

Following binge drinking and transport incident, two members of student government resign

By JAMES BURNETT
News Editor

In a period of three days, the Student Government Association’s president and vice-president have resigned.

On Friday, SGA President Taylor Haberstock ’19 announced his resignation on Civil Discourse. At 9:50 p.m., he published a post entitled “Surrounding my Resignation” which briefly explained his decision to resign ahead of any formal SGA process.

Haberstock’s decision came as a surprise to his constituents. He had previously stated at the SGA meeting on Feb. 17 that he would present a formal letter of resignation to the President’s Council for them to vote upon on Feb. 24. Instead, Haberstock ended his

presidency with his Civil Discourse post two days before the vote.

Haberstock was asked by Dean of the College Karlene Burrell-McRae ’94 on Feb. 15 to resign due to his involvement with a Men’s Lacrosse “Wine Party” that took place either on or around Jan. 17. Haberstock— a member of the lacrosse team— had volunteered to be a “sober monitor” at the party according to a statement he made at the SGA meeting on Feb. 17. However, Haberstock said that the party “got very out of hand.” He added that the administration believes six students who attended the party were transported to the hospital that night. One of those students had stumbled into a snowbank before being transported.

Due to the large number of transports, Haberstock explained that the “school started inter-

At that meeting, Haberstock received both support and criticism from the President’s Council.

viewing all members of the senior leadership” of the lacrosse team who were involved with the party. The administration, athletic director,

and the lacrosse team’s coach decided to suspend seniors who attended the event for the first four games of the season, Haberstock said. Haberstock will also have to attend a conduct meeting.

Despite the repercussions, Haberstock insisted at the SGA meeting on Feb. 17 that he does not think he showed low moral character. However, he conceded that he “should have been more active in preventing such an out of hand party.”

At that meeting, Haberstock received both support and criticism from the President’s Council. Senator Graeme Brown ’19 told Haberstock, “I think in my opinion, the most important thing that happened in terms of you showing your char-

acter was you stepping forward and offering to be a sober monitor... Overall, you haven’t lost my respect. I think you’ve done a great job this year.”

Other students present at the meeting were more critical. SGA Parliamentarian Zach Mishoulam ’19 pointed out that theme parties are not allowed at Colby. Senator Nena Burgess ’22 wondered if the council did not accept Haberstock’s resignation, “how else is SGA going to take a stance against this culture?”

In response to that Feb. 17 SGA meeting, Aanavi Patodia ’19 and Mahal Alvarez-Backus ’19 published a post in Civil Discourse entitled “When you speak but aren’t heard- an everyday experience for some...” In the post, the two students address what they describe as an insensitivity towards the women of color on SGA during the meeting.

Senator Tyler Williams ’20 responded to the post saying that she and several other women of color in SGA had been purposefully excluded from the post because of the position they took in the meeting.

Two days later, Haberstock resigned on Civil Discourse. He did not attend the SGA meeting on Feb. 24. At that meeting, Vice-President Sam Lee ’20 resigned from her position as well. Lee explained that she would “not be an effective leader right now” and that she needs to focus on herself.

In addition to Lee’s resignation, the President’s Council discussed what they can do to prevent binge drinking and underground frats on campus.

The Council and Executive Board discussed implementing an amnesty period for frat members, amendments to the student handbook, and hosting a community forum.

The Student Government also discussed the logistics of holding a new election to fill the vacant positions of president and vice-president. Mishoulam proposed continuing without a clear executive until a new election can be held in early March. However, details are still being worked out and therefore the government did not vote on any proposal.

This is a developing story. Check medium.com/thecolbyecho for new information.



Merrill Read | The Colby Echo

Both SGA President Taylor Haberstock and Vice President Sam Lee resigned this week.

College still seeks tenants for downtown Alfond retail space

By CLAIRE BORECKI
News Reporter

Six months have passed since Colby students first moved into the Bill and Joan Alfond Main Street Commons and the retail space on the first floor remains mostly empty.

Although there are no concrete plans for who will occupy that space, Vice President of Planning Brian Clark said in an interview with the *Echo*, “we are having productive conversations that I anticipate leading to new businesses opening on Main Street.”

The one business that is currently utilizing the space is Camden National Bank, which cut the ribbon on their new space on the first floor of the Commons on Nov. 5, 2018. Clark said that the bank’s new location in the Commons

“is a prototype of their new retail and customer banking experience, which is now being rolled out to other communities throughout the

“We are having productive conversations that I anticipate leading to new businesses opening on Main Street.”

Brian Clark
Vice President of Planning

state,” Clark said.

As part of its agreement with Camden, Colby purchased the building that formerly housed

the bank at 33 Main St. with the intent to demolish it as part of the downtown revitalization project. The College intends to use the space to create a boutique hotel.

Elm City 9 LLC, an affiliate of Colby College, purchased the former bank building last year with plans to build the hotel on both that and an adjacent lot that formerly housed Levine’s clothing store. That building was also purchased by Colby and demolished.

Clark emphasized that the intention was not to immediately fill the space in the downtown dorm (or any other planned retail space) or “full lease” it, but rather to “curate the tenant mix in the building in a way that supports a vibrant and diverse downtown and that provides new amenities for Colby students, faculty, and staff,

as well as the wider Waterville community.”

As for the efforts to identify retail tenants for the first floors of 150 Main St., the Bill and Joan Alfond Main Street Commons, and 173 Main St., which hous-

es the tech company CGI’s offices on upper floors and Portland Pie Co. on half of the ground floor, “we continue to pursue additional tenants for the remaining retail space and we are having productive conversa-

tions,” Clark said.

Meanwhile, students have high hopes. “I’ve heard they might get a Chipotle here,” says George Prekeges ’21. “It would fundamentally change my life here at Colby.”



Courtesy of Colby College

Vice President of Planning Brian Clark is optimistic that new businesses will move into the Alfond Commons soon.

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New Balance factory persists despite statewide mill decline

By DOMINIC GIARDINI
News and Local Reporter

Oct. 2018 saw the first shipment of New Balance shoes from Maine to the U.S. Department of Defense as part of a \$17.3 million contract to ensure that military personnel are provided American-made footwear. The 18-month deal, providing considerable economic benefits through job growth, marks a massive achievement for Maine's New Balance Shoe Factories in Norridgewock, Skowhegan and Norway, where 900 workers are now employed.

Maine Senator Angus King, bolstered by efforts in the House of Representatives by Bruce Poliquin, had pushed for recognition of the 1941 Berry Amendment as part of the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act. The amendment calls for the implementation of wholly American equipment to be used by the U.S. military, as shoes in circulation at the time did not meet this standard.

