

Student protest delays football game, sparking campus controversy

By *MILO LANI-CAPUTO*
News Editor

On Oct. 2, the homecoming football game was interrupted by a student-led protest. During the national anthem, 30-40 students walked out onto Seaverns field and occupied it.

The protesters were a group of frustrated students who called themselves One Colby. They had put up fliers around campus with a QR code linking to their website, onecolby.com, which they say they set up in 48 hours.

“We had walked over to the field,” one protester told *The Colby Echo* in an interview with some of the One Colby activists. “And before we decided to go on the field, we had handed out fliers with the QR code of our web-

site to parents and to other spectators.”

The One Colby website was an anonymous list of demands related to racism, lack of mental health support, housing, dining, and much more.

“At the national anthem, we went on the field, and we occupied the field ... Immediately, once spectators were aware of what was going on ... people were yelling at us,” a protester recounted. They claimed that the protesters were the targets of racist and violent statements as they occupied the field and that football players were aggressive towards them.

Colby Football’s head coach and captain have not responded to requests for comment.

The protesters were ap-

proached by several athletic officials, all the while being booed by people in the crowd. They decided to sit down on the field, they said, to emphasize the peaceful nature of their protest.

“Fifteen minutes in, Dean Karlene [Burrell-McRae ’94] came on the field and immediately started talking to the three of us [at the front],” they went on. “Dean Karlene was essentially saying ‘you have a right to protest ... but this is against the student handbook because you’re disrupting college operations.’”

The protesters said that they were aware of the college protest policy, and one of their demands is for a more specific policy that outlines what kinds of protests are permitted.

“I do believe in a right to protest and I know the College believes in the right to protest,” Burrell-McRae told *The Colby Echo*. “We are an educational institution. We have a right to disagree. We have a right to express our views in which we don’t always agree. I do know protests are meant to be disruptive ... I also understand, though, that we have made a decision as a college that the right to protest can’t supersede the right for people to be fully engaged.”

She went on to describe her immediate response to the protest.

“A number of deans and other staff and I split up to walk around, and essentially what I shared with the students was that I think they were courageous — they chose to protest — they have a right to protest, but they don’t have a right to disrupt the game, and I would be happy to walk off the field with them and sit down and go through all their demands ... and you have a right to stay on the field ... but if you stay on the field you are putting yourself at risk to possibly be suspended or expelled ... and if they choose not to leave the field, I was likely going to have to call the police,” she said.

The protesters said that, as a group including many Black and brown students, the fear of a police encounter motivated most of them to evacuate the field.

They said the last protester left after about an hour, after which the game resumed.

“We did have fans come up to us at the end of the demonstration telling us ‘thank you,’ because they saw the validity of the demonstration and ... our demands,” a protester said.

The following Monday, Burrell-McRae and Provost Margaret McFadden sent an email to the College responding to the protest and confirming the College’s protest policy. They noted in the email that “this protest was not the culmination of ongo-

ing conversations with these students.”

Protesters told *The Colby Echo* that they found the email insulting. They felt that the alleged racism and aggression they faced were being ignored rather than condemned, and that the record of student activism relating to One Colby’s demands was being erased.

An Advise the Deans event was previously scheduled for the following Wednesday.

“We were going to have the dean’s conversations this week,” Burrell-McRae said. “I started those with Margaret [McFadden] years ago ... [for] students to be able to know they have access to those who are helping to make decisions on their behalf.”

The event began relatively calmly, but turned adversarial when students began shouting at the dean, according to a student in attendance. Burrell-McRae told *The Colby Echo* that she addressed students’ concerns to the best of her abilities, but could not speak to whether or not the students were happy with her answers.

Later in the week, some protesters felt unsafe on campus, presumably because of their role in the protest. They said that they faced intimidation by football players in Dana while eating dinner.

“I didn’t feel comfortable calling any of my deans,” one protester said. Some protesters, they added, have started using a buddy system to walk around campus because they don’t feel safe going out alone. Another protester said they only leave their room to go to class and the Pugh Center.

The protesters said they are now working with trusted faculty and administrators. On Saturday, Oct. 9, the College’s English department released a statement in response to the demonstration.

“What we’re hearing suggests that the students

involved in the protest are feeling vulnerable and could use our support, both as faculty and as a department that’s committed to free expression and inclusivity,” Associate Professor of English Aaron Hanlon said.

Burrell-McRae expressed concern about tensions between students and the assumptions they might make.

“People can’t walk around assuming that every Black and brown student was or was not [at the protest],” she said. “That is not fair. There were also white students who were at the protest ... I think students are feeling that folks are just making assumptions that they participated or didn’t participate, and I think we need to think about that as a community.”

However, she remained optimistic about the future and what is possible if students are open to coming together.

“It is so easy for people to forget that human beings are at the center of this,” Burrell-McRae said. “Our students who protested are human beings and they’re members of our community. The football players are ... members of the community. The coaches who put in the work, the faculty who put in the work, the staff, we are all part of a community.”

“Can we stop and think, is the post we’re about to put on Yik Yak going to help or cause harm?” she asked, referencing the app through which rumors and commentary on the protest have spread.

The protesters said that they think the situation has gotten worse since the protest, and hope the administration will address the situation to their satisfaction. They are also anticipating disciplinary action, though they said that none has been taken yet.

One Colby is currently editing their website, adding a section dedicated to sexual misconduct. They welcome student feedback.



SONIA LACHTER

The name One Colby is a dig at the signs bearing the same words which claim “we are all Colby.”

Financial aid gift to fund students from Waterville and Bangor

By *KRISTEN SHEN*
News Reporter

The College announced on Oct. 4 that it received a seven million dollar gift to expand financial aid for local students. The gift comes from the George G. Petrikas Revocable Trust.

The gift will establish the George G. Petrikas Financial Aid Fund, designed to provide financial aid for high school graduates from Bangor and Waterville who enroll at the College.

If, in a given year, no students from Bangor or Waterville meet the requirements for the fund, financial aid will then be extended to students from Kennebec, Penobscot, or Somerset counties. If again no students

meet the criteria, the fund will be extended to any students who have graduated from Maine highschools.

The donor, George Petrikas, graduated from the College in 1956. He grew up in Bangor and attended Bangor High School before earning a bachelor’s degree in history from Colby. While at the College, Petrikas was on the track team.

Petrikas was a prominent member of his local community, helping run his family’s two restaurants in Bangor. Additionally, he served in the military in the 1950’s. Petrikas passed away in 2019 at the age of 85.

Donations like this allow the College to increase affordability for local students

and enable the school to enroll the most talented students of all backgrounds.

“Increasing access for talented students from Maine, particularly those from our local communities, is extremely important to the College,” Vice President and Chief Institutional Advancement Officer Matt Proto said in an article posted by the College. “Colby has a long history with and commitment to Waterville, central Maine, and the broader state. This gift allows us to continue to expand opportunities for great students in those areas to benefit from the distinctive elements of a Colby education.”

In 2017, the College began its Dare Northward campaign.

One of the initiatives of the campaign is greater access and affordability for students of all social, cultural, and geographic backgrounds.

Since the campaign began, more than sixty-three million dollars have been raised for financial aid. Sixteen million dollars have been raised specifically to support students from Maine.

Conrad Ayers ’23 is a student from Waterville. He thinks that the donation will have a positive effect on the College’s ability to enroll students from the local community.

“People from Waterville and Bangor, I would say, on average are probably less well-off than other places in the world, so that would pose a prob-

lem to going to Colby, but this fund will help with that,” Ayers said.

Colby is currently one of a small number

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“If a student’s family has a total income

of \$65,000 or less, approximately the median household income in the U.S., and assets typical of that range, the College guarantees a parent or guardian contribution of \$0,” the College’s financial aid website reads. “For families earning up to \$150,000 with assets typical of that range, Colby’s Fair Shot Fund ensures the parent or guardian contribution will be capped at \$15,000.”

The College’s investment in financial aid for students who have demonstrated need makes a Colby education accessible to most families. Based on the latest statistics from the U.S. Census bureau, Colby is often a more affordable option than comparable public institutions.

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Colby students adjust their study abroad plans due to COVID-19

By **KRISTEN SHEN**
News Reporter

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has caused many countries to restrict international travel. One effect of this pandemic is the cancellation of some study abroad programs for college students this year.

Study abroad opportunities generally happen during a student's junior year. To prepare to participate in a specific program, Colby students have to plan ahead by attending study abroad information sessions in the beginning of sophomore year, searching for target programs, and consulting academic advisors and staff from the College's Office of Off-Campus Study. They then must complete the online application process and answer essay questions.

Connor Jones '23 initially applied and was admitted to an abroad program through the Institute for Study Abroad (IFSA). In early August, Jones was notified by IFSA about its decision to cancel all Australia programs, including his program at the University of Melbourne in the spring semester, because of the ongoing pandemic.

