff would hold Bates to only one more run on the game. Despite Colby's stellar

pitching and defense, they still could not get the bats going, as the game ended 4-1, with the sole RBI coming from the bat of Iuliano.

Colby got one more shot at Bates on Sunday due to a rescheduled game, and they capitalized. The Mules traveled down to Bates' home turf where Paul Ariola '21 pitched a gem. Allowing only five hits and a single unearned run, he was pulled after 7 innings. Jackson Ward '19 got the save in the final two innings, ending with three strikeouts and no runs allowed.

Colby's runs came on two huge doubles, one coming from Phillips and the other from Ward, who gave himself a little more room to work toward the end of the game with his two RBI's, which extended the lead from one run to three.

Colby now stands at 3-11 overall, but 1-2 in the NESCAC. The Mules started the weekend slowly, but seemed to find their footing on Sunday with a win. Looking ahead, the Mules face a series of home games against Trinity College this weekend. The first game will take place Friday, April 9 at 3:00 p.m.

The Cheap Seats



Courtesy of Colby Athletics

In this edition of the Cheap Seats, the Echo sits down with baseball's Paul Ariola '21 to discuss favorite players, kitchen objects and the five-second rule.

By MATT HE  
Staff Writer

Colby Echo (Echo): When did you first start playing baseball?

Paul Ariola (PA): Little League began for me when I was four years old, but I was introduced to baseball around one or two.

Echo: Who is your favorite professional baseball player?

PA: I don't think I have a favorite player but there are definitely guys who I emulate. Pitching-style-wise, I study Trevor Bauer and Clayton Kershaw a lot, but when it comes to mentality, I definitely look at Madison Bumgarner. I'm pretty fiery on the mound.

Echo: What are you looking forward to this season?

PA: Having a bid at the NESCAC playoffs. We have a lot of talent with each guy bringing something different to the table. We're all here for each other and have established a team mentality of discipline along with a level-headed approach. One game, one inning, one pitch at a time.

Echo: If you were a kitchen object, what would you be and why?

PA: Meat cleaver.

Echo: Do you make your bed every morning?

PA: I don't usually make my bed.

Echo: Are you a hunter or a gatherer?

PA: Not sure I understand this question but I'll go with hunter.

Echo: Do you have a nickname?

PA: Paulie Nips, Paulie Bag O' Donuts.

Echo: What song do you sing in the shower?

PA: Fly Me to the Moon by Frank Sinatra.

Echo: Do you respect the five-second rule?

PA: Absolutely not, ask the waiter to get another of what ever you dropped.

Echo: What is something most people wouldn't know about you?

PA: I have a superstition of shaving on game days.

Echo: What is your favorite food?

PA: Shrimp Luciano.

Echo: Which Taylor Swift song are you and why?

PA: "Shake It Off." If you mess up in baseball or life, learn from the mistakes and don't let them happen again.

Echo: Last but certainly not least, is water wet?

PA: Not at all. That's like asking if the fire is on fire.



Courtesy of Colby Athletics

Jackson Ward '19 got the save in the baseball team's win over Bates College on Sunday. He had three strikeouts and no runs, giving him seven strikeouts and two saves on the year. The team hopes to carry the momentum of Sunday's win into next weekend, as they play a home series against Trinity College starting this Friday.