This success story marks a pattern-breaking phenomenon in Central Maine, where many manufacturing companies have struggled tremendously since the 1980s. In the greater Waterville area in particular, large, imposing skeletal remains of a once-flourishing industrial past characterize the architecture. For instance, the expansive brick mill formerly owned

and operated by the Scott Paper Company, closed since 1997, sits idly across the Two Cent Bridge on the Kennebec Riverfront.

Maine mills originated in the southern part of the state during the early 19th century. Biddeford, Saco, and York formed an impressive textile industry, with Saco Manufacturing constructing the country's largest textile mill at the time in 1825. Manufacturing expanded throughout the century to include cotton mills, iron foundries, cigar factories, shipbuilding companies, as well as brick making and granite industries.

Paper mills, now constituting Central Maine's last remaining manufacturing sectors, have recently suffered tremendous hardship due to a decline in demand for the product. Both the future of the paper mill industry and forest products industry are in jeopardy, a daunting economic reality for the state. A May 20 report by the *Portland Press Herald* notes the closure of five paper mills since 2014, resulting in a loss of over 4,000 jobs.

Such sudden disappearance in jobs creates a powerful systemic issue for towns that rely on said labor and industry. The 2016 closing of a paper mill in Madison, Maine, for example, displaced 214 workers in a town of 4,600, delivering an economic shock that the town is still struggling to recover from.

Considering the distressing regression of Maine manufacturing in recent years, the New Balance deal marks a vital shift within this sphere, remedying job loss with the pivotal promise of new opportunities in a similar field.

So, how has New Balance achieved its antithetical success amongst declining mill towns? The company, while based in New England, extends its reach multinationally, and is thus able to draw profit from outside of the region. Further, the New Balance brand enjoys considerable versatility, with widely ranging shoe styles and affordability that draws customers of various demographics; notably, factories differ from the regular New Balance stores in that they sell cosmetically flawed factory seconds and discontinued styles at a discounted price, optimizing the brand's accessibility.

As of 2018, New Balance has expanded upon their running shoe collection to re-establish their basketball division, signing NBA star Kawhi Leonard to a multi-year endorsement deal. New Balance's strong, international presence allowed for Maine lawmakers to advance convincing legislation. The legislation provides a crucial accomplishment for a floundering manufacturing sphere.

Caleb Love-Webb '21, a Maine native, reflected on his experience shop-

ping at the New Balance Factory. He offered a less optimistic take on the news, despite appreciating the contract's economic benefits, "I like shopping [at the factory] because I want to support what Maine jobs are left. However, I also know that New Balance products are foreign made, so I feel like it's kind of dishonest how much they brand their stuff as U.S. made."

A study from the Made in America Movement Organization reports that while New Balance manufactures a quarter of their shoes in New Eng-

land factories (compared to 98% of total U.S. shoe sales coming from imports), they concede that only "70% of the value of its Made in USA shoes reflects domestic content and labor. The outer soles... are imported from China... clashing with what the U.S. government says can be labeled 'Made in USA.'"

New Balance has held on to the right to label their products as American made, despite legal efforts by the Federal Trade Commission to prevent this practice. However, the company exhibits transparency and

stands by their right to include the label despite them facing criticism.

"Anything our government buys should be USA made, not made by our potential enemies," Love-Webb continued, "but I don't doubt that if New Balance stopped being able to charge a markup for U.S. made goods they'd leave Maine in a second."

Love-Webb's cautious approval of New Balance's Maine occupancy elucidates well-warranted concerns underlying the company's outwardly positive local manufacturing presence.



Dominic Giardini | The Colby Echo

In Waterville, a large brick mill once owned and operated by the Scott Paper Company had been closed since 1997.

Location of City Council meetings challenged

By ETHAN SCHULER
Local and Features Editor

The most recent Waterville City Council meeting featured a discussion regarding whether the meetings should continue to be held on Colby property.

While there was no official vote, several residents expressed concern about the location, both because of Colby's growing influence over the City of Waterville and because of Colby's policy of banning firearms, which are normally al-

lowed at city meetings in the state of Maine, on College property.

While Mayor Nick Isgro expressed interest in understanding the public's viewpoint on the issue, the city councilmembers who spoke voiced their concern that the downtown dorms were the most practical location, both due to space and their availability every Tuesday. Several members of the council stated that they had not heard about concerns from residents, while Isgro said that he did not think he had "sold out" by partnering with Colby.

However, the residents who spoke were nearly universally opposed to the idea of continuing to hold the meetings on Colby property. While several pointed out that they did not intend to criticize Colby directly, they were concerned about Colby's growing influence over the community and the public perception issue arising from having city meetings on college property.

Resident Sandy Sullivan said she believed "Colby and Waterville are becoming synonymous."

Many citizens used the term "Colbyville," which has become a joke title for Waterville referring to Colby's impact on the city (one resident used the term "Greeneville" as well). Another resident was more supportive of having the meetings on Colby property, but said he had hoped it would lead to more student involvement in city issues, which from his perspective it had not.

In addition to discussion about Colby's perception, much of the conversation was devoted

to Colby prohibiting firearms in any buildings owned by the College. The issue was initially brought up by Isgro, who stated he felt safer knowing audience members were carrying concealed weapons when threatened at previous city council meetings in other locations. Several residents reiterated this concern, pointing out that Maine state laws should allow firearms at any city council meeting, and even arguing people should be still be allowed to carry them on Colby property. Brian Clark, Colby's

Vice President of Planning, spoke twice at the meeting about issues of Colby property. Regarding firearm possession, he reiterated that they were not allowed in the downtown dorms as per Colby's rules, which only allow firearms among law enforcement officers. He also summarized Colby's view regarding the meeting location, stating that unlike many local residents at the meeting, "Colby has no position on this issue; we're entirely agnostic."

New Greek restaurant Opa opens

By EMILY PRICE
Features Reporter

Open as of Jan. 3, new Greek restaurant Opa is a local spot to get your Greek cuisine fix. The restaurant is located in the old home of Waterville House of Pizza on 139 Main Street in Waterville, however, you wouldn't recognize it as the place that used to cater to pizza and fried food lovers. Opa represents a missing puzzle piece of cuisine in

Waterville. Aside from its neighboring Lebanese Cuisine, there are not many other restaurants in Waterville that serve other types of Mediterranean-style food.