"Initially I was kind of disappointed after preparation and application I have [sic] done," Jone said.

IFSA offered two options: deferring the program to a different year or selecting an alternative program for the same semester.

"I consider[ed] both options, but studying abroad in [sic] the junior year makes the most sense," he said.

Jones is considering changing his program and instead applying to the University of Edinburgh in Scotland for his junior spring semester.

Another student, Wendy Wei '23, resumed her classes at the College after her study abroad program in Japan was cancelled. While there is a possibility to study abroad next year, Wei decided to stay in Waterville.

"As a studio art student, I have my senior capstone project to complete," Wei explained. "By the time of April, I need to physically have my portfolio ready for the exhibition, so I don't think I can do that."

At the same time, she is waiting for the updated information about the program in the spring

since she is registered for the whole academic year.

"Even if I do not get to go there in the end, I have finally reconciled [it] with myself," Wei said.

"When I rationalized everything, probably it is of my best interest to stay at Colby for now," she added.

Nancy Downey, the College's Director of Off-Campus Study,

clarified the status of study abroad at-large.

"Very few programs have been cancelled," Nancy Downey told *The Colby Echo* via email.

"[It is] just in countries that have border restrictions due to COVID-19. [For example,] Australia, [New Zealand], and Japan. Many students plan to study abroad in [spring] 2022 in many

other destinations, and we have 83 students on off-campus experiences, mostly abroad, during this semester."

Studying abroad can be a valuable college experience, allowing students to hone their language skills, broaden horizons, and embrace different cultures. For sophomores interested in studying abroad next year, the

situation is comparatively more optimistic.

They have already attended the information session and study abroad fair, and according to the off-campus study program, the next step is to submit the statement of intent before November 15.



MILO LANI-CAPUTO

Due to cancellations of off-campus study programs, some students will unexpectedly remain on campus for their junior year.

First-year orientation experience approaching normalcy after COVID-19 induced changes

By **MAURA THOMPSON**
News Reporter

A little over a year ago, following a nearly six month break from in-person learning, Colby and many other institutions took on the challenge of welcoming students back to campus. Administrators spent months developing comprehensive COVID-19 protocols and redesigning campus life.

This included changing the way students interacted in the classroom, discouraging off-campus travel, limiting the size of events and gatherings, and offering to-go containers in the dining hall. These protocols, along with the rigorous testing and contact-tracing programs, allowed students to continue learning in-person, engaging with their peers, and living on campus.

Although the College avoided the large COVID-19 outbreaks that other institutions grappled with, the uncertainty surrounding the pandemic and looming possibility of an outbreak prevented last year's first-year class from experiencing important programs such as COOT.

This year, the College welcomed over 600 first-years to Mayflower Hill with a new game plan. As near-

ly the entire student body is vaccinated

This year, Colby welcomed over 600 first-years to Mayflower Hill with a new game plan.

against COVID-19, administrators hoped to provide a more comprehensive orientation experience to better prepare new students for the upcoming academic year.

The Class of 2025 moved in Aug. 31 for Orientation and COOT. Both of these programs are aimed to help new students bond with their classmates and become familiar with campus before classes begin.

This year's orientation program lasted three days before students departed for COOT on Sept. 3. Orientation included events such as meetings with the Dean of Studies and Academic Success teams, an introduction to mental health resources on campus, a Grit n' Wit obstacle course, conversations about sexual misconduct, and fun activities such as

an ice cream social and bingo night.

Meals with their Community Advisors and meetings with various administrators gave first-years the chance to ask questions about dorm life, campus culture, and academic and extra-curricular opportunities.

"The Academic Success events were [very] helpful in helping me plan my goals," Anthony Neils '25 said. "I was able to [write them down] and stay organized."

Students then divided into their COOT groups and participated in a variety of activities, including a yoga retreat, camping, team-building exercises, and obstacle courses.

Students returned from COOT on Sept. 5 before continuing conversations about diversity and inclusion. The next two days were filled with optional activities such as campus and academic building tours, sports games, and outings to the Ar-

boretum and Dairy Cone.

Many first-years have expressed how helpful these programs have been to their overall social, mental, and academic well-being. Jaime Fiedorek '25 appreciated the opportunity to meet and bond with other members of her class while on her COOT trip.

"I really enjoyed it," she told *The Colby Echo*. "I had a great group of kids, people I wouldn't normally expect to meet, and I

still talk to a lot of the kids from COOT. It was a great connection because I would not have met them otherwise."

Ultimately, the improvements to these programs have helped provide the Class of 2025 with more tools and resources for their upcoming year at the College. They are now better prepared to overcome challenges they might face, more aware of the resources available on campus, and can feel supported by their classmates.



RACHEL LU

A group of first-year students on Point Lookout A play a game of Uno on the porch of the cabin one afternoon on their orientation trip.

Security Incident Report Log

Date:	Time:	Location:	Comments:
09/28/21	10:32 PM	ALFOND COMMONS	SAFETY VIOLATION
09/29/21	1:38 PM	FACILITIES LOT	THEFT
09/30/21	6:15 AM	MARY LOW	ACCIDENT
09/30/21	11:45 AM	OFF CAMPUS	THEFT
09/30/21	4:26 PM	HEIGHTS	ACCIDENT
09/30/21	12:25 AM	OFF CAMPUS	NOISE COMPLAINT
10/01/21	1:17 AM	ATHLETIC CENTER	HARASSMENT
10/01/21	3:41 AM	ALFOND APARTMENTS	UNDERAGE DRINKING (3 COUNT)
10/01/21	10:20 AM	LOT	THEFT
10/01/21	11:35 PM	COTTER UNION	UNDERAGE DRINKING
10/01/21	1:20 AM	LEONARD	UNDERAGE DRINKING
10/02/21	2:01 AM	HEIGHTS	SAFETY VIOLATION
10/02/21	3:11 AM	JOHNSON	NOISE COMPLAINT
10/02/21	1:03 PM	FOOTBALL FIELD	DISTURBANCE
10/02/21	11:31 PM	COTTER UNION	VIOLATION OF TRESPASS ORDER
10/03/21	12:20 AM	DANA	VANDALISM
10/03/21	1:26 AM	MARRINER	UNDERAGE DRINKING
10/03/21	1:34 AM	GODDARD-HODGKINS	NOISE COMPLAINT

Second annual Day of Hope raises more than \$162,000 for cancer research and patient support services

By MATT ROCHA
Local News & Features Editor

On Oct. 2, MaineGeneral's Harold Alfond Center for Cancer Care (HACCC) hosted the second annual Day of Hope, an event for cancer survivors and their families and friends to gather and celebrate. The Day of Hope combines two of the hospital's older events: Cancer Survivors Day, which honors past and current cancer patients, and the Walk for Hope, a fundraising event for the HACCC.

For a second consecutive year, the Day of Hope took place virtually to prevent a potential COVID-19 outbreak among participants as cancer patients in active treatment are considered immunocompromised. The event coordinator encouraged participants to walk through their neighborhoods or on one of the area's beautiful walking trails.

MaineGeneral Director of Marketing and Communications Joy McKenna explained MaineGeneral's decision to combine its Cancer Survivors Day and Walk of Hope. After holding Cancer Survivors Day for over two decades and the Walk for Hope for more than seventeen years, the HACCC decided that it could create a more powerful event by fusing the strengths of

the two events into one. "Combining the Walk for Hope with Cancer Survivors Day brings together the best of both events with the purpose of celebrating and honoring our cancer community, providing educational and screening opportunities and raising funds for the HACCC," she said.

In creating the Day of Hope, the HACCC was responding to the recommendations of previous participants, many of whom wanted the events to include more activities.

"We heard from our walkers, for example, that they wished the morning could last longer. Now walkers have the opportunity to join in the fun, education, hope and healing that Cancer Survivors Day participants are familiar with," McKenna explained.

In addition to a more comprehensive experience, participants can also celebrate cancer survivors with a larger group of people. By combining the two events, the HACCC has introduced two communities to each other.

"Our cancer patients and survivors get the added experience of seeing members come together to support them and preserve local cancer care. The connection between the two, some-

times separate audiences really adds value to our community," McKenna said.

She also discussed the HACCC's decision to host the Day of Hope vir-

"Our cancer patients and survivors get the added experience of seeing community members come together to support them and preserve local cancer care. The connection between the two, sometimes separate, audiences really adds value to our community."

Joy McKenna,
MaineGeneral
Director of
Marketing and
Communications

tually and the challenges that accompanied an online setting. While a virtual event prevents the spread of COVID-19, especially the infectious Delta variant, McKenna believes that it can also make it more difficult to engage participants.

"The key to making this event as meaningful for participants as we hoped was to ensure there was still engagement, which is harder to do when you cannot gather in person," she said.

