

Civil Discourse Live invitations provoke controversy

By SONIA LACHTER
News Reporter

The Pugh Center emailed students on April 9 inviting them to an event called Civil Discourse Live, provoking student frustration. The email explained that, amidst the tensions on campus around “bias-incidents, underground fraternities & sororities, and race relations on campus,” the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will be hosting the event in the format of “two separate affinity conversations, happening simultaneously. One amongst white students and one amongst international/students of color.”

According to the emails, the event is scheduled for Sat., April 20 and will be facilitated by Chris Haigh ’95, a founder of True Change Associates, and Tanya Williams of Authentic Coaching and Consulting.

According to the email, the impetus for the decision to separate into two groups was that “affinity group conversations are used to support the facilitation of conversations which might be different in cross-racial spaces... we will create space for the exploration of whiteness, privilege, and how the ways we understand ourselves within the Colby community impact our leadership and discourse.”

The decision to separate Civil Discourse Live into one group of white students and one group of students of color and international students caused controversy among many students. Tyler Williams ’20 wrote to

the *Echo* that, “I thought the emails were incredibly inappropriate. While I understand that the separation was intended to create safe spaces for students of color, the way in which the emails were worded and the fact that the emails were not sent to everyone on campus is reason to be angry.”

Bonje Obua ’20 expressed a similar view, telling the *Echo* in an interview, “I don’t think I ever really want to subject myself to any segregated space. I don’t think that it helps anyone and I don’t think there are really any conversations that need to be had in isolation because we are all in here together and we need to learn how to work together because if we can’t even talk to each other, how are we supposed to function as one?”

The decision to delineate students along racial lines was also strange to Andrew Healy ’20, who identifies as white and received the email for conversation with white students. Healy told the *Echo* in an email that, “The organizers of this event should have thought about the implications of separation of conversation based on race. The legacy of segregation is still alive and well, especially in this instance, and it is sad to see people trying to help but still reinforcing exactly what they are trying to rid this campus of. There also should have been more acceptance of uncomfortable conversations because they are the key to learning and growing. Keeping people

in their comfort zones does not serve anything but complacency.”

In an interview with the *Echo*, Faith Nkansah-Siriboe ’22 said that even though affinity conversations might create spaces of comfort, “the fact of the matter is that people of color and international students are rarely comfortable at this campus. And so having us all together, yeah it might have been uncomfortable for

“I don’t think I ever really want to subject myself to any segregated space. I don’t think that it helps anyone and I don’t think there are really any conversations that need to be had in isolation.”

Bonje Obua ’20

certain people, but I feel like the uncomfortability fosters change, it allows us to move forward, it allows us to understand why we’re feeling uncomfortable and talk about the uncomfortability and break down those barriers so that it’s not there anymore. But if we’re just keeping ourselves in these safe bubbles of comfort where we can speak about these certain things and use vernacular that’s not necessarily politically correct because the other person that

we’re talking about is not in the room that’s not doing anything productive for us.”

Nkansah-Siriboe called into question the value of having these conversations at all, “because I feel that they’ve had so many of these conversations and they’re speaking to the same people, they’re speaking to the people that already know the issues and are well-versed on them and what they’re not doing is speaking to the people that really should hear it, the people that are living in ignorance of the cultural diversity that’s around them...We’re seeing these racist acts, these homophobic acts, these anti semitic acts constantly every single year, there’s a recurring theme, and the conversations are obviously not working then, that’s not the issue.”

In an email to the *Echo*, Associate Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Betty Sasaki explained that “this type of arrangement is called identity caucusing or racial affinity groups, which often precede and help with the facilitation of larger cross-racial or intergroup dialogue. In other words, racial identity caucuses are based on the acknowledgement that, while people of color, international individuals, and white people have to work together to end racism, each group also has some different work to do—precisely because of their different relationship to and experiences with white culture and privilege.”

Sasaki said that for

these reasons, Civil Discourse Live would include “two, concurrent racial identity caucus workshops to provide each group intentional space and time to focus on their work to dismantle racism. Immediately following these breakout sessions, the groups would be brought together for a larger intergroup conversation.”

Sasaki noted that following a question and answer session last week organized in response to student reactions to the email invitations, the organizers of the event are still determining the shape the event will take.

Apart from the structure of the event, many of the students interviewed voiced concerns about how the organizers of the event selected who would receive which of the two invitations, or any invitation at all. Many students questioned why the phrase “student leader and integral part of campus culture on campus” was used to refer to white students who received a Civil Discourse Live invitation but not international students or students of color who received an invitation.

Students also wanted to know who was invited. Williams asked, “Why was this email not sent to members of SGA? Why was it not clear that any student could participate in these discussions regardless of race or ethnicity?”

Amanda Deming ’20 told the *Echo* that the organizer should “Definitely just send one email out to all students and everyone should receive the email. I

know a lot of people didn’t receive the email I’m not really sure why.”

Obua commented on the grouping of international students and students of color, saying “both are very important groups on this campus but to equate PoC to international students is not only saying that we don’t belong in this school but that we don’t belong in this country, that we are not permanent residents of this country, which we are, and it kind of neglects all the contributions to the United States that people of color have been making...Also, not all international students are PoC and not all PoC are international students, so it’s just like a very interesting way of grouping people very much feels like...what they’re trying to do is have a group for white students only and [a group for] ‘other.’”

Deming added that combining PoC and international students into just one group was, to her, “grouping two cohorts of people that don’t really have mutual connection, it’s just like ‘other.’ You have ‘white’ and you have ‘other.’ You’re kind of destroying the delineations between races and also ethnicity like the subtleties between ethnic differences are completely skewed, now that you’ve created this ‘other’ category.”

Obua took issue with the liberty taken by whoever sent out the emails in deciding who would be deemed white and who would

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500 admitted students from the Class of 2023 visit the College

By CLAIRE BORECKI
News Reporter

The College welcomed nearly 500 admitted students and their families for the Class of 2023 admitted students program on April 11.

In an email to students, Dean of the College Karlene Burrell-McRae ’94 explained that “throughout the three-day event our guests will participate in a variety of programming highlighting the breadth of academic and cocurricular offerings at Colby.” Many of the admitted students were hosted by current students.

When they arrived on Thursday, the recently admitted students could be seen exploring the campus, some in the massive tour groups that went out every hour, while others roamed more independently, distinguishable by the name tags around their necks.

A letter from the Student Government Association to admitted

students explained that “throughout the program you will have the opportunity to experience a day in the life of a student on Mayflower Hill.” The letter added that “Colby has provided us with an intellectual, close-knit community that is built on a culture of mutual respect and shared success. We can’t wait to show you why Colby is such a special place.”

College employees put a lot of work into transforming campus for the weekend. On Thursday, admitted students ate a meal in the gym—transformed into a decorated dining room—with other prospective members of their class and some of their hosts. Admitted students were also treated to food trucks, which seemed to attract faculty as much, if not more, than students.

Student admissions staff were out in full force, playing music, dancing, and posting the entire weekend on

social media.

When they weren’t touring facilities, learning about financial aid or meeting professors, admitted students had a variety of activities to choose from. Foss Dining Hall was constantly packed with people for late-night breakfast, trivia, and an acapella sampler. The sampler was particularly popular with admitted students, maybe hoping to round out the groups next year. Admitted students also participated in a paint night. Current students came out to help with a club expo and a variety of information sessions for DavisConnects, the arts, and other resources on campus.

Overall, the admitted students had refreshingly positive attitudes about being thrown into campus life for the weekend, and about the College in general.

“It’s been really fun to meet other people here! And the food is awesome,” said admitted stu-

dent Tyler Morris.

Cat Merkle ’23, who has already committed to the College, agreed, “It’s a beautiful campus and everyone has been so enthusiastic about welcoming us,” she said.