The restaurant offers a sleek and modern atmosphere, while still achieving that "eating from the comfort of your own home" vibe. Tables and chairs are placed strategically around a stone fireplace surrounded by a wall of exposed brick. With minimal decor on

the walls, the small space feels full without being crowded. For those who might not want a formal dining experience, there are about five seats at a bar area with low lighting.

Opa offers a diverse menu that ranges from hearty comfort foods to sharing plates. They also offer gluten-free and vegetarian dishes. I only ate at the restaurant with one other person, so we were limited in the number of items we ordered from the menu, meaning this is not

an all-encompassing review of the food.

We started the meal with "Mezedakia," or small plates. We ordered two items from this section of the menu, the "Feta Psiti (Baked Feta)" and the "Kalamari (Calamari)". The service was quick: the appetizers were out in under 15 minutes. We ate at the restaurant on a Wednesday night so it was not very busy, but I imagine that the service might be a bit slower on Fridays and Saturdays, considering on weekend nights the restaurant generally appears full of customers.

Both plates were satisfying, but the kalamari really took the cake. The fried coating was evenly spread over the thick pieces of squid, and the combination of lemon aioli and sweet Thai chili sauce were a unique twist on an otherwise classic dish that can be found at many other restaurants around New England.

Next up was the main course. I ordered the "Melitzana (Grilled Eggplant)", while my friend ordered the "Moussaka". We were both happy with our choices, though my friend's food was not hot when it reached our table. My eggplant was grilled evenly, and the food that accompanied it (mushrooms, spinach, and caramelized onions) was proportionate to the meal. Both dishes were

flavorful and we were comfortably full by the time we finished eating.

Overall, the service was great. The waiters and waitresses were very welcoming and attentive to our needs. Opa is defi-

The service was quick:the appetizers were out in under 15 minutes.

nately an upscale restaurant, and for the amount of food you get, also a more expensive option. The deals considering portion sizes are better at Opa than at Pad Thai Too or Mirakuya, but how far your money goes is relative considering all of these restaurants are relatively pricey, and completely depends on whether you're looking for a formal dining experience, or a boatload of sushi for under twenty dollars.

One thing I will say about Opa is that you can tell that it is currently a work in progress. For being open for

just over a month, they seem to be doing well so far, but there are still a few tweaks that need to be made. For example, diners will feel a blast of air come into the eating area whenever someone from outside walks into the establishment.

Another issue is that it is very difficult to get through to anyone at the restaurant via phone for takeout or delivery on the weekends. I tried to order takeout from the restaurant this past Saturday around five in the afternoon, but was unable to reach the restaurant despite calling several times. That being said, Elizabeth Barry '19 described a great takeout experience with Opa. "Their takeout service was great. The man on the phone said that the kitchen had closed 10 minutes prior to my call, but told me that they could still accommodate. It was great customer service and my food was ready within 10 minutes after placing my order."

Although at times inconsistent, patrons should appreciate that Opa is still working out the kinks since opening in January. Overall, it seems Opa has made a positive impression on the Waterville community so far, and makes a great addition to the line of restaurants on Main Street.



Emily Price | The Colby Echo

A New Greek restaurant called Opa opened on Main Street earlier this year, expanding the palate of Waterville.

Features

Mental health support at Colby

By ALESSANDRA AMANO
Staff Writer

Colby College has always prided itself on being an environment that fosters the well-being of its students. Unfortunately, more often than not, students’ priorities become blurred and academics, athletics, etc. become a main focus instead of mental health and well-being.

This culture and mentality is something that college students everywhere face. One anonymous first-year stated “the transition to college was relatively difficult for me. In an effort to be involved on campus I joined a sports team and began to face completely different problems. I was constantly struggling to balance school work, athletics, and a social life. As a result I focused more on all these aspects and didn’t stop to think about how this was impacting my health.”

As many know, the transition to college can be extremely challenging, as it is demanding both academically and socially. Colby offers many services and organizations across campus to help those struggling with their mental health. Whether it be the counseling services or campus-wide dialogues, many people at Colby have made it their mission to ensure that a student’s

mental and physical well-being are prioritized.

Many of the resources on campus that are instrumental in assisting students are found in the Counseling Center. The services offered extend from individual counsel-

As many know, the transition to college can be extremely challenging, as it is demanding both academically and socially.

ing to group meditations. The counselors all have different specializations and each use a variety of techniques when it comes to counseling individuals.

Jing Ye, a counselor at Colby since 2000, has utilized her Buddhist background and her following of John Welwood to establish unique therapeutic modalities, mixing philosophy with psychotherapy. Ye believes that in order to respond genuinely to an individual she

must allow her unconditional presence to open her up to the individual’s specific struggles. Her approach to counseling implies a non-judgemental attitude, allowing herself to be completely authentic with a patient.

After attending many silent retreats and trainings, Ye has used this and her 21 years of meditation to lead weekly meditations, held by the Colby Meditation Group, in Rose Chapel on Mondays and Tuesdays from 4-5 p.m. Ye believes that all students and faculty could benefit from weekly meditation, and stated that she has first-hand experience with the perks of meditating with a local group.

When discussing meditation, Ye said in an interview with the *Echo*, “I wanted to demystify meditation practice by offering a group experience, as individuals can ride on the collective group energy, which can be very different from and helpful for individual practice.”

In terms of the services accessible to students, all the counselors are passionate about the well-being of the student body.

Along with the counseling services Colby has to offer, in order to move forward in conversations on mental health, our community has to be willing to discuss these topics. Student organization SHOC

coordinates events throughout the year that relate to health and wellness in some capaci-

Whether it be the counseling services or campus-wide dialogues, Colby has made it its mission to ensure that a student’s mental and physical wellbeing are prioritized.

ty. Some events this year have ranged from Stress-Busters to Sexploration. One highly attended event that SHOC hosts

on campus is the Mental Health Narratives.

The Mental Health Narratives are an annual event, and ask students to submit a short piece, either written or recorded, about their experience with mental health. The piece is shown or read at the event and after each submission there is a short period where the audience is shown a few quotes from the video or reading, and then tasked with discussing a few questions with the people around them.

Sophomore SHOC member Calvin Bohner played a large role in organizing and MCing the Mental Health Narratives this year. Through this event Bohner feels the conversation has opened up and allowed people to become more comfortable when approaching the subject of mental health. Bohner stated “seeing complete strangers come together to discuss the narratives” emphasizes how much more open the dialogue surrounding mental health has become.

Considering that a relatively large portion of the campus is involved in a sport, it is imperative that coaches and student leaders in athletics are working towards breaking down stigma surrounding discussing mental health.