To keep the community engaged, the HACCC organized a series of "pop-up" events at MaineGeneral and local businesses. These pop-ups allowed participants to show their support in-person while also minimizing contact with others, an important part of keeping the community safe.

"We had spaced out the times and locations of the pop-ups to make it easy for people to collect their participant packets, purchase gifts, and share their stories. We had great feedback from the pop-ups," McKenna said.

At the pop-ups, participants could drop off donations, retrieve their walker bib, pick up educational materials, shop the Hope Shoppe, where the HACCC sells Day of Hope merchandise, write a message

of appreciation on the HACCC Hope Wall, and take a picture in the Day of Hope photo frame. Most importantly, participants were able to meet other members of the community.

"We had a very good turn-out at each location, and thank the hosting businesses for giving us visibility with their customers and staff," McKenna said.

Alongside the pop-up events, the HACCC hosted a virtual opening ceremony on the morning of Oct. 2. This ceremony was designed to inspire participants and foster a sense of community.

"While virtual, the Day of Hope still celebrated our cancer community and supported the work and patients at the Harold Alfond Center for Cancer Care," she said.

Participants in the Day of Hope raised more than \$162,000, an astounding figure that will contribute directly to the mission of the HACCC.

"We are grateful that we have surpassed our fundraising goal," McKenna said. "Each dollar raised goes to supporting the ever-growing needs of the Harold Alfond Center for Cancer Care."

These donations will pay for technology upgrades at the HACCC and for programs that assist patients with transportation, urgent care

needs, and a variety of other issues. This money will further improve the already-excellent care that HACCC patients receive.

"We've all been touched by cancer in some way and we know the importance of having high quality cancer care close to home."

Joy McKenna,
MaineGeneral
Director of
Marketing and
Communications

"We are extremely grateful for the support of our community," McKenna said. "We've all been touched by cancer in some way and we know the importance of having high-quality cancer care close to home."

After a major success this year, McKenna is looking forward to the 2022 Day of Hope, which will hopefully bring the community back together in-person.



HAROLD ALFOND CENTER FOR CANCER CARE AT MAINEGENERAL



HAROLD ALFOND CENTER FOR CANCER CARE AT MAINEGENERAL

Some of the HACCC's staff walked to raise funds for their patients. The woman on the far right is holding a canister that contains a list of all the patients served by the HACCC.

Pop-up events, such as this one at Kennebec Savings Bank in downtown Waterville, were important fundraising and engagement tools for the Day of Hope.

Column: Finance

Trading ethics concerns continue to hinder Fed, Maine's newest industry

By CAM DYER
Columnist

Fed ethics saga continues

If the shock retirements of Robert Kaplan and Eric Rosengren '79 weren't enough

to raise major ethical concerns about the Federal Reserve's dealings, recent news about Vice Chairman Richard Clarida ought to do the trick.

Much like Kaplan and Rosengren's mandatory financial disclosure forms were

scrutinized, Clarida's forms indicate that on Feb. 27, 2020, he moved between \$1 million and \$5 million out of a bond fund into two stock funds. This was just one day before Chairman Jerome Powell made a surprise statement,

saying "[COVID-19] poses evolving risks to economic activity."

Powell also noted that the Fed was "closely monitoring developments and their implications for the economic outlook."

Four days later, the Federal Open Market Committee cut their target for the Federal Funds rate by half a percentage point, citing the risks Powell highlighted.

Current public scrutiny into Fed officials' ethics — in addition to concerns of continued overly-accommodative monetary policy — has raised even more debate as to whether President Biden will reappoint Powell, whose term expires in Feb. 2022.

"The pandemic was spreading quickly and the economic outlook was evolving rapidly," Andrew Levin, a Dartmouth College professor and former special advisor to the Fed's Board, commented. "That was not the appropriate time for top Fed officials to be making multi-million dollar changes to their portfolios."

Yet again, the topic of material nonpublic information comes to mind. I cannot seem to shake the same sentiments I had concerning Kaplan and Rosengren. Regardless of the present legality of such actions, why are members of the Federal Reserve Board, Congress, or any powerful public official able to actively trade, given the level of information they have access to?

Maine in the early stages of yet another boom

From a historical lens, Maine's economy has been

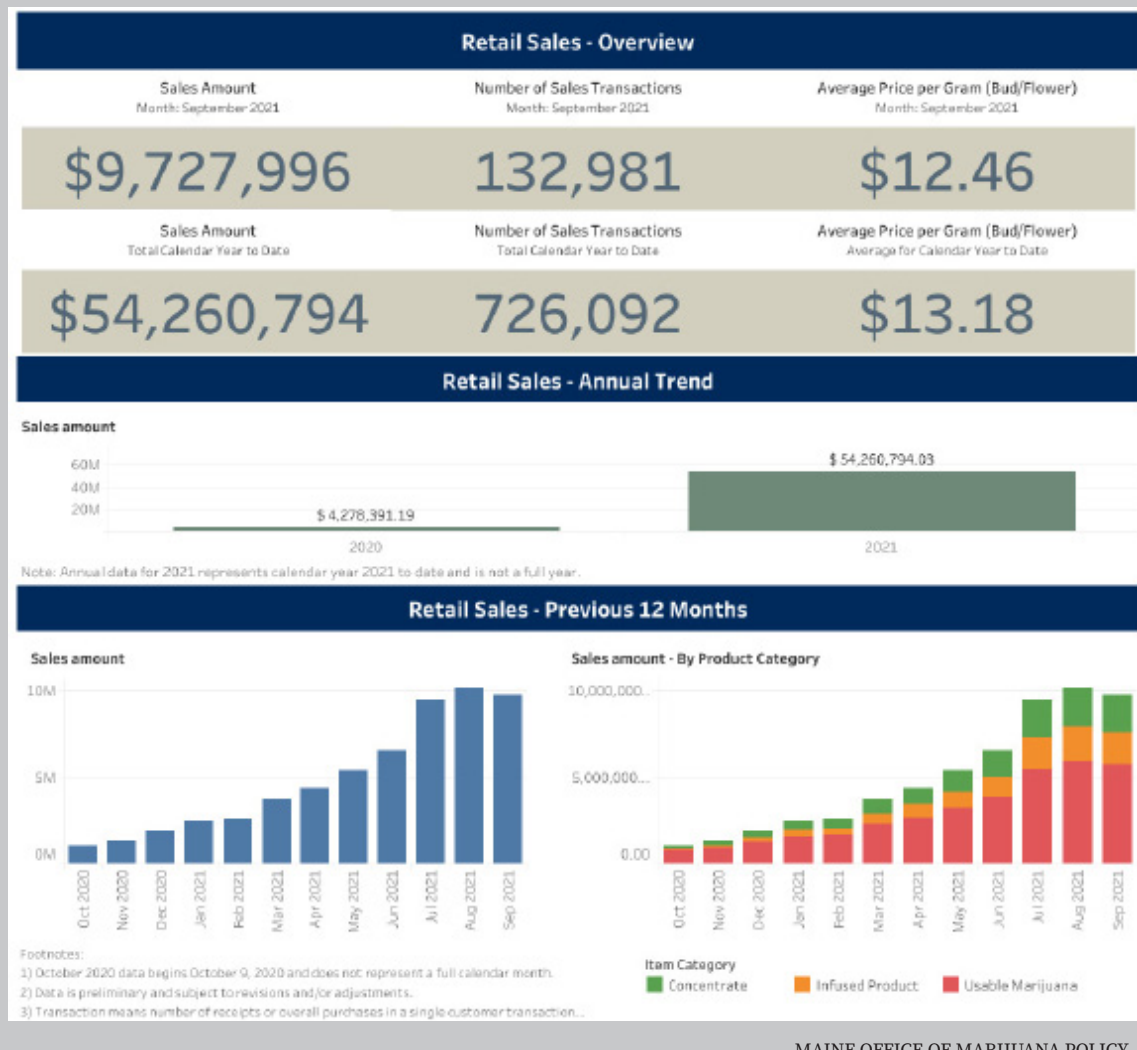
that of boom and bust. From shipbuilding and granite-making to fishing and blueberry harvesting, Mainers have shifted their fortunes from one bonanza to the next. The newest gold rush could very well be the most controversial.

Maine's recreational cannabis industry reported \$58.5 million in sales in the one year following the Oct. 2020 opening, according to the Maine Office of Marijuana Policy. With over 788,000 transactions at an average price of \$13.18 per gram and 11 consecutive months of record sales, Maine's newest cash crop has exceeded all expectations.

Of course, I would be remiss if I failed to mention that more than 90% of Maine towns have yet to opt-in to the sale of retail cannabis, and some have even gone as far as issuing an ordinance to restrict it.

Waterville has opted into the retail sale of cannabis, as well as the growth, manufacturing, and testing of the plant. Now nearly five years on from the key referendum that led to the legalization of cannabis for those over the age of 21 in Maine, there are currently 174 active store licenses and 157 license applications throughout the state.