There seemed to be

a few voices on social media, mostly parents, complaining that they had not received an invitation to the event, though it is unclear how this happened, and if the invites were simply overlooked. Neverthe-

less, the students who attended seemed generally impressed.

“They couldn’t have made it better,” said admitted student Iman Behbehani, “they really pulled out all the stops for us.”



Claire Borecki | The Colby Echo

Admitted students ate a meal in the gym with both fellow prospective students and current students.

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Human Rights Watch Director discusses policy reform in the Americas

By DOMINIC GIARDINI
News Reporter

Students, staff, faculty, and members of the Waterville community piled into seats in the Alumni Center’s Parker-Reed room as Grossman Professor of Economics Patrice Franko introduced Human Rights Watch Director Jose Miguel Vivanco. The Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs hosted the Senator George J. Mitchell Distinguished International Lecture on April 15.

Vivanco is a Harvard graduate who has been dedicated to work in humanitarian efforts for 30 years. Human Rights Watch is a nonprofit that works to highlight human rights abuses worldwide and advocate for policy reform by working directly with governments to create and enforce policy.

Vivanco recited his prepared words methodically, organizing his lecture by first explaining the current state of human rights within a number of countries worldwide, then focusing on broad solutions. He honed in on countries in the Americas, most notably Venezuela, a nation currently in the midst of a humanitarian crisis following an undemocratic coup.

Vivanco discussed how countries in violation of human rights must work to-

wards ensuring an independent media, independent judiciary and transparency of governmental practices.

Turning then to the United States and Donald Trump, Vivanco explained citizens have to make sure they are defending the progress in ensuring human rights that “we have been able to achieve in the last 70 years.”

Vivanco vehemently denounced the tactics of populist leaders that frequently violate human rights. Critics have long accused Trump of being a populist, pointing to his inclination to gather large rallies and incite the passions of many through extreme claims.

Vivanco explained that populists work to demonize minorities and elites, exploit fears of globalization, and weaken the checks and balances of governments. He argued that such tactics lead to a slippery slope of human rights violations and spontaneous decision-making that goes unpunished.

A central aspect of Vivanco’s argument highlighted the human rights abuses happening in powerful Western civilizations, using the United States’ current political climate as the primary example. Vivanco mentioned that Trump’s family-separation policy was an example of an

extreme humanitarian transgression that did little to actually reduce immigration numbers.

Fanatic disciples of populist leaders, Vivanco posited, choose which truths they would like to hear. This behavior contributes to great distrust in the media.

Elaborating, he said that, “It is no accident that Trump says ‘media are enemies of the people.’ If a fact disagrees with [populists’] views, it is assumed to be a lie.”

He outlined further that the power to incite action held within political rhetoric, like the words of Trump and (disputed) Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, should not be underestimated.

Concluding his lecture, Vivanco explained the importance of strong leaders as allies for inspiring worldwide policy reform, because no matter how influential an NGO may be, political power is the driving impetus for change.

“It is crucial that civil society compels leaders to respect civil rights. Important democratic leaders must continue bringing attention to civil rights abuses... [and] call it like they see it.”

After concluding his talk, Vivanco opened himself up to an extensive question and answer



Dominic Giardini | The Colby Echo

Grossman Professor of Economics Patrice Franko introduces Human Rights Watch Director Jose Miguel Vivanco, who spoke in the Alumni Center’s Parker-Reed Room on Monday.

session, in which he provided long, articulate answers to audience members’ various questions.

Liam McDonough ’20, a member of the Goldfarb Center, asked a question that addressed whether western powers only intervene in human rights issues when there exists a tangible benefit rather than ethical obligation.

In a conversation with the *Echo*, McDonough explained that he asked the question because he thinks “many people in the United States and outside believe that the ruling order’s obsession with human rights is often used as a cover to

further other interests. I think this belief is a sign of the steady loss of faith in the neo-liberal world order. I wanted to see if he had a decent defense of how things are currently done.”

Vivanco responded to the query by maintaining his faith in the sympathetic motivation behind Western intervention.

The Senator George J. Mitchell Distinguished International Lecture is dedicated to former Maine Congressman and College alumnus Mitchell, whose efforts in the Capitol reflect his commitment to immigration reform.

While the Senator could not make the trip

this year, multiple members of his family were in attendance.

The Goldfarb lecture marks the newest entry in an ongoing discussion of human rights violations and immigration reform, and followed Assistant Professor of Government Lindsay Mayka’s Politics and Pizza talk, which discussed the intricacies involved with the current crisis in Venezuela at length. Students have been eager contributors to the conversation at these events, suggesting a particularly impassioned investment among the student body in the humanitarian crises at hand.

SOAR tables in Spa to shows virtual reality footage of animal agriculture

By JAMES BURNETT
News Editor

Students Organized for Animal Rights (SOAR) tabled in the Spa with virtual reality (VR) goggles on Monday to show students the reality of factory farms and slaughterhouses. The VR experience was

part of programming for Earth Week.

After putting on goggles and a headset, students partaking in the experience could choose between a video of cow, chicken, or pig agriculture. The videos showed footage of animals being mistreated, slaughtered, and carved.

In an interview with the *Echo*, Gile Alimasi ’20 described seeing the cow video as a great experience. Although he has never been in a slaughterhouse, he said the video gave him a sense of what happens in the cow agriculture process.

Although Alimasi will not be completely cut-

ting out meat-products from his diet, he said that watching the videos will help him make more humane decisions.

The VR experience, iAnimal360, was developed by Animal Equality an “international animal protection organization that works in eight countries in Europe, America, and Asia,” in order to “allow the viewer to access the day-to-day abuses that are hidden from the public by the agricultural industry,” according to their website.

Co-founder of SOAR Emily Carter ’20 explained in an interview to the *Echo* that “having students see the VR experience shows that we are all consumers playing into this system of perpetuated violence. Many of us don’t even know the brutality that exists in those industries.”

Carter said, “I think it’s important to add that what we were showing is standard everyday agricultural practices. If seeing those images affects you in any way, there is something you can do about it. Our economic choices determine the treatment of animals.”

In an email to the

Echo, SOAR co-founder John Shamgochian ’21 said, “the virtual reality tabling this Earth Week was exactly in line with our foremost goal as a

“We can do more together than alone and that’s the chief reason why we have created SOAR.”

John Shamgochian ’21

club: to make known the incredible cruelty that we fund with every cut of pig or cow we buy.”

Shamgochian added, “the content of those videos is intense to say the very least, but people need to realize that every hamburger costs a life.”

When asked why she co-founded SOAR, Carter explained that she and Shamgochian were “interested in creating a space for people who advocate for animal rights.” The group hopes

to “address issues like experimentation on animals, animal agriculture and the fur trade” as well as “motivate students to see how their choices impact animals and the environment.”

Carter added that she personally does not see any difference between a cow, a dog, and a human. She said, “We worship ourselves while simultaneously killing billions upon billions of animals every year.”

Shamgochian said, “Everyday, it seems that the Western world is coming more to terms with the idea of a plant-based society, appreciating better its absolute ethical and environmental necessity. We Colby students who have organized ourselves for animal rights are not going to topple the factory farm system, but we all want to play as large a part as we can in making a kinder world.”

He added that “veganism is a movement, not simply a diet or even a lifestyle. We can do more together than alone and that’s the chief reason why we have created SOAR.”



Courtesy of Emily Carter

Co-founder of Students Organized for Animal Rights Emily Carter ’20 tables in the Spa with virtual reality headsets.

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be deemed a person of color or international student. She said that she saw two emails as “picking who is a PoC. Which is very weird for some people. I don’t know, as someone who’s half-black half-white I don’t get to choose, the world has just designated me black, and I’m cool with that, but I know some people, specifically I know a lot of people who are half Asian half white and they grapple a lot with their identity, they don’t know if they can call themselves white or if they aren’t white or it’s just

very confusing and a very sensitive topic for them.”