When asked how athletics at Colby have impacted the campus’ mental

health, Director of Counseling Services Eric Johnson stated “Student leaders in athletics, a number of coaches, and our athletics administration have increasingly made a focus on mental health a priority. They have partnered with our office to raise awareness around mental wellness and to break down barriers to accessing services. All coaches and administrative staff have gone through our Notice and Connect mental health gatekeeper training and we are in the process of providing that same training to each individual team.”

When looking at mental health as a whole on campus, Johnson said that “it is important to emphasize that decreasing stigma, improving access to support, implementing more effective prevention, and improving the overall mental health and well-being of this campus must be a community wide effort in which every person plays a role, no matter how small, from caring for one’s own mental health, to supporting a friend, to taking a leadership role on campus.”

The counseling services and events throughout campus have definitely helped the mental health dialogue become more accessible to all, but to ensure the well-being of our campus as a whole is truly a community-wide effort.

El Radio Internacional

By HEATHER JAHLING
Local and Features Reporter

New to the radio scene but certainly not to sharing their music, junior Tahj Brown and first-year Pete Morariu debuted their show *El Radio Internacional* via the Colby Music Incubator earlier this month, featuring hip-hop, reggaeton, and cross-genre hybrids with heavy Spanish influence.

While *El Radio Internacional* launched just this month, Brown was first introduced to the Colby Music Incubator his first year. His passion for creating playlists, discovering new styles and songs that are not mainstream yet, and making music was put to use in the studio. Brown expressed, “the fact that I could just walk in there as a student, zero radio experience, but

always having a passion for music, I felt blessed.”

Upon Brown and Morariu’s arrival back on campus after spending their fall semester abroad in Salamanca, Spain, Brown introduced Morariu to the studio setting. Brown described the Colby Music Incubator as “one of the few places I actually could look forward to coming back to.” This introduction

sparked their collaboration and the birth of their new radio show.

The inspiration for *El Radio Internacional* not only came from Brown and Morariu’s love for music, but also their travels and passion for international languages and cultures. Brown said, “I think it’s important to acknowledge that neither of us [are/identify as] Latino, Hispanic, or Span-

ish, yet we still recognize Spanish to be a part of our country’s future.”

Both Brown and Morariu are looking to spread this sentiment by “infiltrating the airwaves with Latin and Brazilian funk.” The show’s main goal is to introduce new music, particularly Latin music, to not only Colby students but also the broader community. Brown commented that hip-hop is be-

coming more mainstream in Waterville, but that the Latin wave remains largely unnoticed. Brown expressed, “we haven’t asked Waterville permission to play these sounds or ask whether or not they’re fond of it. Probably because our goal is more to expose and force people to hear songs they usually wouldn’t, especially here.”

Continued on Page 5

Faces of Colby: Elena Ivanovna

By MADELEINE HAND
Layout Editor

Unless you take a course in the Russian Department here at Colby, you might never get a chance to meet Assistant Professor of Russian Elena Monastireva-Ansdell, known by her students as Elena Ivanovna. Missing the opportunity to do so means missing out on meeting one of the most kind-hearted and thoughtful professors here at Colby. In a recent interview with the *Echo*, Ivanovna discussed her time as a student at Colby, and what the Colby community means to her.

Ivanovna grew up in the Caucasus Mountains, located in modern day southern Russia, dur-

ing the era of the Soviet Union. At age 19, she entered a competition which selected students to spend a year of university in the United States. She was one of the chosen students and was assigned to Colby College. “I tried looking it up on the map, but I just couldn’t. There were multiple Colbys, and I totally didn’t know where it was. Only when we came here and had orientation at Middlebury, and they told me it was Colby College in Waterville, Maine, was I able to locate it on the map. Actually, it turned out to be on the same latitude as my hometown in Russia, but in Russia it’s southern Russia—you can’t go much further south,” she said.

Unlike Waterville, Iva-

novna’s hometown has a very temperate climate. Situated between the Caucasus’ and the Black Sea, the winters are considerably shorter than those here in Waterville.

While she did not get to experience COOT (Colby Outdoor Orientation Trips), one of her first memories of the Colby community was with retired Professor Sheila McCarthy: “The first thing that really struck me was when a Russian Professor from the Russian program at Colby came over, and she brought some zucchini bread, and introduced herself. Her name was Sheila McCarthy, she was one of the founders of the Russian program here at Colby. I felt like I was in a community already,”

she said.

Ivanovna explained that the distance of Colby was challenging at times—she could only talk to her mother once a month via a phone in Averill dormitory. She had to build community where she could, which was here at Colby. She was invited to spend Christmas and JanPlan with her at her friend’s home in New Hampshire. She got to know her family, including her brother Michael. After Ivanovna finished her year at Colby, she noted “When I returned in 1991, that summer, the Soviet Union collapsed. My country did not exist anymore, it was now Russia. It was a very uncertain and crazy time. Communications were awful, and Michael and I were trying to arrange a visit for him [to Russia].” Despite the chaos, Michael was able to make it to Ivanovna’s that summer. Two years later, back in the United States, they married.

While she was a student at Colby, Ivanovna took many courses in American Studies. She reflected fondly on one of her favorite classes: “One of the most memorable courses was one with Cheryl Gilkes, who still teaches here. I took a course on African American culture with her, and I remember being fascinated—she would play to us song after song on tape of African American spirituals, and that was a new genre for me—I’d never experienced that. I really loved that course,” said Ivanovna.

But it was because of her welcoming interac-

tion with retired Professor McCarthy that Ivanovna decided to take a course in Colby’s Russian program, and found her calling. The course on Russian revolutions and literature turned out to be a life changing one. “I sort of felt like ‘how can it be that I don’t know my own literature?’”

She explained that lots of writers and poets were silenced in the Soviet era because of the perceived subversive messages in their works. “Only certain selected works that fit the Socialist Realist canon were taught in school. Other works were not necessarily banned, but they were silenced. They were not published, and it was very hard to find them. It was quite a revelation for me—here I am, a Russian from the Soviet Union, and my eyes are wide open on this course on Russian literature and the revolution.”

It was this course that dictated what she would do with her future: “It’s what made me make up my mind to continue studying Russian literature in the U.S. I had never felt so excited about Russian literature.”

Continuing her study of Russian literature, she received her Master’s Degree from the University of Iowa in Iowa City, and then her Ph.D. from Indiana University Bloomington. She went on to teach at Oberlin and Bowdoin, but Colby’s appeal never waned. “Colby always remained this home away from home. Sheila remained a great friend, and when she retired in 2009 I knew I had to apply for

the position. I got it, and it was like a dream come true. I always wanted to return to Colby as everyone was so hospitable and so kind, and there was just this great sense of community here, and I’m just so happy I am back.”