Only time will tell whether cannabis can reach the level of nationwide fame that Maine industries such as lobstering have. As the oldest state in terms of population age, Maine surely could benefit from improved economic fortunes.



MAINE OFFICE OF MARIJUANA POLICY

A breakdown of retail sales one year after the opening of Maine's first cannabis shops.

A platform for the inflammatory or the constructive?

The role Yik Yak plays in campus dialogue

By AARON MILLS
Features Reporter

Recent controversies surrounding the One Colby protest have thrust Yik Yak back into the spotlight. After the app's reemergence, students and campus officials alike have debated whether the platform is truly a space suited for facilitating serious dialogue.

Gossip about the latest events are nothing new on Colby's campus; everyone has an opinion to share, from the nocturnal behavior of their neighbors to College policy. It seems only fitting that a student-dominated platform is highly opinionated by nature.

Yik Yak has become a central forum for student expression. While browsing the app one can expect to see the occasional crude jokes interspersed with humor about the mundane and sometimes awkward life at the College.

Yik Yak, most popular on college campuses during the early 2010s, returned to Apple's App Store on Aug. 16 for U.S. users, marking an end to a four-year hiatus. The platform temporarily shut down in 2017 following a sharp user base decline because of a series of harassment lawsuits and the dispersal of college students during the summer.

Although users must register with phone numbers, profiles themselves are anonymous. Users within a five-mile radius are able to interact in 200-character maximum posts within a shared forum.

Interest in Yik Yak has surged following its revival, once again becoming prominent among student bodies across the country, including here at the College.

The anonymous forum hosts a variety of discussions and is unsurprisingly no stranger to contention. In 2015, when the app was still operating, it was entangled in controversy about student-led protests against the killing of Michael Brown, an unarmed Black man.

In response to

Brown's murder, Students Organized for Black and Hispanic Unity (SOBHU), the previous name of SOBHU, held a Black Lives Matter rally that spring.

On the day of the rally, a number of racist posts responding to protestors appeared on Yik Yak. Some suggested tear-gassing to give an "authentic protestor experience," and others used racial epithets, calling student protestors "black trash."

This use of the platform drew the attention of the College administration and was met with swift condemnation from the wider Colby community, accelerating its eventual decline

Yik Yak, unlike other platforms used by the student body, such as Civil Discourse, has provided a space for an increased volume of discussion, but less incentive for personal censorship due to the anonymous nature. This has led to some questioning whether it can be a forum for meaningful dialogue.

in popularity at the College.

Despite its unsavory past, people have not shied away from the app as it made its August return.

Although Yik Yak has instituted tighter post moderation policies, the platform remains relatively unfiltered, often hosting crass humor but is in general a far cry from its more inflammatory past.

One Colby, the student group expressing dissatisfaction with a variety of aspects of the College, has taken campus conversation by storm after delaying a Colby football game with its Oct. 3 protest. While some perceive the group as petulant in their

demands and others feel validated in what they see as a long-overdue voicing of their concerns, many are left attempting to make sense of everything.

Yik Yak, unlike other platforms used by the student body like Civil Discourse, has provided a space for more discussion, but with fewer incentives for personal censorship due to its anonymous nature. This has led to some questioning whether it can be a forum for meaningful dialogue, especially in the context of the One Colby controversy.

"I feel that if used properly, Yik Yak could be a great place to start these conversations because, from what I understand, you can pretty much talk about anything on there," Deekayla Thomas '23 remarked.

Thomas acknowledged that "the anonymous posts can start to devolve into bullying and less constructive conversations."

This concern was also raised by several other students who wished to remain anonymous.

"I think Yik Yak can be a constructive outlet because people can give their unfiltered opinion," one user said.

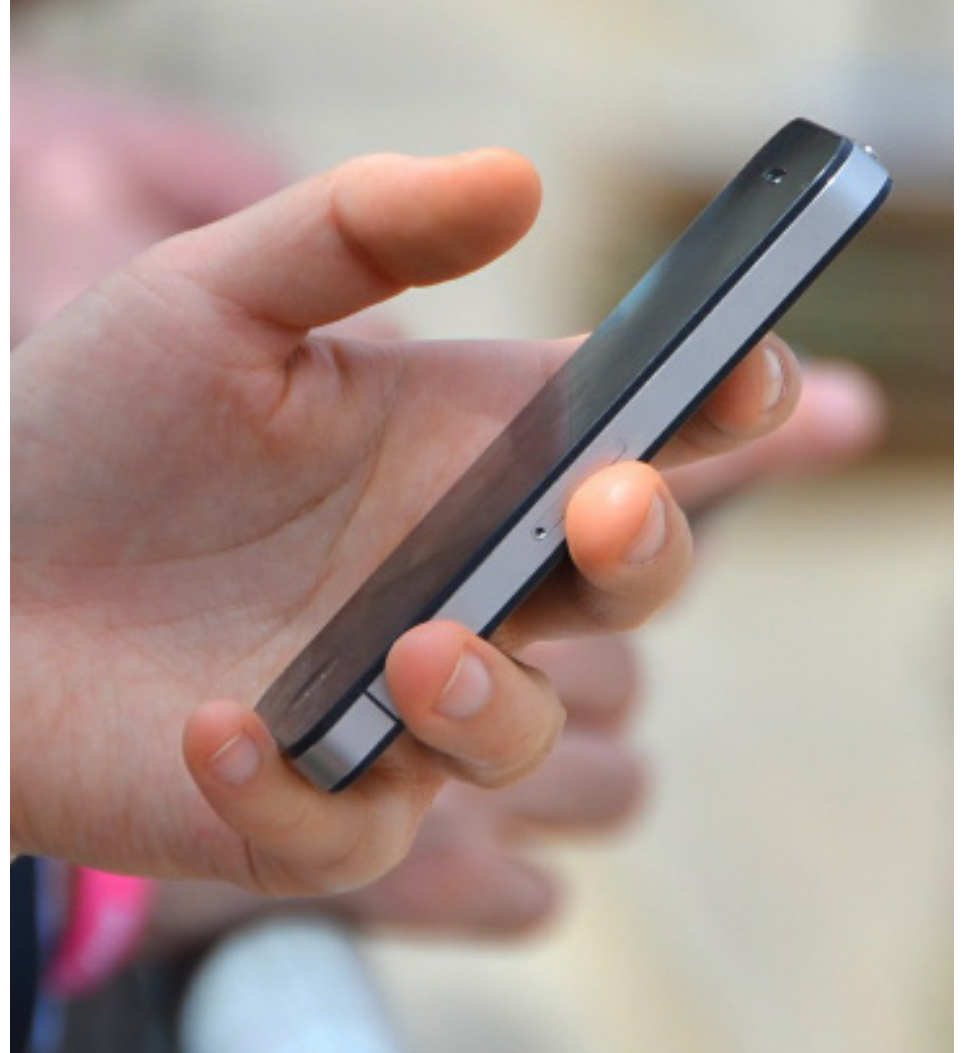
When asked if Yik Yak could serve as an agent of change for the One Colby movement, most students believed the platform alone is insufficient but could be the beginning of in-person dialogue.

However, this mindset has brought into question whether informal Yik Yak posts could contribute to serious conversations.

"I feel Yik Yak is meant to be a pretty non-serious space, so I'm not sure it would even be the right idea to begin addressing such important topics on it," one user said.

Some did believe that the platform's 200-character limit encouraged more concise exchange and an ability to critically engage on a deeper level.

"I've spoken with a lot of people about it, and I appreciate being able to see things be critiqued in an unrestricted manner, but that is bound to a



FLICKR

Yik Yak has given students a convenient, low-effort way to voice complaints and critiques. Its casual style has stirred debate over the platform's ability to effect real change.

limit which encourages more conscious use of text space to say something important," a student said.

"The nature of [Yik Yak] and constraints placed on post size can help people be concise, but it also shows why these conversations need to take place in-person," another anonymous user explained. Some remarked that the format encourages simplistic thinking, leaving little room for nuance and more opportunity for what one user called "vapid posting," which they described as attention-seeking.

Many were quick to note how Civil Discourse's format invites more members of the community to weigh in, including faculty, a critical factor in the success of any campus-wide reform effort.

Yik Yak's use by students has widened the perceived disconnect many feel between the student body and administration when it comes to critical dialogue. This gap may only fuel tensions

between the two as cries for understanding grow louder from proponents and detractors alike amid the One Colby controversy.

"I appreciate being able to see things be critiqued in an unrestricted manner, but that is bound to a limit which encourages more conscious use of text space to say something important."

Anonymous
Colby student

In addition, many feel the app simply reinforces prior-held convictions instead of creating dialogue.

Yik Yak gives users the ability to upvote or downvote posted

content, meaning in some cases posts that receive a large enough proportion of downvotes are automatically removed.