Nkansah-Siriboe was also concerned about the methods used in grouping who received which email, expressing that, “I feel like it just makes the generalization that all PoC have the same culture, all internationals have the same culture. Which, personally for me, as a first generation Kenyan American woman, I would not say that that I subscribe more to African American culture but that I subscribe more to African culture which I would find more with internationals but you know someone else might... subscribe more with African culture.

Nkansah-Siriboe added

“I feel like you grouping me takes me and my individuality, it takes away my personal narrative... but then the white kids on campus get to be individualized and get to be leaders and get to be an integral part so it’s like... what am I to you? Does my story actually matter to what’s going on?”

Reflecting on if she would attend the event or not, Williams explained that, “As of right now I am undecided if I will go as I am still deciding if I want to participate.”

Nkansah-Siriboe was similarly undecided, noting that she’s still thinking about going because “I might just to see what they’re going to say, what their intentions were, and

what they plan to do next.”

Healy said that he is not planning on attending Civil Discourse Live, “because I feel it is unfair and exclusionary. There is no reason I should attend a ‘whites only’ conversation on race because I would simply be reinforcing institutionalised racism and exclusion. I also do not feel the need to attend this event because I will not be offered other perspectives, only those from my same ethnic background.”

In terms of alternatives or improvements to the Civil Discourse Live event, Nkansah-Siriboe stated that “what really needs to be happening is we’re making these things mandatory, we’re having pu-

nitive structures put in place to make sure that if you’re doing [racist] things you’re going to get in trouble, you’re going to have an actual, not a slap on the wrist but it’s going to be a serious deal.”

Healy also emphasized a need for expansion of both punitive measures and resources, suggesting that “If the College really cared about instances of bias and prejudice, directly after the Akon Day events they should have taken immediate disciplinary action against the students who attended, not just ‘explained the implications of what they did.’ There need to be consequences for actions and the lack of these consequences not only lets these

things slip by, but even encourages them.”

Deming commented on the need for action by the administration in creating change while also addressing the need for a shift in the wider campus narrative.

“We have this inflated idea that Colby is this really liberal campus and not only is that not true, but it’s not the only thing that we should be striving for. I believe that while being liberal is important it’s also important to be critical...it’s very easy to classify yourself as liberal and that could be it but if you classify yourself as critical you have to put in effort towards understanding what it means to be liberal,” she said.

Local News

Plastic bag referendum settlement appealed

By **ETHAN SCHULER**
Local and Features Editor

The court cases regarding the referendum on plastic bags in Waterville, and whether or not it is legal to count Colby community members' votes, are not over yet.

The court cases were considered settled in early March, with plans for the plastic bag ban to go into effect on April 22. However, on March 14, Shawn Caron, Cathy Weeks, Jonathan Weeks and Mark Andre filed an appeal with the Waterville Voter Registration Appeals Board asking them to continue to scrutinize the ballots of College voters. The City of Waterville has allowed a delay of the initial April 22 date while the case is settled, and hearings in Waterville on the issue are set for the first week of May.

The referendum, which would only ban the use of plastic bags in businesses 10,000 square feet or more, passed last November with 3,052 votes in favor and 2,906 votes opposed. Waterville Mayor Nick Isgro initially challenged the results, saying 164 votes by College students and faculty should not have been counted. Because of

the extremely close margin, the referendum would not have passed if the Colby community members' votes were not counted.

The continued contestation now only applies to 75 College student and faculty members' ballots. The appeal stated that these were specifically people who had appeared in the court hearings to show they had "proof of qualifications." However, the contesters of the votes argue in the appeal that because their proof was only shown by an oath of residency, it was not enough per Maine's election laws to prove that the residences were valid. Additionally, they are asking the City of Waterville to remove the 68 additional challenged ballots of voters who did not appear at the hearings at all.

Andre, who is spearheading the appeal effort, told the *Echo* that it was more about the principle of settling voting laws than the referendum itself.

"The issue before the Voter Registration Appeals Board is not about the Plastic Bag Referendum but rather about how elections in Waterville are determined," Andre said. "The concept of residency and residency requirements for voting purposes are the foundation of our

representative system of democracy in America. Without enforceable residency laws, campaigns in districts across America would become less about candidates who best reflect the interests of their local districts and more about which political party can effectively register and shift voters to targeted districts across the country."

Andre added that he respected the ability of College students who swore an oath to vote only in Waterville, but that he disagrees with the idea that students can choose to vote in Waterville or their hometowns depending on where it is more convenient to vote.

"In the case of the 75 challenged ballots before the Voter Registration Appeals Board, we have no issue with any voter who has honored the oath sworn and established residency in Waterville," Andre told the *Echo*. "We welcome these individuals to our voting community and are grateful as Waterville needs young new residents. However, if voters have failed to honor the oath sworn and remain residents of another community, they are not qualified to have voted in and determined

the outcome of elections in Waterville."

Though critical of the process allowing College students to vote, Andre reiterated that he did not believe College students were causing this issue intentionally.

"I believe the voters in question acted in a manner they thought to be compliant with Maine's voting laws and I am sorry they find themselves caught in the middle of what amounts to a political argument," Andre said. "In the end, we do not know how this matter will be resolved by the Voter Registration Appeals Board, who will ultimately have to rule whether 'residing' in a community or 'established residency' is the standard for the casting and counting of ballots in Waterville."

Richard Uchida '79, vice president, general counsel, and secretary of the College, told the *Echo* that the College would speak in defense of the challenged voters in the Waterville hearings in May.

"We don't care how they vote," Uchida said of the challenged voters. "But what we think is important is that if a student is properly registered to vote

here in Waterville, they should be entitled to exercise that vote."

When discussing the

"But what we think is important is that if a student is properly registered to vote here in Waterville, they should be entitled to exercise that vote."

Richard Uchida
Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary of the College

idea of students voting both in their hometowns and in Waterville depending on the election, Uchida said that was not an issue.

"Certainly a student is entitled to switch his or her registration from one state to another," Uchida said. "They just can't vote in two states at the same time and exercise voting privileges in both states at the same time. But beyond that, if a student wants to switch, generally, unless there's different laws in different states, students can switch."

Regarding future elections, Uchida stressed that College community members would be well-served by checking with the city clerk's office if they are worried about their voting status being challenged.

"What we'll be doing, or urging students to do, is to check with the city clerk as to exactly what they need so that a person can vote without those challenges occurring again," Uchida said. "And the City may decide it wants additional documentation, or it may want people to come in and sign something in particular, or whatever the case might be that the statute allows." Uchida added that the College was committed to making sure "students understand whatever the process might be," so similar court cases are avoided in the 2020 election.

Governor Mills signs gender wage gap bill

By **MADELEINE HAND**
Layout Editor

On Tuesday, April 2, the Maine House and Senate passed a bill that would make it illegal for employers to ask about the pay history of a job candidate. The bill was sent to the desk of Governor Janet Mills on National Equal Pay Day, a day to raise awareness about the stark income gap between men and women.

The vote in the House was 86-54 and 21-11 in the Senate. The vast majority of votes were cast along party lines, with Democrats mainly in support of the measure.

April 2 is National Equal Pay Day because it represents how much longer a woman has to work to receive the same pay as a

man in a year — while it takes from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 for a man to make a year's salary, it would take a woman from January 1 to April 2 of the next year to make the same amount of money. These figures are calculated based on pay disparity statistics.

The Maine Senator who sponsored the bill, Sen. Cathy Breen, said in a press release: "The gender wage gap exists despite statutes and rules that prohibit wage discrimination on the basis of gender, and despite the good intentions of so many employers, human resource professionals, and advocates, as policy makers, it's up to us to do all we can to narrow and someday eliminate the wage gap between Maine women

and men. I'm proud of the work we were able to do on LD 278 — it's

"By working to see that all people are paid based not on prior compensation, but on their experience, their abilities, and their qualifications, we can help level the playing field for women across Maine and enhance their economic security."