When asked what her favorite aspect of Colby is now that she is a professor, she explains, “Colby places a huge importance on teaching. It supports us as teachers—there are so many resources.”

It is because of resources such as the Center for Teaching and Learning, and the Center for Arts and Humanities, that Ivanovna feels that being a professor at Colby is such a special role.

“My colleagues at famous schools don’t have resources like that. They teach 150 or 300 student classes, and I feel so privileged to be here and have smaller classes and be able to focus on individual students.”

Ivanovna finished with a hopeful note on the future of American-Russian relations, saying “The students I’ve met have a sincere desire to change the world. They come with very few prejudices, and it is frustrating to read the American newspapers and hear American politicians speak. There’s still in Washington a culture of relating to a Russia that is very outdated, and very Cold War. It has not changed much. Students have this sincere desire to see Russia differently,” she explained with a smile: “to learn about Russian culture, something that the majority of Russians share.”



Courtesy of Elena Ivanovna

Assistant Professor of Russian Elena Ivanovna spent a year at Colby when she was in college and returned to teach here.

New Colby radio show highlights international music

El Radio Internacional continued from P4... Brown encourages everyone to continue expanding their horizons regarding music, to go into a piece open-eared and work on “diversifying our ears.” As Brown stated, “We should eventually diversify our ears to the point where it’s beyond just Spanish or Latin America, but that we include music from Asia, Africa and other European countries.” One does not need to

“Instruments have no language, lyrics and language are local, but sounds are universal.”

Tahj Brown ’22
Radio Internacional

know multiple languages to listen to *El Radio*

Internacional, only be open to new experiences. As Brown highlighted, “Instruments have no language, lyrics and language are local, but sounds are universal.” Even if one cannot understand the words, one can still connect with the beat, melody, flow and rhythm. He remarked, “If other cultures can appreciate our music, what’s stopping us from doing the same with theirs? Beyond hearing, I’d like



Heather Jahrling | The Colby Echo

Pete Morariu '20, one of the hosts and founders of *El Radio Internacional*.



Heather Jahrling | The Colby Echo

Pete Morariu '20 and Tahj Brown '22 started *El Radio Internacional* together after studying abroad in Salamanca.

us to listen to and recognize foreign sound as music before it registers as noise.” Embracing the unfamiliarity with new sounds is the first step. A few weeks ago, the show featured a song and beat made by Brown and Morariu’s friends who produce their own music. The two hope to continue displaying friends’ music and providing a platform for new and upcoming artists. The show aims to serve both student creators and listeners in the Waterville community. In the future, Brown and Morariu are also

“If other cultures can appreciate our music, what’s stopping us from doing the same with theirs?”

Tahj Brown ’22
Radio Internacional

hoping to play some of their own rap music on their new radio station, and include more talking segments such as Waterville business ads, birthday shoutouts and ad-libbing through songs. Currently, Brown expressed that both he and Morariu are trying to “discover our own voices before we talk for talking’s sake. So for now, we’ll let the music rock.” To hear this “music rock,” listen to *El Radio Internacional* on Mondays from 6-7 p.m. on 89.7 FM.

Sing That Thing! Colby Eight’s television debut

BY SARAH WARNER
A&E Reporter

On Feb. 9, the Colby Eight went where they had never gone before: the small screen. *Sing That Thing!*, an a cappella singing competition show on WGBH2, invited the College’s oldest a cappella group onto the set to sing a tune and (hopefully)

“I was thrilled with how we performed and how we represented ourselves and the College. It was great to see so many of our family and friends there supporting us.”

Grant Santos ’19
President of the Colby Eight

beat out the rest. “We had been contacted a few years ago about doing it [performing on *Sing That Thing!*], and I don’t think we did it, but they sent us another email about this season asking if we were interested,” Music Director of the Colby

Eight Ben Lawlor ’22 said in an interview with the *Echo*. “We were, so we sent in an audition tape which was just one of our songs and us introducing ourselves and talking a little bit about the group. From that, they picked us to be on [the show] along with seventeen other groups.” According to *Sing That Thing!*’s website, some of the 18 groups set to be featured in the upcoming season include the Boston Arts Academy Spirituals Ensemble, the MIT Chorrallaries, the New Hampshire Notables, the Zumbyes from Amherst College, Pitch Please! from Northeastern University and of course, Colby’s very own Colby Eight. The performers are divided into three groups—high school, college and professional—with two groups from each division advancing on to the Grand Finale, where only one group is named champion. “It was a lot of fun,” Lawlor said of performing on the show. “We were a little late, so they had to change the schedule around for us, but everything worked out fine. We went in, we had the chance to work with someone who critiqued our stage presence and we practiced for a bit. Then, we went on and did the actual song, which we performed twice.” Members of the



Courtesy of Grant Santos ’19

The Colby Eight, the College’s oldest a cappella group, competed in season five of *Sing That Thing!*, which premieres on April 12 at 8 p.m. on WGBH2.

group were also interviewed on the show, according to Lawlor. The Colby Eight’s song of choice for their television debut was “Let the Road” by British pop band Rixton, a soulful, melodic tune that’s also quite catchy. Grant Santos ’19, president of the Colby Eight, said he was more than pleased with the group’s performance. “It was an incredible experience,” Santos said in an interview with the

Season 5 of *Sing That Thing!* premieres April 12 at 8 p.m. on WGBH2 . . . be sure to tune in!

Echo. “I was thrilled with how we performed and how we represented ourselves and the College. It was great to see so many of our family and friends there supporting us.” However fun performing might have been, though, it wasn’t the only thing that appealed to Santos and his fellow members of the Colby Eight. “It was just a cool experience to get to be on television. That’s something that none of us could say

we’d done before.” Season 5 of *Sing That Thing!* premieres April 12 at 8 p.m. on WGBH2 and takes place across seven episodes. If you’re interested to see if Colby Eight advances—or even if you just want to hear them perform—be sure to tune in. If you prefer seeing them live, the Colby Eight also has an upcoming on-campus performance on Friday, March 9 with Northeastern’s Unisons.

STUDENT ART INSTAGRAM OF THE WEEK

Featuring: Matt Calarco ’19 ~ @photo.larx ~



Titled *Divided*.
Medium is film, 120mm



Focus is photographing objects that people collect, the stories that they tell, and what they say about those who collect them. Items above were collected on a road trip through the western US.