Critics have scrutinized this feature as an effort by Yik Yak to relinquish direct moderation responsibility, preferring instead to outsource moderation to communities and algorithms.

But critics most frequently cite how this can shut down meaningful discussions, unlike a space such as Civil Discourse, where users cannot vote to remove posts.

"[Yik Yak] further solidifies people's views on One Colby and it can facilitate some aggression — I don't think it moves us forward because everyone feels defensive," one user remarked.

Yik Yak's role going forward is uncertain. Yet its ability to host a spectrum of passions, anxieties, and frustrations we all hold is undeniably clear. All of us have a role to play in shaping how we communicate because platforms won't do it themselves.

Column: Rita's Rambles



MARYRITA CURCIO

Maryrita Curcio '22 moved to Hawaii for the spring semester.

Surfing in Paradise

By MARYRITA CURCIO
Columnist

Since this is my first lifestyle column, let me tell you about my life from this past summer.

No, I didn't climb Mount Everest or run with the bulls, or even enter the hot dog eating contest on Coney Island.

I took up surfing in Hawaii.

Why Hawaii? Why not? It's Paradise Found. I mean, how many places in the world can you wake up to the mingled fragrance of Bougainvillea, orchids and oleander, to the hypnotizing sound of the Pacific lapping the shoreline, to a view of a clear, vibrant blue sky? It's hard to believe a day could begin in such sensuous tranquility.

I went to Hawaii because when Colby cancelled my semester abroad, I decided to take matters into my own hands. Nothing ventured, nothing gained, right?

I flew to Honolulu and found a roommate on Facebook Marketplace. I worked in a small coffee shop where I served locals who sported cool outfits and tourists who wore Hawaiian shirts and asked about the best snorkeling spots.

One morning while standing by the beach in Waikiki, I became mesmerized watching

the surfers. It seemed as if they were gliding on a dream, shifting directions, above and below the water, invisible for moments, then triumphantly reappearing.

Their movements were dazzling, graceful, and fluid.

Some of these surfers came into my coffee shop, where I chatted with them as I made their drinks. They all smiled. Big white teeth. Thick black hair. Buffed bods. All so gloriously tanned, I felt like a human marshmallow in their midst.

They asked me if I surfed and I told them I was dying to learn, and they happily agreed to mentor me.

I soon found myself far out in the ocean surrounded by surfers. I got thumbs up. Fist pumps. Salutes. I waited, and waited. Finally a big wave came. I gulped. Inhaled. Exhaled. I tried to stand upright on the board. I was wobblier than a tightrope walker. The wave rolled over me. I quickly fell off the board. With no net to catch me, I hit the water hard.

My next attempts were no better. I'd pop up from the water, hair a mess with all the other surfers confidently sitting on their boards, some smiling and some shaking their heads telling me the next one will be "the one."

Despite my embarrassment, I

kept at it. I kept pep talking myself with the silly and overused clichés like "when the going gets tough, the tough get going" and "if at first you don't succeed, try, try again."

I did keep trying and trying. For hours. Finally, it happened: a wave came. I got upright. I went cruising' without a bruise. Riding like the wind.

I gotta tell you, fellow students: The Beach Boys were so right when they sang "catch a wave and you're sitting on top of the world."

Surfing is that exhilarating, a high so thrilling, so exciting, it feels like you can never get that rush again.

Now, obviously, I'm back at Colby. I miss Hawaii. I miss the fruit, the fish, and the friends.

But it's great to be back on campus, attending class, playing backgammon, watching games, going to parties. Going away made me appreciate all that Colby has to offer. Colby, despite its flaws, is a special place and sometimes leaving makes the heart grow fonder, which is what happened to me.

So go travel, make everyday an adventure and then bring that newfound happiness back to the College and make your remaining Colby career the most memorable yet.

About the artist: Sam Nester's Greene Block + Studios installation "Arcadia"

By MOLLY GEORGE
A&E/Opinions Editor

Sam Nester, a multimedia artist and musician, created an inaugural installation called "Arcadia" for Greene Block + Studios. The immersive construction includes potted and planted foliage surrounded by wood chips, with a pristine path on the hardwood floor.

Throughout the exhibition, branches stand in as trees, potted plants have grown, a bush is flowering, and subtle details such as a bird's nest glow in the sunshine streaming through the windows facing Main Street.

The calm space contains pieces of the Perkins Arboretum in September.

"Everything inside that space was indeed outside in the woods surrounding Waterville, but somehow it seems different now that it is recontextualized inside the downtown space," Nester said.

Greene Block + Studios was designed for experimental projects that bring people together to share, study, and celebrate the arts. This use of the space is creatively contradictory, according to the artist.

"The inside has offered me a frame to host the outside world as art," Nester said.

It is the latest in a series of Nester's experimental nature-based installations

unique to their locations, including a Manhattan greenhouse, a Tasmanian rainforest, a New York City gallery, and a display at George Mason University.

Each project involves an intense focus on the local natural landscape surrounding the display.

"All versions of the installation have been unique, utilizing the changing location to help inspire each outcome. Similar to the version currently living at Greene Block + Studios, these installations often feature local native plants that create the constant stream of sound and light that audiences experience," Nester explained.

The experiential exhibit includes sound, light, video, plants, and technology in a closed space. Nester sought to create "a passive experience of the Perkins in late summer, while Arcadia acts as a physical trail walk, as if bringing the meandering experience of the arboretum from the outside in."

The repotted forest invites perusing like an art exhibit and can provide a small outdoorsy stroll with added contemplation.

The format is meant to shift the audience's experience of the outdoors by placing familiar trees and greenery in a startling setting. It is a unique and original format for visit-



TYLER FRENCH

A view out toward Main Street shows one wall of "Arcadia" with potted native plants in the foreground as part of the installation.

ing a forest.

"Bringing the natural environment inside changes our experience of it, makes us more aware of it, and offers us a moment of recalibration to perceive it in a new way," Nester elaborated.

While a nature walk is a lovely way to reset outdoors, the convenience of an indoor forest floor in the middle of downtown Waterville should appeal to busy students and residents. The installation borrows the structure and style of the arboretum, a familiar favorite outdoor space on campus.

In order to relocate a piece of the arboretum indoors, the installation's technology creates a peaceful environment echoing nature, and amplifies the sounds of a stream, birds, frogs and insects inhabiting the woods.

The most technical addition is the sonification of the local forest's native plants, or, more simply, an audible interpretation of the plants' inner processes. Nester explained how the biodata is converted in a digital audio workstation called Ableton Live.

Recordings of the native plants' biorhythms fill the space with synthetic electronic forest sonification, or the sounds of the functions of living plants. An eight-speaker audio system lets sound flow through the space and fills it from all directions with whimsical tones representing the plants. The resulting show surrounds the audience in an immersive environment, not

simply an art installation.

For an added ethereal element, changing colorful lights fill the bright room. The artist calls it "an ever-changing ephemeral effect, and spatially unique experience."

Sam Nester, and Sarah Fagg on staff in the Arts Office at Greene Block + Studios.

Nester envisioned the purpose of the exhibition as "bringing the environment from the background around us into the foreground at a critical time for environmental awareness."

It is certainly a space for environmental contemplation. The clean industrial building on busy Main Street contrasts the organic pause this installation provides.

Nester assembled "Arcadia" as a space to bring the serenity and natural elements people seek outdoors into an arts space, to connect anyone in the community who visits, and to inspire the artistic mind with an indoor environment of nature.

"By taking inspiration from the natural environment that is readily available to Colby students, staff, faculty, and the Waterville community, and hosting it as the centerpiece of an artistic experience, my hope is that visitors will spend time in quiet contemplation, reflecting on their own relationship to the natural world," Nester said.

"Arcadia" is open to the public 11a.m.-7p.m. from Sept. 28 - Oct. 29 in the lobby of 18 Main Street.

"Bringing the natural environment inside changes our experience of it, makes us more aware of it, and offers us a moment of recalibration to perceive it in a new way."

Sam Nester
Artist

"My hope is that visitors will spend time in quiet contemplation, reflecting on their own relationship to the natural world."

Sam Nester
Artist

It is a seasonal exhibition, and a lot of the labor and design involved collaboration with Teresa McKinney, Diamond Family Director of the Arts at Colby, who commissioned



TYLER FRENCH

Flowers recently bloomed for the first time in the installation.

"Madeleines," a review: performance and process of play-making

By JENNA BOLING
A&E Reporter

Typically when people attend a play, they make an entire evening out of it, most often spending an hour or two in preparation, grooming their hair and tossing around their clothes in search of the spiffiest outfit they can find. As for the play itself, there's usually an air of stress among those working on and off the stage, ensuring everything goes according to plan.

Deviating from this usual play protocol, director of "Madeleines," visiting lecturer in the theater and arts department Bess Welden, opened up her play-in-progress to the Colby community on Oct. 3 in Runnals to receive constructive criticism and feedback from students at the College.