Janet Mills
Governor of Maine

the right thing to do for Maine women and Maine taxpayers."

Although it is federally illegal to pay men and women differently, the

gap. While an employer might not realize they are paying a female less than a male, their asking about previous job salaries perpetuates inequalities that could follow a woman around for the remainder of her career.

Mills signed the bill, LD 278, into law on her 100th day in office. In a press release from her office, Mills is quoted as saying, "Maine is a better place when we strive to ensure that all citizens are treated equally and fairly. By working to see that all people are paid based not on prior compensation, but on their experience, their abilities, and their qualifications, we can help level the playing field for women across Maine and enhance their economic security, this is good public policy and it

is the fair and right thing to do."

An opponent of the bill, Representative Shelley Rudnicki, explained to *Central Maine* that "as a woman, as a strong woman, this isn't about equal pay. It's about doing your job, getting it done right, getting paid what you deserve and asking for what you deserve. As women, we need to ask for that. This is about small businesses . . . paying people what they need to work."

Senator Shenna Bellows shared her reasons for supporting the bill with *Central Maine*, explaining how her experience of being paid less than male counterparts who were hired at the same time as her "humiliated me and alienated me from workplaces I otherwise loved."

Maine Beer Trail: Marshall Wharf Brewing Company

By **ETHAN SCHULER**
Local and Features Editor

Disclaimer: If readers choose to go to the breweries reviewed, please drink responsibly and have a designated driver.

Last fall, while on one of my Beer Trail stops, a fellow customer I was chatting with told me that if I was following the trail, I needed to go to the Marshall Wharf Brewing Company in Belfast. It was the best beer she'd ever had in her life, she said. Though I had been putting it off, since it's nearly an hour from the College, I knew I had to stop there before my graduation puts an end to this series of Maine craft brewery exploration.

To preface, visiting the beautiful, waterfront town of Belfast makes the trip worth it on its own. Although it is a somewhat lesser known destination than neighboring Camden, Belfast is the closest coastal town to the College. While still idyllic and beautiful, it also offers a low-key atmosphere.

The Marshall Wharf Brewery is located right on the Penobscot Bay and requires a short walk alongside a large, beautiful shipyard to access it. The Brewery did not disappoint in beer or atmosphere. With friendly people and an easy, affordable tasting menu, I tried a variety of beers unlike any others I had tried before.

The people at the Brewery were friendly, and an attendant guided me through the tast-

ings. The menu offers three-ounce tasters for \$1 each, and nine-ounce mini-pints for varying, but affordable prices (\$2.50-4).

I went with the three-ounce tasters for everything on the menu except a traditional stout (which I never enjoy). That allowed me to try seven beers, all of which were unique and

The menu offers three-ounce tasters for \$1 each, and nine-ounce mini-pints for varying, but affordable prices (\$2.50-4).

delicious.

Although it's a small, one-room craft brewery, Marshall Wharf is capable of making up to 40 different beers at a time. That's no small feat. They frequently change their beers on tap and rotate them multiple times a week during the summer months.

The Tug Pale Ale, a mild, hoppy, extremely easy to drink beer is considered their flagship. The woman guid-

ing me through the tasting was eager to tell me that she has worked at Marshall Wharf since it opened 11 years ago, and that the Pale Ale has been there as long as she has.

The Bitter Truth, an English-style bitter ale, actually tasted a lot stronger, even though it was only 5.5%. The Satan's Doorbell Sour was indeed sour, but was one of my favorites in the selection.

Though I skipped out on the traditional stout, I kept an open mind in trying the other two. One was called the Sexy Mayhem Stout and was a traditional stout with "subtle vanilla and floral notes." It was way better than I expected, and extremely mild as stouts go. The second was called the Pemaquid Oyster Stout, and it is actually brewed with unshucked local oysters in the mix. Though I loathe oysters, the beer was extremely interesting, with a subtle taste of the ocean that was very refreshing. Finally, the Deep Purple Rauchbier was a smoked malt ale with malts imported from Germany, and had an unusual taste almost like smoked meat.

Though the beers represented a wide variety and not all of them appealed to my tastes, they were all fascinating in style and enjoyable to drink. I was extremely impressed by the variety and how much the tasting guides knew about the specifics of the beers, especially considering they are making 40 different beers at any given time.

Unfortunately, the adjacent brew pub was closed the day I was there, but the people working at Marshall

Although it's a small, one-room craft brewery, Marshall Wharf is capable of making up to 40 different beers at a time.

Wharf recommended a nice seafood place, called Nautilus Seafood and Grill, on the water right next to the location of the brewery.

My friend and I took a seat for lunch at Nautilus

after the beer tasting at a table with a beautiful waterfront view. There, the Ricker Hill Blueberry Ciders, normally \$9,

were heavily discounted for happy hour to only \$4. The cider was the epitome of Maine flavors, with a strong blueberry flavor so sweet it tasted like juice.

After lunch, we walked



Ethan Schuler | The Colby Echo

The Marshall Wharf Brewing Company offers a friendly atmosphere as well as a wide selection of unique beers.

Features

Knit Night: reducing stress and helping the community

By HEATHER JAHRLING
Local and Features Reporter

Every Tuesday from 9-10 p.m. in Associate Professor of Psychology Melissa Glenn's Schupf apartment students of all experience levels are welcome to attend Knit Night. Run by Glenn and Dorros Professor of Chemistry Julie Millard, Knit Night's main goal is to reduce stress by serving as a "departure from the trappings of technology" while simultaneously helping the community.

Glenn, an AMS faculty in residence, started Knit Night to connect with students outside of the classroom. In an interview with the *Echo* she stated, "I have wonderful relationships with psychology and biology students who are in my classes or work in my lab, but I seldom interact with or get to know students with other interests and majors outside of these areas. Living on campus affords me many opportunities to connect with all kinds of students with lots of different interests and backgrounds."

While the majority of the students have not knitted before and Glenn calls herself a "total novice", the nights are still popular amongst students.

Coming from a family of knitters, Glenn

took to crocheting from a young age and always enjoyed knitting, though it seemed like "a kind of dark magic" to her and a skill that she would never be able to truly master.

However, five years ago, Glenn's daughter Alexa came home from school and taught her mother the basics of knitting after learning about the craft in class. When her daughter knitted a small rectangle out of a ball of yarn and chopsticks, Glenn described being "blown away."

Alexa continued to inform her mother about the benefits of knitting, such as how it is a great way to relieve stress and anxiety. After taking some knitting lessons from her daughter, Glenn became obsessed with knitting and created small toys for her cats and scarves for her daughter's dolls. She then turned to knitting human-sized scarves, and is currently learning how to knit hats and socks.

Glenn decided to share her newfound passion with students and other faculty members to give students the chance to see the same benefits she saw herself and to "connect with others around knitting, either to learn from each other, or learn together, but also to gather together to knit, listen to music, and talk."

Even if Knit Night is only an hour each week,

disconnecting from technology and engaging with others is extremely beneficial. Glenn noted, "we know from research in psychology and neuroscience that knitting decreases anxiety and stress and, in general, promotes brain health and well-being."

In order to make Knit Night a reality, Glenn teamed up with Millard, a faculty in residence in West who happens to be an avid knitter and sewer. Her expertise allows students to take their knitting to the next level. With Millard's skill set, the knitters have been able to make an impact on the community as well.

Last year, Glenn learned of an organization called "Warm Up America." Seeking donations of knitted or crocheted squares, this non-profit collects the squares to make blankets that they distribute to those in need.

As Glenn remarked, "considering that my area of expertise was squares and rectangles, I was pretty intrigued. So this became our main objective! It honestly seemed perfect - students could learn to knit a basic stitch, and if I acquired some nice thick yarn we could generate squares pretty quickly and donate them."