Titled *Just beyond the window*

Disclaimer: photos on this page are B&W, so check out the shots in color! If you would like to be featured contact zpberg21@colby.edu

A January unlike any other

By YUSUKE FUKUDA
Contributing Writer

College life so far has been all about new discoveries and experiences. My first JanPlan here at the College was no different. The course I chose to enroll in for January was African Music, which simultaneously piqued my interest and fulfilled an arts credit. I thought it would be a fun course to take, and wanted

Next year, though, I definitely want to be more productive during JanPlan... But I'll have to figure that out later. After all, JanPlan is all about trying new things.

to take advantage of being at a liberal arts college by learning something completely different from what I'm accustomed to. After I recharged from the mental exhaustion caused by finals, I came back refreshed from winter break and excited for the month ahead. In hindsight, African Music was not quite what I expected it to be. I mainly expected to learn how to drum, but of the seven songs we learned, I was only taught two drum patterns. The class included more singing and dancing, and the professor expected you to come in with musical talent, which was hard for me because I believe I am lack-

ing in that category. I couldn't complain, however, because class did not start until 12:15 p.m., which is infinitely better than the 9 a.m. I had in the first semester or the 8 a.m. that I am currently trudging through right now. I also learned some fascinating songs that I will probably never forget. Even though JanPlan has passed, I still randomly recite the words, "nyehto bae jeh jeh viay low," from time to time. Outside of class, I loved JanPlan as it gave me ample time to ski, play volleyball and spend time with my friends. Breathing in the clean Maine air gave me a chance to stop and clear my mind. I went on some nice walks in the arboretum, and even though I had never experienced weather this cold before, I actually didn't particularly mind it. Two of my close friends, along with myself, all had birthdays in January, so there was plenty of things to celebrate. I am also glad that I had time for skiing because I actually improved. Before, I considered myself a little below intermediate, and now, I am happy to say that I consider myself slightly above average! Next year, though, I definitely want to be more productive during JanPlan. There were several goals that I set for myself at the beginning that I just did not end up accomplishing. I didn't finish the book I got for Christmas, and I didn't get very far in my search for a job or an internship for the summer. It feels strange to say, but I actually somewhat missed being productive by the end of the month. I would certainly be interested in taking other wide-ranging courses, looking for an internship, or studying abroad in the future. But I'll have time to figure all of that out later. After all, JanPlan is all about trying new things.



In response to recent conversations surrounding Secret Societies and Underground Frats at Colby, Tom Crisp '19 decided to artfully display his opinion in Bob's Basement near the Colby Music Incubator office.

Chris Herren's well-timed Colby visit

By MERRILL READ
Opinions Editor

Former NBA player Chris Herren visited Colby's campus on Tuesday, and his timing couldn't have been better. With many students, faculty, and staff on campus reacting to and digesting the uncovering of secret organizations, the multiple transports from January, campus drinking culture, the swastika in the elevator, and other negative incidents, listening to Herren made me take a step back and adjust my perspective. For those of you who are unfamiliar with Herren's story, it is one with many highs and lows. Herren was a high school basketball star with talent that is rarely seen at that age. He eventually went on to play at Boston College and California State University-Fresno, and also played professionally with the Denver Nuggets and Boston Celtics. However, beneath his basketball performance,

Herren struggled with drug and alcohol abuse. This struggle would eventually end his athletic career. Now, Herren travels the country speaking over 250 times every year about addiction. I went to the talk understanding it would be emotional as I had seen short clips of him speaking before, so I imagined crying a little and coming together with my friends after for a hug or two. However, hearing him in person had an unexpected effect for me. I felt as though I owed myself and the people around me the best version of myself. This sounds dramatic even as I write it, but I think a lot of what Herren said is very relevant for what our campus is undergoing on all fronts. Herren asked the audience, "Think to yourself 'why, why am I doing what I'm doing.' Are you being the person that you imagined when you were little? Would your younger sibling, parents, or

grandparents be bummed about your actions?" The underlying theme of Herren's talk was accountability. He spoke of not only how

"Are you being the person that you imagined when you were little?"

Chris Herren
Former Professional Basketball Player and Motivational Speaker

he needed to take accountability for his own use of drugs and alcohol, but also about the accountability that his team felt at Fresno State. They told him that they wouldn't let him dismantle his chance of playing in the NBA, and thus put it upon themselves to keep him

on the road to recovery. Everyone at Colby could do a better job at being their best selves and taking accountability. Our actions affect everyone in the community around us. It is important to remember that. Whether it's being kind to one another on the Civil Discourse despite your disagreements, not committing vandalism and holding those responsible when others do so (accidentally or purposefully), checking in with your friend who you don't cross paths with as often, or going out of your way to make others' lives easier and help people feel more safe on this campus; step up. Each member of our community is going through one thing or another and we have the power to support one another. When the issues that are arising have the capacity to tear our community at the seams, that's only more reason to come together. It's time to be the best version of yourself.



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Students on the Street
"If you could, where would you relocate Colby?"

"The Mariana Trench"
-Madison Maier '19

"Hawaii"
-Ryan Nakajima '22

"North Carolina. It's not too cold and pretty"
-Larkin Denlinger '22

"I wouldn't relocate it anywhere"
-Colleen Donoghue '22

"Somewhere warm"
-Hannah Marino '21

Men's Rugby takes second at season-opening tournament



Vice Captain Nate Huebschmann '19 passes to Aidan Cyr '20 out on the wing. Cyr was a force in every game for the Mules, leading the team in scoring. Courtesy of Justin Slager '22

By KEVIN AHN Sports Reporter

This past weekend the men's rugby team headed down to Boston University to compete in the first sevens Rugby tournament of the spring.

The trip as a whole went exceedingly well for the men as they ended up taking second place overall, losing to Brown University in the finals. In addition, about 16 Colby Rugby Alumni came to watch the entirety of the tournament, as well

as another 12 current club members. Throughout the tournament Colby played a total of five games, dominating for the vast majority of them.

A brief overview of sevens rugby (as opposed to 15s rugby): in sevens there are only seven players per side with two halves that are each seven minutes long (whereas in 15s there are 15 players and 40 minute halves).

Colby's first game of the tournament started at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday against

Babson College. From kick-off, it was quite clear that Colby was the dominant team as Junior Aidan Cyr '20 scored a try within 10 seconds of the game starting. Cyr got the ball just next to the sideline, broke through the last defender, and ran down the sideline into the try zone. From there, Cyr went on to score another two tries in the first half, one another demonstration of speed down the side and the third a center switch with captain Sam Swain '19 into the try-zone.