Standing up on the dimly lit stage, three actresses in everyday jeans and t-shirts hovered closely over their individual podiums, scripts in hand and eyes lingering over the stack of unfinished pages.

The play rehearsal was not, however, a disappointment as one might assume given the lack of costumes, backdrops, and props.

The actresses passionately embodied their roles, going further than expected to provide the audience with a window of insight into the process of play-making.

Centering around a family of Jewish women who learn to properly

love and care for one another in spite of their shared and tormented past, the emotional play strung the audience along for one and a half hours of sensational yet heart-

Far from disappointing, the actresses passionately embodied their roles, going further than expected to provide the audience with a window of insight into the process of play-making.

wrenching content.

Actress Janice O'Rourke perfectly filled the role of her character Debra, a struggling food writer who returned to her childhood home to care for her mother Rose who, although an outstanding baker, was a rather difficult and closed-off individual (to put it nicely).

Carrying herself with such a casual but nonetheless profound presence on stage, O'Rourke made for a very convincing

Debra.

As Rose's health deteriorated in the beginning of the show, the emotion of the play escalated quickly, leaving the audience unsure how the script could take things any further.

Surprisingly, Welden managed to create several more emotional escalations throughout as Debra and her sister uncovered several mysteries and secrets about the family's past during the play following Rose's recent death.

Upon Rose's passing, Debra's older sister Jennifer arrived in town for the funeral, stirring in her old feelings of jealousy and resentment given Jennifer's lifelong record of anomalous accomplishment.

The two spend their days in bouts of bickering while baking together again. They slowly start to bond over memories surrounding their childhood and strained relationships with their exceptionally stubborn mother and her language of baking.

They recalled when she was proud of the girls as children and how she would, instead of saying the words, always provide the girls with cookies. Though annoyed that Debra's sister's track record with success warranted her more cookies, the girls ultimately rejoiced in those memories together.

Three years later, when Debra returns to her home in New York City to promote her cookbook, she finds an emotionally wrecked Jennifer in her

home. The women must repair their relationship once more.

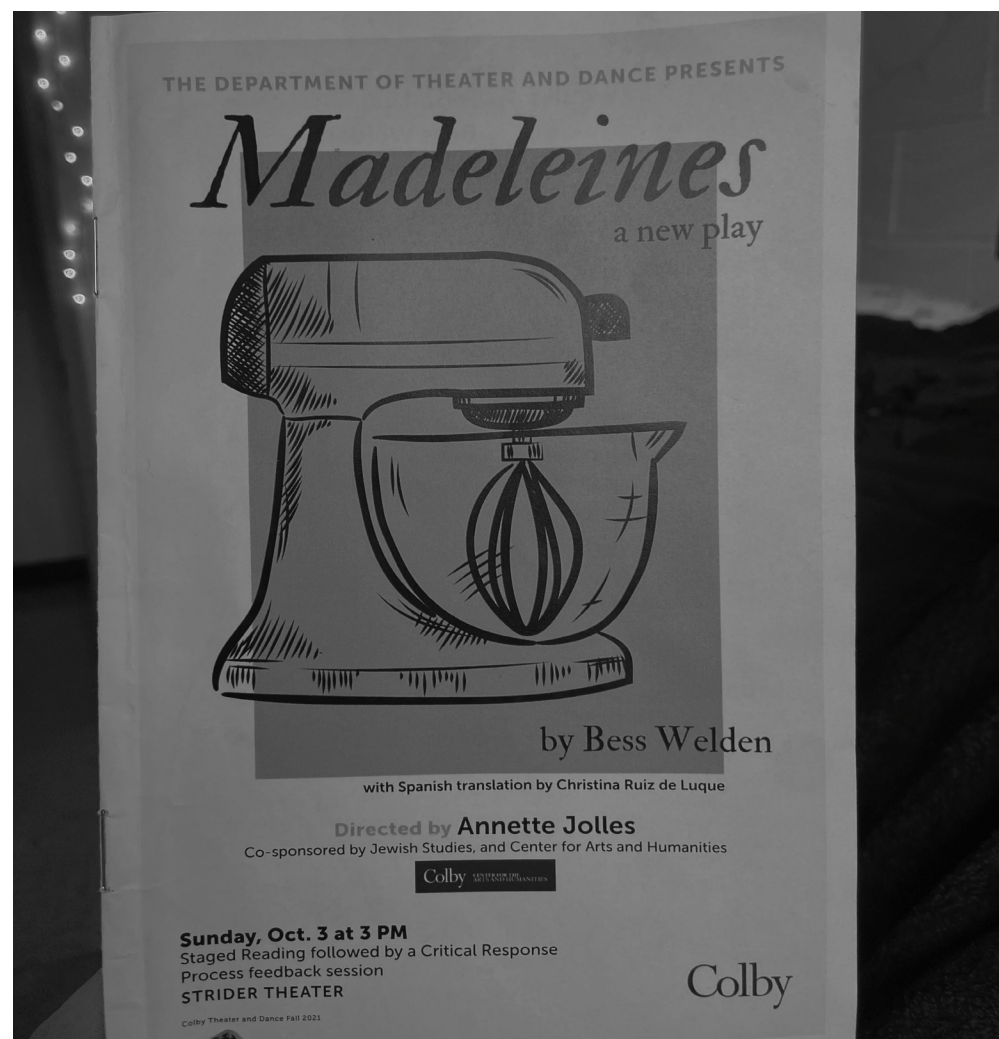
The play's overarching themes of loss, love, family ties, and baking offered a realistic portrayal of a family dynamic with its many ups and downs followed by reparative mechanisms, like baking in this case. The rivalry

between the girls, in particular, showed the reality of sibling relationships and how they carry over into adulthood, but also how only siblings can truly relate to one another as they've endured the same past.

"Madeleines," being the theater production that it is, had several scenes of

displayed emotion and inspiring acting, so the story engaged the audience.

Bess Welden, the playwright, has received accolades and awards for past plays. She has been a teaching artist at the College since 2010, and she will continue working to develop "Madeleines" as a play.



JENNA BOLING

The "Madeleines" playbill features a stand mixer, perfect for baking madeleine cookies.

Poetry Column

What is success?

By **MAAHEEN SHAIKH**
Columnist

What is success?
Is it worth this
Unrest?
These sweaty palms
And
This overactive heart; I
Nervously bite
My fingers and savor
The pain
Just because it
Keeps me awake —
What is success?
Is it worth this
Unrest?
Drooping lids and
Dry, blue lips;
I'd meant to sleep, I'd meant to eat
I'd meant to drink but it just
Slipped
My mind because I
Can barely walk in a straight line; for
The only thought
That marinates
In my brain is of all of the work
I have on my plate
All the work
That is already late
All the work
I do all day
That I can never finish
Because it never goes away
What is success?
Is it worth this
Unrest?
Will I get out of this mess with
My shoulders still attached to my head?
Will I obtain a diploma
Without permanent indents
Underneath my eyes and
Mangled hands?
Is any of this even
Making a shred of sense?
Or will I laugh

When I read this four years from now, will I be amused by how weak I'd been?

I penned this shadow of a poem at the cusp of a mental breakdown. Being a first-year at such a selective school and out of the most selective applicant pool in that school's history felt like an accomplishment foreign to me. Upon talking to some peers, I realized that while this feeling isn't verbalized, it's something shared between a lot of us.

Quintessential questions like "do I belong?" or "will I make it?" or even "do I deserve to be here when everyone else seems so put together and I don't?" have broiled my brain this past month. Hailing from a pandemic graduating class of a high school that had been virtual since March 2020, even the simple act of physically going to class remains subconsciously jarring, and, having been in quarantine mode for so long, it's almost too easy to sideline work for social activities.

It's almost too easy to have a good time while the homework steadily compounds, it's almost too easy to rationalize my procrastination with an "I'll do it later," only to regret it when "later" comes, and I'm hit with the whiplash of all the assignments I'd assumed I'd have more time to complete.

Conversely, there have been days I've spent hours

upon hours in the library, only to have barely made a dent in my workload. I've spoken to people who pull all-nighters, shoot caffeine like whiskey, and share the same predicament — the work is never done.

Will the work ever be done? And what is success? Is it worth this unrest?

College stress is so commonplace that it seems almost too trivial a topic to write a column about — and yet, because it's so obvious, it's also left unpacked, unsaid, and unopened, like an unwanted package. However, while the aspect of stress is shared, it's essential to remember that success is subjective.

Success is, to quote the Oxford Dictionary, the "accomplishment of an aim or purpose," but that doesn't confine it to the abstract and grand. Success can be as simple as waking up in the morning or remembering to eat breakfast or drink enough water. It can be taking time to go to the gym or getting enough sleep.