To take this service to the next level, Millard came up with the idea of making

blankets right on campus and donating them locally. The products are donated to area shelters, hospitals, or schools. The group has completed one afghan so far, and their goal is to get a start on another one before next winter rolls around.

Inspired by Warm Up America's other campaign, "Tiny Hats for Tiny Babies," which accepts donations of hats for newborns

and especially small hats for premature infants, Glenn intends to spend part of her summer learning to knit hats.

Regarding the future, Glenn is hoping to include a project in which Colby students teach area kids to knit.

During the hour, many students drop by to say hello, and Glenn admitted, "I do try to entice

them in with the baked goods my husband, Owen, often makes with Alexa." This recurring event requires no experience and students do not need any materials of their own to participate.

Those interested in Knit Night should feel free to contact Professor Glenn at melissa.glenn@colby.edu or Professor Millard at julie.millard@colby.edu.



Courtesy of Owen DeWitt

Professors Melissa Glenn and Julie Millard host Knit Night to bond with students, as well as to donate to "Warm Up America."

Faces of Colby: Library Assistant April Paul

By EMILY PRICE
Features Reporter

Many Colby students will admit to having a love-hate relationship with Miller. It is both the dreaded location in which students tackle never-ending homework assignments, and a place where students find a unique sense of community among others going through the same thing. Colby is lucky that our library is such a great study space, but we may not all

ways realize all of the work that goes into creating this space. This week, the *Echo* sat down with Miller Library's Library Assistant, April Paul, to find out what she does behind the scenes to keep Miller running so smoothly.

"I've been at Colby for 10 years, but before Colby I actually had about 15 years of experience in the newspaper business. I worked at the *Morning Sentinel*, the *Kennebec Journal*, and the *Portland Press Herald* over

that span of 15 years," explained Paul. "With the newspaper industry kind of declining, I had the opportunity to get a position here at Colby. It was a seamless transition to go from the newspaper business to Colby, especially because I am originally from Maine. I've lived here my whole life. I didn't have to move at all when I switched jobs which was great. I learned a whole new aspect of work in terms of going from working in

newspaper industry to working for an academic institution."

Before working as a library assistant in Miller, Paul worked in other areas around campus during her 10 years at the College. Though she always wanted to work with students at Colby, she began her time here as an administrative assistant to the Secretary of the College in the President's office. The position included organizing events like trustee meetings and

involved little interaction with students. Her second job at Colby was at the Career Center, where she had slightly more interaction with students than before. For the past three years, Paul has worked at Miller, where interaction with students makes up much of her job.

Paul's job requires more than just student interaction though. Paul is key to the day-to-day functioning of Miller. "My daily routine is to come in, go through emails, and make

sure students arrive on time to open up the library for patrons, students and community members. I go through the stacks out back to make sure things are in order to be re-shelved, and a lot of the day to day duties are just making sure that the front desk runs smoothly, dealing with reserves, helping any students needing sub-requests, and responding to faculty questions. A lot of things come in via email, so it's a lot of back and forth from my office to the desk and answering emails."

While this all may sound hectic, Paul says it's really the students that keep her going through all of the craziness. "I am impressed at how they take advantage of all of the wonderful opportunities that Colby has to offer them. They're very dedicated to their classes and work." For Paul, working at Miller means witnessing firsthand how strong the work ethic of Colby students is.

"My only advice I have for my students is to please come to the library," Paul stated. "I once heard a senior say that he's never been to the library, and I think that it's kind of mind blowing that you can go four years without stepping foot in the library. I would recommend that students at least come to the library and explore the different studying options, tools, and resources that are available. Once you leave Colby, you won't have access to the same types of materials that you do here."



Courtesy of Colby College

Library Assistant Alice Paul has worked at Miller Library for the past three years.

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How Radical Performance can be an Act of Resistance

By OLIVIA HOCHSTADT
Contributing Writer

To kick off Colby’s first Fringe Festival in Strider Theater last Tuesday night, performance artist, writer, educator and activist Guillermo Gómez-Peña gave an audacious, avant-garde and personal performance.

Over his 35-year career, the Mexican-born artist has committed himself to breaking down physical and mental borders between people that foster hate and xenophobia in our world.

Using spoken word poetry, activist theory, radical storytelling, humor and language experimentation (Spanglish, glitch and glosolalia), Gómez-Peña critiqued academia, the art world, gender and race politics, gentrification in the “creative city,” current technological obsessions, the culture of war and violence in the US, and organized crime in Mexico.

Fitting for a Fringe Festival celebrating experimental theater and performance, Gómez-Peña’s latest solo work entitled *The Most (un) Documented Mexican Artist*, consists of several spoken-word performances using his self-proclaimed “imaginary activism.”

The performance included cameos by Balitrónica Gómez, a member of the international performance troupe La Pocha Nostra, for which Gómez-Peña is the artistic director.

The spoken-word, philosophical monologue, a

living archive of the past 35 years, combined new and old material to project a unique perspective concerning the immediate socio-political future of the Americas.

Between groping himself on stage and spitting scotch out at the audience, Gómez-Peña pushed the boundaries of censorship, conventional performance art and what is acceptable to be heard and seen on a public stage. Through crying, yelling and swearing, he encouraged the crowd to contend with racist, anti-immigrant, and homophobic ideologies that are ingrained in our subconscious.

Flowing in and out of scripted poetry and un-scripted discussion, the artist released long-held frustration over the immigration debate and today’s increasingly politically correct, social-justice-warrior culture.

Gómez-Peña’s emotional display of radical citizenship demanded that the audience face personal demons, get intimate with each other and empathize. Conversing with the audience, Gómez-Peña demonstrated the power of radical democracy. He asked the audience to break down the walls we put up to protect and separate ourselves from people of different identities and backgrounds.

Assistant Professor of Spanish Brett White said, “Regarding their visit, I can say that our inspiration for inviting Guillermo Gómez-Peña and Balitrónica Gómez to Colby is motivated by a desire

to encourage the proliferation of spaces where we can come together to disrupt our expectations about identity, race, technology, gender and immigration. Their critiques are alternately humorous, searing and uncomfortable, as they seek to erase borders and to encourage collaboration among artists and spectators alike, engendering new communities in unexpected places.”

Moving between different accents and languages, Gómez-Peña himself became a bridge between seemingly disparate identities, reminding us that we, as humans, are more similar than we are different. He provoked us to recognize our shared human experience and connect over compassion and our ultimate desire for freedom from oppression.

In a world that never fails to remind minorities that they live on the fringes of society, Gómez-Peña unapologetically spoke his truth as a Latinx immigrant. Accordingly, *The Most (un) Documented Mexican Artist* in itself is an act of resistance to the ignorance stemming from colonialism and white supremacy, as well as the intolerance that pervades our own political language today.

During his visit to Colby, it was announced that Gómez-Peña is a 2019 Guggenheim Fellowship recipient, a highly selective and honorable fellowship awarded to 168 diverse artists that have demonstrated exceptional creative achievement.

The afternoon follow-



Courtesy of Zen Cohen

Guillermo Gómez-Peña’s performance at Strider Theater was the first event of Colby’s first Fringe Festival.

ing the performance, students of the Latin American Studies department had the opportunity to participate in a four-hour workshop with the artist to gain unique insight into La Pocha Nostra’s revolutionary perfor-

mance pedagogy.

To leave the audience questioning their own mental borders, Gómez-Peña said, “[Let’s] cross the borders between my mouth and your fears,” a quote that brilliantly encapsulates the artist’s rad-

ical performance.

The event was sponsored by The Center for the Arts and Humanities, the Latin American Studies Department, the Spanish Department and the Department of Theater and Dance.

Spring Concert revealed



Courtesy of Student Planning Board

Roberts Road 2019 will feature performances from Hippo Campus, Ripe and Ashe and will take place on May 11.