14 minutes later, Colby walked off of the field with a 43-0 victory over the Babson Beavers.

With a very short waiting period, the Mules played their next game at noon against Holy Cross. In years past, Holy Cross has been a close competitor of Colby's both in sevens and 15s. From the start it was clear that the game would be very different from Colby's first. Colby was able to strike first early in the first half, but missed the conversion and only took a 5-0 lead.

Holy Cross fought back and earned an equalizing try but also missed their conversion making the game 5-5. Led by Eric Alimanestianu '19 and his 15 tackles, the Mules locked down their defense, turned on the offense, and scored another 26 points against Holy Cross who only scored another seven points.

The final score of the game was 31-12. The final game of pool play was against Johnson and Wales University. The team had a few slip-ups early in the game that allowed J&W to put up five points early on in the match. Despite some dropped passes in the early minutes of the game, Colby soon took over and scored an impressive 29 points to secure their third victory of the day and advancement into the semi-finals.

Moving into the semi-finals of the tournament, Colby was matched up against D1 Boston University. Colby took a dominating lead and won the game 31-5. Despite the large score differential it was quite clear that BU offered up the best competition of the tournament thus far. With four victories throughout the day, the Mules advanced to the finals of the tournament to face Brown University.

The finals of the BU tournament took a much different turn for the Mules. In a more defensive battle, the Mules took some hard

hits and gave up 19 points in the first half. Despite being down, the Mules battled back as Cyr ran into the try zone for his 10th try of the day. Despite this, the Mules ended up losing 26-7 to Brown and earned a second-place finish overall.

Referencing the game, Alimanestianu noted, "We had a tough game against Brown in the finals but we are now focused on playing them again in two weeks at their own tournament. It was pretty clear that we were the two most skilled teams there so it will be fun to keep the series going between us in the coming tournaments that both our teams are present at."

With a second-place finish and no losses to any of the in-conference teams in the tournament, Colby walked away with eight points towards the National Tournament.

Looking back on the tournament, Swain talked about the end-results, saying, "It was a ton of fun, we were stoked to play against some of those D1 teams like BU and Brown. I thought we really grew as a team and as a program as a whole. The fact that we got so many Alumni out to watch the tournament was really fantastic."

The Mules will travel down to Brown University in two weeks to partake in the second tournament of the spring.

SWIMMING AND DIVING

Men's Swimming and Diving breaks 16 records at NESCAC meet



Courtesy of Colby Athletics

After a few record breaking performances this past weekend, swimmer Ryan Bedell '21 now has four school records for freestyle events.

By DREW LADNER Sports Editor

The Colby men's swimming and diving team broke 16 school records in an impressive performance at the NESCAC Championships this past weekend.

The meet started off on the right foot, with the sole Thursday event ending in a record-breaking performance by the 800-yard freestyle relay team. John Connors '22, Carter Garfield '19, Ryan Bedell '21, and Xander Geiersbach '22 finished the race in fourth with a time of

6 minutes, 47.8 seconds, nearly nine seconds faster than their record-tying performance the previous year.

Thursday's race was a sign of things to come. Friday's race saw 10 school records fall in just nine events, while Saturday's and Sunday's swimmers broke three more records on each day respectively. The 2018-19 team now owns 15 of the 27 school records. Despite these impressive performances, the Mules still finished sixth out of 10 teams at the NESCAC meet. Bedell had the highest place-

ment of any Colby swimmer this weekend, finishing third in his record-breaking 1000-yard freestyle race.

Though the team has not yet reached the level to best its NESCAC competition, the future is still bright for Colby. Just four of the team's 27 swimmers graduate this spring. The team will look to continue the progress of its younger swimmers this off-season. With a young core, this program is poised to make a run at the NESCAC title in the years to come.

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Men’s Hockey finish season in playoff loss against Amherst



Captain Nick O'Connor '19 finished the season as the Mules' leading scorer for the men's hockey team with 14 goals and 13 assists. Despite his efforts, the team was unable to score a goal in its NESCAC Quarterfinal loss to Amherst College. O'Connor is one of five seniors on the team to graduate this spring.

By MERRILL READ
Opinions Editor

This Saturday the Colby men's ice hockey team faced Amherst College as the sixth seed in their first NE-SCAC playoff game of the season and fell 5-0. Earlier in the season, the Mules lost away at Am-

herst 6-3 and tied them 2-2 at home. Senior captain Thomas Stahlhuth '19 explained the mood going into this year's playoff game, saying, "There was a lot of energy, everyone loves play-off hockey. It's a one game season at that point, so guys knew what was on the line." At this time last year, the Mules faced the Am-

herst Mammoths as the sixth seed in the NES-CAC quarterfinal game, advancing from that matchup to win the NE-SCAC championship title and find themselves in the NCAA Frozen Four. But, last year's miracle streak would prove difficult to live up to. Saturday, Amherst scored

four goals in the first period with two power play goals. The first goal was only a few minutes into the first period by P.J. Conlon, who deflected the puck from the right post. A Colby fan commented, "I saw their [Colby's] heads drop right after the first goal and I knew it would get worse." It did. This game would feature a

lot of penalty minutes, with 15 penalties and more than 40 minutes of penalty time. Moments after the first goal, there was an interference call on Justin Grillo '21 and a boarding penalty on John Rourke '19, sending the Mules into a 3-on-5. Down two skaters, the Mules couldn't hold the Mammoths as Noah Gilreath shot high above goaltender Andrew Tucci '20. The third goal was a wrist shot from Nick Bondra with 11 minutes left in the first. Phil Johansson blocked a Colby shot and passed to Bondra who had slipped out of the box just in time to collect and finish. The second power play goal began with a high sticking penalty on Billy Overby '21 followed by a hooking penalty on Justin Grillo '21. Down two skaters once again, Amherst's Pieter von Steinbergs blasted a one timer from the right dot past Tucci to make the score 4-0. One of Colby's best chances came in the first period with 6:30 left on the clock as Rourke made a clear path down the left boards and sent a wrist shot just wide of the goal frame. Despite efforts like this, Colby was unable to switch the momentum. In the second period, the Mammoths earned their fifth goal while the

Mules were on a power play. The puck came into the defensive zone and in an attempt to clear the puck up the ice, Tucci squabbled with Amherst's Joey Lupo, who stole the puck and sent a shot into an open net for a short-handed goal. Reflecting on the game, Grillo said, "the biggest challenge from that game was the realization that we were fighting ourselves. [It] just happened to be a game where the things you never expect to happen, happen in the first period. If you look at the second and third period we lost 1-0." The Mammoths (2-for-6 on the power play) outshot the Mules (0-for-6 on the power play) 31-16. Tucci had 23 saves and Mack Burton '19 had three saves. The Mules finish their season with a record of 10-10-5. Although it wasn't the playoff game that they had hoped for, the team is still proud of what they've accomplished. Grillo explained, "Mack Burton, Nick O'Connor, John Rourke, Thomas Stahlhuth, and Zack Hale were amazing seniors who were a huge part of our championship last year, and their leadership was extremely important to this season. They'll be missed."