It can also be attending class and completing assignments, but success is never one-and-done. It's the product of repetitive, consistent effort and represents a myriad of pursuits. It isn't meant to be easily attainable, but neither is it wholly unattainable. The fluidity of success is matched by how fervently one seeks it out.

SPB inside perspective: the final verdict on Fall Concert 2021

By **TANVI IYER**
A&E Reporter

College can be a hectic four years, but various activities and events can make it worth it. This is what the Student Programming Board (SPB) aims to do at the College. They put on different events and activities for the campus community to take part in, from bouncy castles to mini petting zoos.

The most popular SPB events are the Fall and Spring Concerts during which they bring different artists on campus to put on a performance. From Snakehips in 2018 to Chance the Rapper in 2014, some incredibly talented names have blessed Colby's campus.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 has made putting on these events much more difficult. SPB must now put the health and safety of the campus first. Last year, SPB navigated this by putting on virtual shows with comedians Colin Jost and Jay Pharoah as well as a concert with music duo Two Friends.

The Colby Echo had the opportunity to talk with Sam Fisher '22, who serves as the Chair of Concerts and Live Music for SPB.

Fisher explained SPB's basic function on campus: "We look to create programming for Colby's campus, primarily on weekend nights, so we plan events pretty much every Friday and Saturday night although we do have some sprinkled throughout the week, especially during the first and last weeks of each semester." Fisher pointed out what

makes SPB unique compared to other clubs.

"We are completely student-run, but we are affiliated with and funded by Campus Life, so we do have a faculty advisor, but the board itself is just students," he said.

This group of passionate students puts in a lot of work to plan events. Fisher described how SPB finds and contacts artists to bring to campus.

"The process usually starts particularly looking at larger shows, like the Fall and Spring Concert, even the smaller concert we did a couple weeks ago with Peach Tree Rascals," Fisher said. "That process starts probably three to four months out. We first start brainstorming, then we work with a book writing agency."

This organization helps with communication with representatives of bands and other performers. An agent is a liaison between the performer and SPB, who sends the agent a list of potential performers who would be popular among the student body.

SPB even goes the extra mile by trying to bring more than one artist for each concert.

"We will then get some quotes and figure out what is feasible, and then we will look to build a line up usually going from the top down, so looking to book our headliner first within our budget and limitations for that show, and then we will fill out the rest of the ticket. So we will usually get two to three performers for one concert," Fisher said.

SPB is notorious for its secrecy when planning highly anticipated concerts, but when posed with

the question of whether there will be a fall concert this year Fisher was pretty blunt.

"We have had a lot more COVID-[19] cases on campus than expected, so as a result we made the decision that it wouldn't be prudent for the safety of the community, not just Colby's community but the surrounding community as well. It is probably not the best idea to have a 'normal' fall concert in the ways that we have done it in the past," Fisher said.

SPB considered moving Fall Concert outside so that students would still be able to experience it.

"We did consider moving it, but given how long it takes to put all the pieces together it was a tough decision," Fisher explained.

Fisher assured students that this did not mean there won't be any events taking place in the near future.

"As you may have been

able to see, we are still planning on doing live shows on campus, so we are looking forward to planning a bunch of really fun live events even though we can't do a huge typical Fall Concert," Fisher said. "While there won't be a replacement for the Fall Concert, we are planning some really fun live music events."

When asked about plans for the Spring Concert, which typically takes place toward the end of the spring semester and is outdoors. We are moving ahead with planning Spring Concert. We are also working with Colby Music Incubator and the [Mary Low] coffeehouse to start to plan some other cool events," Fisher said.

Clearly SPB has not backed down in the face of COVID-19 and is still trying to provide Colby students with fun events to look forward to.



JOSEPH BUI

A close up shot of The Peach Tree Rascals performing in front of a crowd of Colby students.

Opinions

Life balance: a story of slowing down

By **CONRAD WEN**
Opinions Reporter

Last Friday at midnight was the due date of my mid-term philosophy paper. I planned to grab some lunch with my friend, then finish the paper that afternoon. As we were walking out of Foss, I was so concentrated on my essay that my distance grew farther and farther from my friend. Not until he shouted my name did I stop walking.

"Is your life merely walking from one point to another?" he said. "Look around us! Look at those colorful leaves! How beautiful!"

I was bewildered. "You know I have a paper due at midnight. Why are you asking me to slow down?"

Fast is certainly the main melody of our life. Fast means many things: fast decisions, fast food, events

happening fast ... I found myself always talking about two things with my friends: the taste of Colby food and running out of time.

Let's set aside the Bob's vs. Dana vs. Foss debate. One of the main reasons why I don't eat at Foss is time. I really don't have time to walk that far.

In fact, I found myself in a constant calculation of efficiency. Every morning when I wake up, I first boil some water, so while I brush my teeth and wash my face, the water boils, and then I make tea. While waiting for the tea to steep, I get dressed, pack my backpack, and make my bed. By the time I complete these activities, my tea is ready and I head out.

I was proud of my time-management skills. Upon hearing the pages of reading that I must do, my friend remarked, "How do

you manage your time?"

"Concentrate your mind on one thing, and you will obtain phenomenal results," I replied.

But concentrating my mind on one thing does not mean my life is only walking from one point to another. And I do not think that I have completely forsaken my ability to judge aesthetically.

I think my friend was wrong about what slowing down actually means.

To me, a slow-paced life means a balanced life. While working, I have my mind totally focused on my task. To relax, I play poker, watch Netflix, or go out into the wilderness. I have a schedule telling me when I should do what. I have priorities. I have a set of core values that I attend to. I center my schedule according to my priorities and values.

"But how can you enjoy life?"

The answer is balance. I'll define balance philosophically. For Taoism, Yin and Yang, two opposing forces of life, mean balance because they are interconnected and interdependent in the natural world. In music, a good song needs to have the right tempo giusto, or ideal tempo. In natural sciences, constant and changing variables are also complementary.

My friend seems to have separated the concepts of working and enjoying yourself. To him, enjoying life means not working, like taking a stroll around campus while appreciating the autumn views. But the danger is an exaggeration of relaxation.

People with the same ideas as my friend would easily fall into the rabbit hole of work life; relaxation equals life. The consequence of a simple dichotomy is that either they are not living enough, or they are living too much. Neither lifestyle is productive, creative, or energetic. Accepting work to be part of our life is essential. How is work not enjoying life?

I wish to refute my friend with another example.

Since the start of the school year, I have had coffee with my friend every Monday afternoon. Though it's relaxing, it has slowly evolved to something that resembles a work routine.

In fact, we are discussing how strange it is that we naturally define life as a constant pattern of work and non-work.

It could be metaphorically represented as a wheel, though the pattern needn't be circular in a strict sense. The key to enjoying life, I think, is to find out the correct size of your wheel and roll it at a speed you enjoy.



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ZOEY LATOUR

An artistic interpretation of student stresses during scary fall midterms.

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Colby Men's Rugby tops Bates in a thriller

By ERIK HOLM
Sports Reporter

This past Saturday, the Colby Men's Rugby team faced off against the Bates Bobcats in a high-scoring, physical, entertaining match. On a brisk fall day without a cloud in sight, the weather could not have been better for the game.

Fans showed up in numbers to this match. Although many spectators are unfamiliar with the sport, they still showed their support for the Mules. Peter Hilton '22 discussed the fan turnout. "This is really what it's all about... it's great seeing all the fans out here," Hilton said.

For the rugby team, the atmosphere clearly paid dividends in the end result.

The first half of the game went exactly as planned for the Mules. The ball stayed almost entirely in the Bobcats' half. The continuous momentum helped build a large lead and thwart any chances by the Bobcats.

"We got a lot of experience on this team. The result shows that this program has depth," Hilton said about the success in the first half.

The depth from the first half proved essential to the win. In the first half, four players scored, all using different tactics.

The first try came on a nifty passing play from Mack Fisher '22 where the right flanker received a pass and cut back against the momentum of the Bates defenders, and dove into the try zone.

The next try came by the outside center, Brett Cosby '24, who scooped up a loose ball and outran the defenders into the endzone untouched.

Overall, the Mules' success can be partly attributed to their success in the scrums. The majority of the scrums came away with the Mules in possession and left the Bobcats scrambling. Through continued attempts, the Mules wore down the opposition's defenders, which paved the way for holes to be taken advantage of.

Not only did the Mules succeed in scoring tries, but they also succeeded in their place kicks. While the Mule's half back, Steven Ditzler '22, went three for four on his attempts, the Bobcats missed both of their attempts.

At the halftime break, the Mules led 26-10. The message heading into the second half was to simplify and continue executing their already successful gameplan.

The second half started right where the first half left off. After a Mules player took a

huge hit, the left wing, Jamenard Exavier '22, ran untouched into the endzone for yet another score. This play was reflective of the entire game, with unselfish plays and teamwork driving the Mules success.