By ZACHARY BERGMAN
A&E Editor

In a video emailed to all students on Friday, April 12, the Student Programming Board (SPB) announced its lineup for the Roberts Road spring concert, which will take place on Saturday, May 11.

The concert will be headlined by Hippo Campus, and will also feature performances by Ripe and Ashe.

Hippo Campus is an indie rock band that was formed in St. Paul, Minnesota in 2013. They released their first EP, *Bashful Creatures*, in 2014, and released their second album, *Bambi*, in September of 2018.

Ripe is a Boston-based band that describes it-

self as “Boston’s Ambassadors of Funk.” The band has been gaining traction recently and released its debut LP, *Joy in the Wild Unknown*, last year.

“I’m sort of a Ripe loyalist,” Colin Alie ’21 said. “I knew the band when they got their humble beginnings at Berkley, and to see them come this far as to tour at a major college site is kind of humbling for my own music career. I’m very excited to watch Ripe in concert.”

Ashe, born Ashlyn Willson, is a 2015 graduate of Berklee College of Music in Boston. She has written a song for Demi Lovato, “You Don’t Do It For Me Anymore,” and toured with Quinn XCII, who performed

at Colby’s fall concert in 2017. Ashe released her debut EP, *The Rabbit Hole*, in June of 2018, and just released her second EP, *Moral of the Story: Chapter 1*, on April 5, 2019.

Overall, it seems many Colby students are looking forward to the event. Historically, the Roberts Road concert has been held outside in Roberts Lot. Students enjoy the opportunity to listen to live music and enjoy the spring weather.

Artist Susanna Coffey visits Colby’s campus

By SARAH WARNER
A&E Reporter

This past Tuesday, the Colby College Art Department hosted longtime artist and professor Susanna Coffey to talk with art students about their work and her own process. Coffey is the F.H. Sellers Professor of Painting at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, as well as a successful artist with works of art on display at the Art Institute of Chicago, the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and the National Academy of Design in New York City. Coffey brought with her the artistic insight and knowledge that only an artist as accomplished as her can bring.

Coffey is a figurative painter, mainly focusing on the human head and the self portrait. She was invited by Colby’s own Professor of Art Bevin Engman, who has long been a fan of her particularly meditative and color-oriented style of self-portraiture.

“I’ve known of Susanna Coffey’s work for a long time, and I’ve made many efforts to see her shows when I can,” Engman said in an interview with the *Echo*. “She has a very successful career but has also been a teacher for over 37 years. Knowing that I had a couple of upper-level students who were working with figurative painting, and that the Painting II students had just fin-

ished their self portraits, I thought it would be a really good idea to bring her and luckily she was free.”

Before presenting her talk, Coffey spent several hours with both the upper and lower level painting students, pointing out the weaknesses in their paintings and praising the strengths.

Luisa Coakley ’21, a stu-

“[Coffey’s] talk was—well, it was the way she is, which is very informal in the way she treats her process.”

Bevin Engman
Colby Professor of Art

dent in Engman’s Painting II class, commented, “It was super helpful as a studio art major to hear from an actual painter about her use of color and how she goes about that. She also gave some great advice to us, which I definitely will use.”

At 4:30 p.m., students and faculty alike then filed into Bixler 154, eager to hear Coffey speak about her life as a renowned painter and professor. The talk was casual, with most of the emphasis placed on Coffey’s laborious process, including a slideshow

showing images of each and every step she took to get to a final image. She would often paint an entire piece and then pour turpentine all over it, washing away her progress and starting again with only a ghost of the original image left.

“[Coffey’s] talk was—well, it was the way she is, which is very informal in the way she treats her process,” Engman said, reflecting on the presentation. “She has a very deep, committed process, yet she doesn’t present it as a polished professional endeavor but instead as experimentation with plenty of failure. She’s not afraid to admit that which I think is really helpful for students to hear. It shows you that everybody goes through this...”

Coffey emphasized her own failures, calling certain pieces or progress pictures “absolute disasters” or “horrendous” or “ugly” with abandon. She encouraged the artists in the audience to not give up if something isn’t working, because despite her success, things often haven’t worked for her. She has painted over things again and again and again, not stopping until she was satisfied. That, for Coffey, has been the key to her art—contemplation, reflection, redirection, and perseverance. As Engman said, “you just keep on pushing.”

Opinions

The Liberal-only arts: a response to Ryszard Legutko’s talk at Colby

By GREG KATZ
Contributing Writer

“Have you heard anything about Ryszard Legutko?” a fellow student asked me yesterday. “He is coming to speak tomorrow, and Middlebury students are protesting his talk on their campus later this week.” I had never heard of this person and was definitely not aware that he was coming to campus. A quick search in my email inbox revealed the event listed only under the “Academic Events” section of the daily ColbyNow email. As a government major, currently taking three classes within the department, I was perplexed at how I was unaware that a member of the European Parliament was coming to speak on campus the next day, and why no one was talking about it?

It was not until the morning of the event, April 16, that it was mentioned in one of my government classes. Perhaps this was to do with

his controversial reputation, or that he is already being protested at a fellow NES-CAC college? Legutko is a Polish philosopher and politician, who grew up under a communist regime, and now serves as co-chairman of the European Conservatives and Reformists. Legutko is also the head of the Polish Law and Justice Delegation to the European Parliament. He came to campus to speak about his newest book, *The Demon in Democracy: Totalitarian Temptations in Free Societies*, in which he argues that there is a striking resemblance between communism and liberal democracy.

In his lecture, Legutko claimed that over the last few decades, liberal developments are comparable to those of communism, and that the modern concept of ideological correctness is similar to what he experienced in his childhood. Legutko is clearly suspicious of liberal democracy and its motivations. He does not believe government should be involved in all

aspects of our individual lives, an ideology not often heard at Colby. He said that

He said that liberals have been able to convince people that they are open and accepting, but that this attitude is “the biggest hoax”

liberals have been able to convince people that they are open and accepting, but that this attitude is “the biggest hoax.”

Legutko’s remarks made me think a lot about our

campus culture at Colby, and its highly politicized nature. Colby is without a doubt an overwhelmingly liberal campus that prides itself on acceptance and diversity, but just how accepting are we? What about diversity of thought? Just 16 students showed up to hear Legutko speak. I do not think this is necessarily because these are the only students that wanted to come, but rather that many were unaware of Legutko’s campus visit, just as I had been. I thought about how, for other speakers that came, emails were sent out, announcements were made, and discussions were had in my classes. Why was there such a lack of these for this event?

This parallels a campus-wide sentiment, as well as the larger liberal community’s sentiment that Legutko identified – that there is “no room for compromise with critics.” People are not willing to engage with ideas outside of their own. Political

theorist, John Stuart Mill, identified open discussion as pivotal when determining truth. Mill believed that it’s necessary to engage with those outside of your ideology to form your own opinions and to justify them. I worry that many students at Colby do not often enough encounter such scenarios, and are quick to refrain from entertaining them, as evidenced by the low attendance levels at the Legutko lecture.

There are also examples of Colby professors who have been outspoken on the topic of censored speech and opinions. One professor has gone on a mainstream media outlet to discuss his belief that colleges have the right to make “value judgements,” when it comes to considering guest speakers for campus events. Legutko suggested that a tendency to stifle free speech is a trait that both contemporary liberalism and communism share.

I’ve experienced another instance firsthand,

when, following President Trump’s election, a professor told my class that a supporter of Trump and the rhetoric behind the “Make America Great Again” message, had no place on our campus. While this professor later apologized for this wildly inappropriate remark, I often revisit this instance, thinking about how such a statement and other anti-conservative rhetoric on campus makes some students, specifically conservative students, feel.

Maybe this unacceptable view of non-liberals is a common attitude across campus? This exact notion, the rejection of ideas outside of the liberal sphere that Legutko worries about when comparing liberal democracy to communism, is also one that I worry about when looking at Colby’s community. Colby has convinced itself that it is accepting and inclusive, welcoming diverse thoughts and beliefs, but on an increasingly ideologically homogeneous campus, are all views really welcome here?