Weekend Recap

WOMEN’S SQUASH



Sydney Ku '21 was named to the All-NESCAC second team this season.

Women’s Squash takes third in Epps Cup, finishes 27th-ranked nationally

By DREW LADNER
Sports Editor

The women's squash team finished their season by placing third in the Epps Cup at the College Squash Association National Tournament this past weekend. They finished 2-1 in the tournament, with victories over Northeastern and Haverford, as well as a loss to Connecticut College. After being named to the NESCAC All-Conference second team, Sydney Ku '21 had two wins from her first position. Her 3-0 win over Conn. College's Molly Carabatsos was one of only three Colby victories in the match. Ku showed tremendous improvement this season, snatching the first position after playing from the third to fifth spots last year. The women's team ranked 27th in their first season under new head coach, Chris Abplanalp. With only two graduating seniors and Abplanalp's first recruitment class entering this fall, the Mules look primed to enter the national stage in the years to come.

SKIING



Zane Fields '19 will advance to yet another NCAA Championship meet following his impressive performance at the Eastern Championships.

16 top-25 finishes pushes Skiing to fifth place at Eastern Championships

The Colby alpine and Nordic ski teams finished in a combined fifth place at the Eastern Championships this past weekend. The effort was led by the Nordic team, which finished tied for fourth place. Zane Fields '19 led the team with his second place finish in the 10-kilometer race and seventh place finish in the 20-kilometer classic race. Fields' performance earn him All-East first team honors for the second straight season. He is now ranked 10th in the U.S. headed into the NCAA Championship meet. Overall, both teams had a combined 16 top-25 finishes over the weekend. Other highlights included Sandy Schoepke '20 of the women's alpine team finishing in the top 10 for the sixth time this season. She took home ninth in the giant slalom. On the men's side, sophomore Colbey Derwin's second-fastest run in the slalom rocketed him up to 15th place in the event. The final races of year will take place at the NCAA Championship meet on March 7 and 9.

WOMEN’S HOCKEY



Anna Cosentino '21 led the team in scoring this year with 15 total points.

Women’s Hockey second straight playoff appearance ends in quarterfinal loss

After its best season in this decade, the Colby women's ice hockey team ended its season in Clinton, New York this past Saturday. The team suffered a 3-1 defeat in the NESCAC quarterfinal matchup. The Mules entered the postseason as the sixth seed. Their 8-8 record was the program's best since 2008-09. Unfortunately, the Mules had to play the third-seeded Hamilton College, against whom the team had two losses earlier in the year.

After trailing 2-0 midway through the third period, the team's lone goal came off a power play. First-year McKinley Karpa scored her fifth goal of the season, assisted by Lexi Cafiero '22 and Aimely Michaud-Nolan '21.

Colby goalie Cierra San Roman '21 closed out her year with 16 saves on 18 shots. Hamilton's final goal came on an empty net with under a minute remaining. San Roman's .937 save percentage was seventh in the conference.

As with many of the winter sports at Colby this year, the women's ice hockey team shows promise with its massive improvement this season. The team doubled its NE-SCAC win percentage from 2017-18. Five of Colby's top six scorers came from the first-year and sophomore classes. San Roman and first-year goalie Nina Prünster will both return next year, after combining to play nearly 92 percent of minutes this season. With many of its young players returning, the Mules should be optimistic about a third straight postseason appearance next year.

TRACK AND FIELD

First-years shine at Track and Field Division III regional meet

Sharde Johnson '22 continued what has been a stellar first season at the New England Division III Championship meet this Saturday. Coming off a win at the Maine State meet, Johnson finished second at the DIII meet, leaping five feet, 4.25 inches. Colby's first-years continued to dominate the meet when Jayla Moss '22 finished fifth in the triple jump. Moss was Colby's second-highest finisher. The women's track and field team finished the meet 16th overall, eight spots higher than last year.

For the men, Tanner Burton '21 had the team's best performance in the hurdles. He finished sixth. His time of 8.54 seconds was .05 seconds shy of a College record. However, with only three top ten placements overall, the men's team tied for 18th of 23 teams at the DIII Championships.

Senior Spotlight

Elliot Gross '19



Colby Echo (Echo): How do you feel entering your final semester at Colby?

Elliot Gross (EG): It's definitely a bittersweet moment. On the one hand, I am really excited to start my life outside of college, live somewhere new, and meet new interesting people. On the other hand, I am sad to leave the friends and the Colby community here in Waterville.

Echo: As your senior season draws to a close, has this season lived up your expectations?

EG: I would say that this season has been a very different one from seasons prior. We brought in a new coach this year, as well as 6+ first-year recruits. It was really fun to be the captain of such a young team and to help shepherd in a new era for Colby Squash.

Echo: What is the best part about being on the squash team?

EG: I think my favorite part of being on the squash team is the opportunity it gives you to compete alongside your closest friends. We are a very close team and through the ups and downs of the season, at the end of it all it is the people that make this experience so special.

Echo: As one of two seniors on the team, how have you managed to lead the team on and off the court?

EG: It's always difficult when you have so many young players on your team. One of the most difficult parts of being a leader is accepting that you won't do it perfectly and that in order to be a good role model you need to show your players that you have both your strengths and weaknesses and to be honest with your players about that.

Echo: What do you think you'll miss the most about the team after you graduate?

EG: I am going to miss those long five-match weekends that we used to have under Sakhi. They were extremely exhausting and sometimes disappointing, but getting the chance to compete and to push yourself both mentally and physically with your friends was super fun and definitely helped me build character.

Echo: How do you expect the team to do in the years to come?

EG: I think that this team, with the news of some high level recruits and a spectacular coach, will go nowhere but up in the rankings after I graduate.

Echo: Do you have any message you want to send to the current and future Colby squash players?

EG: To the current guys on the team, thank you for such a rewarding and special final season as a Mule, I really enjoyed my time with you all and I will miss this team and, more generally, college squash sincerely.