Unfortunately, one of the Mules' star players, Ryan Moore '23, suffered an injury early into the half. This void allowed the Bobcats to slowly start cutting the deficit. Hilton spoke on the impact the loss of Moore had.

"Ryan is a big pres-

ence on the team physically and emotionally. After that we lost our heads a little bit, penalties were flying," Hilton said. "I'll chalk that up to letting the emotions get the best of us. It's hard to keep a cool head when you're smacking people up for 80 minutes," Hilton said.

The frustration was evident. Multiple drives were stopped yards short of the endzone due to infractions. While the Mules struggled to keep their emotions in check,

the Bobcats regained a foothold into the game.

After multiple unsuccessful attempts, Bates finally wore down the Mules enough to score the next two tries. Holes which were not apparent in the first half surfaced, and the Mules could not stop runs down the right-hand side into the endzone.

However, the Mules kept the momentum swing in check, and ended the game with another try of their own. Another good

passing play led to another try made by the left wing, Hilton, padding the lead. As time winded down on the game, the Bobcats could not cut the deficit any closer and the Mules prevailed victorious, 38-23.

Moving to the next match, the Mules will look to build upon their successes. Their teamwork and toughness proved pivotal on Saturday, and will be a key factor in the rugby team's success in upcoming games this season.



WILL BEDINGFIELD

Colby Men's Rugby forms up in a tight defensive "scrum," getting ready to push Bates off their own offensive ball and win the day

Scores of the week

Tuesday
Field Hockey
vs. Bowdoin College
at Home
Loss
2 - 5

Tuesday
Men's Soccer
vs. Bowdoin College
at Home
Loss
1 - 2

Wednesday
Women's Volleyball
vs. Husson University
at Home
Win
3 - 1

Friday
Women's Volleyball
vs. Williams College
at Williams College
Loss
0 - 3

Saturday
Women's Soccer
vs. Williams College
at Williams College
Loss
0 - 3

Saturday
Field Hockey
vs. Williams College
at Williams College
Loss
0 - 5

Saturday
Football
vs. Williams College
at Williams College
Loss
0 - 42

Saturday
Men's Soccer
vs. Williams College
at Williams College
Loss
0 - 2

Saturday
Women's Volleyball
vs. Hamilton College
at Home
Win
3 - 0

Saturday
Men's Rugby
vs. Bates College
at Home
Win
38 - 23

Forum

SUDOKU

6						4		9
7		1			4			
4		8		7				6
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	6		2			3		
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		4	8					
					2	5		
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Colby Men's Tennis brings the heat to Bates



JULIAN CANGIETER-HERNANDEZ
Colby Men's Tennis poses for a group photo after an impressive weekend of tennis, taking their talents to Bates College in Lewiston, ME.



JOEY BARRETT
Sam Henry '24 points to his team's logo after dominating the day.

By JULIAN CANGIETER-HERNANDEZ
Sports Reporter

This past weekend, Colby Men's Tennis traveled to Bates College to play the Wallach tournament.

With a tough seeding draw and different locations for various players, the Mules found themselves spread out and tested in the early matches of the invitational.

Beginning with doubles matches, Colby lost three out of the four matches played on Saturday. Captain Max Schuermann '22 and Sam Henry '24 played a hard fought match that came down to the final points. Their Bowdoin

opponents won in an exciting tie-breaker after the 7-7 game split.

"I thought we did a good job planning our points and sticking to being aggressive and closing on the net"

Josh Kaplan '25
Team Member

First-year tandem Josh Kaplan and James Bogdanovic won their first round doubles match 8-6 against Trinity College.

"I thought we did a good job planning our points and sticking to being aggressive and closing on the net," Kaplan said.

As for singles, six out of the eight Colby players won their first round matches. Henry, Bogdanovic, Schuermann, Kaplan, Jake Cohen '25, and Sriram Das '25 all advanced.

The team played well collectively and showed great support for each other, cheering for their teammates off the courts. Henry, in particular, received extensive team support, becoming

the College's player of the weekend.

Following his dominant 6-2, 6-0 first round victory, Henry went on to destroy the number one seed in the quarterfinals 6-1 and 6-2, come back from behind and outlast his opponent in the semis 3-6, 6-3, and 11-9 third set tiebreaker, and later win a thrilling final battle 6-4, 2-6, and 10-4 third set tiebreaker.

With the entire Colby and Tufts teams watching on the sideline, Henry produced an array of precise crosscourt backhands and consistent serves, and showed off his beautiful net game. His steady play and aggressive net points earned him a championship win against a great

Tufts opponent.

Overall, the Mules bat-

Overall, the Mules battled well against tough opponents and played through tough conditions.

ted well against tough opponents and played through tough conditions. They finished this fall season with strong

advancement in competitive tournament play and will continue to improve, reflecting on the highs and lows of the season heading into the spring.

The off-season is upon these Mules and they will come back to match play even better in the spring, especially with the addition of their three upperclassmen who are currently abroad.

Looking forward, the spring season will focus on head-to-head matchups instead of tournament style play. Direct matchups will include more players than the restrictive tournaments and we will really see what these Mules are made of!

Devastator of the Week



Colby Athletics | The Colby Echo

Sam Donahue '22

Sport:
Men's Rugby

Position:
Flanker

Hometown:
Atherton, California

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By WILL BEDINGFIELD
Sports Editor

This week's Devastator of the Week is Sam Donahue of the Men's Rugby team, a leader on and off the field. During the last full season in 2020, Donahue nearly led the team in tackles but failed to find the try zone, despite starting nearly every game.

This season, Donahue is one for one. He missed out on the Mules' first game last week against Bowdoin College due to illness, but came out of the gate firing against Bates. Coincidentally, Donahue's impressive performance against Bates came on the day of his 22nd birthday.

Donahue dominated the 60 minutes of game-time he played, making tackle after tackle and contributing to two line breaks, including a try of his own. The try — Donahue's first ever career score — came in a dominant first half performance where Colby outscored Bates handily.

Donahue stayed on the field as substitutions were made and soon found himself as the last experienced player holding together a rag-tag bunch against a frightening Bates attack. Donahue led this

team to victory with bull-headedness and grit, tying together the inexperienced reserves to secure the win.

Donahue and the Mules look to continue their hot start when they face off against the University of Maine at Orono Saturday, Oct. 23. Colby Rugby is aiming for a deep playoff run, relying on experience and depth to take them to the Eastern Conference Playoffs and to Nationals in Houston, TX this winter.

During the last season in 2020, Colby Rugby made it to the Eastern Playoffs and hope to make it even farther this season. Follow along as the Mules take on Orono, University of Maine at Farmington, and host a home playoff game in the coming weeks.

Donahue took some time to discuss his most recent performance with *The Colby Echo*.

The Colby Echo (Echo): Do you have any pre-game routine?

Sam Donahue (SD): The only constant part of my routine is a pre-game redbull. However on Saturday I got an impromptu haircut from my teammate Peter. It worked pretty well, so

maybe this will have to become a tradition.

Echo: On a similar note, what do you do the night before a game, what do you eat?

SD: I don't have any pregame rituals. Normally I watch rugby highlights and try to get to bed early. I eat whatever they are serving in Foss.

Echo: What did it feel like to score your first ever try on your birthday?

SD: It was pretty fun. Good timing and nice to spend more time on the offensive side of the ball. My parents were here from California so it was extra special that they got to see.

Echo: In a fight to the death using only your bare hands, would you rather take on 100 baby-sized adults or 100 adult sized babies?

SD: 100 baby-sized adults. Hopefully their heads will still be too heavy for them to be a threat.

Echo: What is your favorite cereal and how many bowls a day?

SD: Special K, two bowls a day.

COVID-19 update for the week of October 4

By WILL BEDINGFIELD
Sports Editor

There are currently three positive cases in isolation and zero students in quarantine. Cases had been appearing one or two at a time this past week. Two are from Oct. 9 and there was one on Oct. 7. Two of these cases were faculty and staff, and the other one was a student. Seven additional positive cases have recovered, bringing the total to 43 since Aug. 16.

There was much anxiety regarding Homecoming Weekend, the annual gathering of

friends and family on Mayflower Hill, although there were fewer official events this year due to COVID-19. Despite worries, there has not yet been a visible spike in case numbers attributed to Family Weekend.

41,240 total tests have been administered, 230 (or 0.6%) of which have been inconclusive.

Members of the testing program are receiving two PCR tests per week, with available antigen testing as necessary for necessary situations.

There are 94,941 cases in Kennebec County

as of Oct. 10, according to the Maine CDC.

The College has been at the green health code level since the start of the semester. This means ordinary dining hall capacities, face masks required within dorms, increased cleaning, and face masks required for classes and common areas when students are not eating or drinking.

Athletic competitions have all gone according to schedule apart from team-specific outbreaks and fall teams are looking forward to the upcoming NESCAC playoffs.

Positive case breakdown