Editorial: Colby needs to work on conversation

By CAITLIN ROGERS
Co-Editor in Chief

While the College has recently made efforts to create community conversations and administrative frameworks in response to bias incidents, this week’s Civil Discourse Live controversy has shown that the College still has much work to do in addressing its own biases before it can provide adequate support for community conversations and action around racism, bias and prejudice.

The Civil Discourse Live, scheduled for April 20, would divide

students into different “affinity groups” groups, with white students in one group and students of color and international students in another.

Many students were skeptical of this strategy, especially when it was discovered that students of color and international students had received a differently worded invitation from white students, who were referred to as “student leader[s]” and “integral part[s] of campus culture.”

There is a case to be made for the creation of safe spaces on campus

to talk about individual experiences; however, it

It is concerning that this attempt to create discussion first requires the community to be divided

is concerning that this attempt to create discus-

sion first requires the community to be divided.

The College needs to create proactive discussion around these issues, but a systematic categorization and division of students based on race and nationality is not the place to start.

To address student concerns, a Q&A session was held the day after the emails were sent. Discussion facilitators and administrators explained that after the divided conversations happened, the groups would be brought together to discuss their

mophobia is to gather in community conversation, the insensitive way the Civil Discourse Live was announced shows that the College still has far to go when facilitating conversations around bias incidents.

Thoughtful discussion happens regularly on this campus, but until the College can figure out how to effectively and respectfully organize the community into conversation that then leads to action, Colby will never become the cohesive community we need it to be.



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Students on the Street
“Who is your best friend?”

 <p>“Caitlin Wood, Lindsay Stewart, Molly Wood, Sarah Wilson, and Chase Leisenring” -Banks Dotson ’19</p>	 <p>“The Boys” -Joe MacDonald ’21</p>	 <p>“Lexi Cafiero and Mckinley Karpa” -Abby Recko ’22</p>	 <p>“My friend Elizabeth from home” -Sarah Kaplan ’20</p>	 <p>“My first year roommate Andrew Fumarola” -Zack Mishoulam ’19</p>
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Men’s Lacrosse drops senior game against ninth-ranked Ephs



Courtesy of Colby Athletics

Jack Rickards '22, the second-leading scorer for the Mules this season, took seven shots and scooped up one ground ball in the team's game against Williams College. He has scored 19 goals and tallied an additional six assists on the year.

By Will Beddingfield
Staff Writer

After a decisive nine to six victory over Bowdoin last Wednesday, the Colby men's lacrosse team dropped to a 3-5 NESCAC record against Williams this past Saturday. However, the team remains above .500 with a 6-5 overall record on the season. The Mules sit in the middle of the NESCAC table with only three games remaining, including two conference matchups against Bates and Trinity.

Colby's game began by honoring the team's eight seniors and their families for their commitment over the last four years. Once the game began, Williams fired off to a 3-0 lead in the first five minutes, justifying their top ten Division III ranking.

Williams never let up on offense,

but Colby's CJ Hassan '20 and Lane Kadish '20 managed to score, bringing the game to 5-2 at the end of the first quarter. Colby and Williams both settled in the second quarter, with Charlie Lynch '21 netting a pass from Riley Bergstrom '21. William's junior Noah McCoy maintained Williams' lead.

The Mules were far more aggressive in the second half, but could not match the Ephs' goal scoring efficiency, as Williams was able to stretch their lead to four going into the final quarter. Despite Hassan, Carter Vickers '21, and Max Cushman '19 scoring for the Mules, Colby was unable to complete a comeback, leaving them with an 11-6 loss.

After the game, standout long stick midfielder Will Dodge '22 stated, "we didn't come out with the result we wanted, but I thought our

defense came out and played a solid game. C.J. Layton ['19] stood on his head and kept the Mules in it, making 24 saves. We are definitely a better team than what we showed on Saturday and going into our final three games I think we can have a very strong showing."

On the whole, Colby's defense held strong, but could not withstand Williams' pressure, despite Layton's goalkeeping efforts. In fact, the defense did not give up a single goal during Williams' four man-up possessions. However, Williams dominated at the face-off X, winning 15 of 21, which gave the Ephs vital offensive possessions. While Colby won 27 ground balls to Williams' six, the team couldn't out-shoot Williams' dominant 49 attempts at goal. Ultimately, the Mules' effective defense and star goalkeeping

could not seem to make up for the five goals let up in the first quarter and they always seemed to be chasing the ninth-ranked Ephs.

The offense for the Mules was led by Hassan with two goals and Kadish, who had one goal and one assist. Cory Lund led the Ephs with two goals and one assist, while Tim Saffold and Brendan Hoffman scored two goals each, accompanied by a number of other scorers.

Colby looked to return to winning form Tuesday, April 16 in their final home game of the season against Maine Maritime at 7:00 p.m. after the *Echo* had already gone to print. MMA is currently sitting at 2-5 and looking for an upset to increase their win streak to three. The Mules will hope to move past the Mariners before travelling to Hartford for what should be a close game against Trinity.

Forum Su-do-ku!

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<https://sudoku.game/>: Medium.

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By KEVIN AHN
Sports Reporter

In this edition of the Cheap Seats, the *Echo* sat down with Men's Rugby's Aidan Cyr '20 and Demetrius Ramirez '20 to talk memories, secrets, and trading lives.

Colby Echo (Echo): When did you first start playing rugby?
Aidan Cyr (AC): I first started playing JanPlan of my first year. I was abroad in Dijon with the GES program and when I got back, I wanted to find some sort of team sport to participate on. My dad played in college and my uncle used to play in England, so I thought that I would give it a shot and I absolutely fell in love with the sport right away.
Demetrius Ramirez (DR): I actually started the fall of my sophomore year. My roommate Kyle Slager ['20] had joined his first year and encouraged me to give it a shot. I really liked the physicality of the sport and have stuck with it ever since no matter what time we practice.

Echo: What is your favorite rugby memory?
AC: My favorite memory is the first ever sevens tournament we played in, the Plattsburg 7's tournament, where I scored three tries on my first three touches of ever playing rugby.
DR: When I got a running start and absolutely leveled a kid that I tackled. Unfortunately, I got a penalty for not wrapping on the tackle, but it really hyped up the rest of the boys on our team.

Echo: So, you've been described as the "dynamic duo" of the rugby team? When did this first start?
AC: It started back on June 9 when we got a tour of the Philadelphia Electric Factory from Quill Yates ['17], but more recently it has to do with the fact that we both volunteer at the Waterville Library as part of the "Crafternoons" program. It's a really fun time and we get to decorate our common room with a lot of the crafts that the kids make each week which is a neat addition to our room.
DR: Well, first of all I respond to the allegations by saying this is false and I will leave it there.

Echo: Which of your teammates would you want to trade daily lives with for a day and why?
AC: Peter Hilton ['22] because he is the best guy I know.
DR: Sam Swain ['19], so I could schedule practices.

Echo: Is "Old Town Road" country music?
AC: Is "Achy Breaky Heart" country music?
DR: It makes me feel country.

Echo: Quick, one second to answer, a clock says 3:15 what's the angle between the short hand and the long hand?
AC: 11, or 30, but not zero.
DR: Zero?

Echo: What is your deepest secret?
AC: I have six toes.
DR: I definitely have no idea why the ref blows his whistle in rugby still.

Echo: What do you think about alone in a car?
DR: I usually just sing my heart out, so whatever is on the playlist is on my mind.
Echo: Any Nicknames?
AC: Since freshman year of high school, my friends have only called me by my last name: Cyr.
DR: People strictly refer to me as Meech, Mini-Meech, or Smooth-Meech-Munchy.

Echo: Would you rather fight 100 duck-sized horses or one horse-sized duck?
AC: I have no chance against a horse-sized duck, I mean can anyone beat that? That thing's webbed feet are going to be all up on me.
DR: Yeah, I'm fighting a horse-sized duck, it'll be over quicker for me.

Echo: What's the single funniest joke you know?
AC: What did the beaver say when he ran into a cement wall? Dam.
DR: A skeleton walks into a bar and says "give me a beer and a mop." That joke has me weak.

Echo: You're stuck on a desert island with one of your teammates. Who do you bring and why?
AC: Meech because he's the hottest.
DR: Nate Goddu ['21], I like it quiet. Maybe some occasional conversation but overall, he would be a survivor on any island and a good time.

Echo: What movie do you quote the most often?
AC: I would quote *Blazing Saddles* more often if I could but not all of my roommates have seen it so I have to limit myself with my quotes.
DR: I don't know if I have ever quoted a movie in my life. But realistically, probably *Borat* or *The Dictator*.

Echo: "Fortnite" or "Apex?"
AC: "Apex" [...] because I'm too good at "Apex."
DR: It's going to have to be "Fortnite." I am a traditionalist. Truthfully, I wouldn't be playing "Apex" if the boys weren't playing "Apex." I like the funny costumes [...] in "Fortnite."

Weekend Recap



Courtesy of Colby Athletics
The Colby women's crew team had a strong showing this past Saturday. The First Varsity Eight were especially impressive with a finals win over Amherst.



Courtesy of Colby Athletics
The Colby women's rugby team finished its annual Beast of the East tournament in Rhode Island with two Saturday wins and a semifinal appearance.

By JOHN STEENROD
Staff Writer

Track and Field ends
the weekend with nine
top-three finishes

The Colby men's and women's track and field teams had a busy weekend. The distance runners travelled to New London to compete in the Connecticut College-hosted Silfen Track & Field Invitational, while the sprinters and field athletes went to the Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) Penmen Relays. The hurdlers dominated the competition for the Mules as Sophie Stokes Cerkvenik '19 won both the 100 meter hurdles and the 400 meter hurdles. For the men's team, Sage Bailin '20 also won the 400 meter hurdles, and placed third in the 110 meter hurdles.

Strong performances continued for the Mules at SNHU, especially for the relay teams. Both the men's and women's 4x100 meter relays got second, and both sprint medley relays got third. Rachel Leonard '19 also got second in the 800 meter run.

The women's field team also had a very successful weekend. The Mules got fourth, sixth, ninth, eleventh, and sixteenth in the triple jump, ninth in the long jump, seventh and tenth in the high jump, and Emma MacCallum '21 got eighth in the shot put and fourteenth in the discus.

At the Silfen Invitational, the distance runners also saw strong performances. Sophia Gorman '21 led the way with a fourth place finish in the 5k race. Both 4x800 relays performed well, with the men finishing third and the women getting fourth. Both teams also saw runners finish in the 10-15 placements in the women's 800 and 1500 and the men's 5k.

Women's Rugby makes
semifinal appearance at
Beast of the East
tournament

Women's Rugby went to the Beast of the East tournament in Portsmouth, RI this past weekend. Although previously the Mules competed in Division II at this tournament,

due to a restructuring of the tournament they were put in the top pool alongside Division I and II teams.

On Saturday, Colby started strong, defeating Catholic University 28-10. They kept this level of play up, crushing SUNY New Paltz 33-5 later that day. As a result of their point differential through the two games, the Mules qualified for the cup play-off on Sunday as one of the top four teams. They drew UConn in the semifinals, and despite playing well throughout the tournament, lost 67-0. This was the first time a Colby Rugby team had played a true Division I opponent.

Tennis teams reign supreme in trip to Trinity

Men's and Women's Tennis both picked up their first NESCAC win of the season as they travelled to Hartford to play Trinity. The men's team took a 2-1 lead in doubles, and followed up with a dominant performance in the singles matches. The Mules won five of the six, and won four of those in just two sets to beat Trinity 7-2.

The women's matches mirrored the men's almost exactly. They also took a 2-1 lead after the doubles matches, and won four matches in just two sets to beat the Bantams 6-3.

Late surge pushes Williams over Women's Lacrosse in final away game

Colby Women's Lacrosse played at Williams this past weekend. Robyn Pirie '21 scored the opening goal less than two minutes into the game, but Williams scored six straight goals over the next 12 minutes to put distance between themselves and the Mules. However, led by three more goals by Pirie and two by Taylor Moore '21, Colby was able to rally and cut the gap to just one, at 9-8, with 20 minutes left in the game.

Williams then came back with a 4-0 scoring run to gain some separation, and despite a late run by the Mules, Williams won 15-12. Pirie and

Moore both scored four goals, and Grace Langmuir '21 added two in the loss.

Team chemistry on full display in multiple Crew wins in Lowell

The Colby crew teams set out for Lowell, Massachusetts to take on Coast Guard, UMass Lowell, and Amherst this past Saturday. The women's First Varsity Eight had a fantastic day on the water as they beat Coast Guard by five seconds to advance to the Grand Final against Amherst. In the final, Colby crushed the Mammoths and won with a time of 6:19.6.

The men's First Varsity Eight lost their heat against Coast Guard by just 0.8 seconds and were relegated to the Petite Final against Amherst, who they beat by 28.5 seconds.

The women's Second Varsity Eight was also able to get a victory, coming back to beat Amherst by a margin of just 0.5 seconds. The men's Second Varsity Eight also had a close race, but this time Coast Guard came out on top, winning the race by 2.6 seconds.

Finally, in the Third Varsity Eight races, the women crossed the line second, while the men's team got a win against Coast Guard, as they won the race by 0.7 seconds.

Baseball competes in second conference series

Colby Baseball travelled down to Hartford this past weekend to take on Trinity in a three-game series. Despite holding onto a 0-0 tie through five innings, the Mules gave up eight runs in the next three innings. They were unable to generate offense to combat the hot bats of the Bantams, and ended up losing 8-0.

On Saturday, the Mules struck first, with Will Phillips '20 hitting a two-run homer in the fifth. However, Trinity struck back in the sixth, scoring four runs. Trinity would maintain this score through the rest of the game, eventually winning 4-2.

In the second game on Saturday, both teams were quiet until the fifth. In the top of the inning, Colby's Matt Mitchell '19 hit an

RBI double and Chris Romano '21 hit a two-run homer. However, the Bantams scored five runs in the bottom of the fifth to claim the lead. Both teams continued to score, and Colby entered the ninth down 9-5. The Mules were able to score three runs and advance the tying run to third, but ultimately fell short of pulling off the comeback.

Softball drops five games in difficult weekend

The Mules' Softball team hosted Bowdoin on Friday, and then made the trip to Brunswick on Saturday to complete the three game series. On Friday, the game was scoreless until the fifth inning, when Bowdoin put up seven runs in the bottom due to a couple Colby errors. Both teams scored once in the sixth, and Bowdoin won 8-1.

On Saturday in Brunswick the Mules scored quickly off of an RBI by Lolo Niemiec '21. However, Bowdoin answered by scoring four runs in the top of the second. Colby was able to cut the lead to just one, but in the seventh Bowdoin scored five more runs to win the game 9-3.

In the second game of the day, both teams started strong, with each recording two runs in the first, including a solo home run by Niemiec. Colby scored twice again in the second and added a run in the third to take a 5-2 lead. Both teams scored twice in the fourth, but Bowdoin shut Colby out for the rest of the game and scored four more runs to eventually win 8-7.

The Mules also hosted University of Maine-Farmington (UMF) on Sunday. In the first game, UMF won a very low scoring game 3-0. In the second game, UMF gained a one run lead in the second, but the Mules tied it up in the fourth. However, UMF would score three runs in both the fourth and fifth innings to regain the lead for good, and Colby eventually fell 7-3, though Niemiec was able to hit her second home run of the weekend.