

Extreme Athletes Fly Under the Radar

By Gabe Weintraub

On Wed, Sep 15, 2010

Not every Skidmore athlete plays on a varsity team. This week will see Skidmore's field hockey and women's soccer teams competing in NCAA championship tournaments, the start of the basketball and ice hockey seasons, and the continuation of the swimming and diving season, which has already begun. Those are the events that traditionally drive headlines and encompass "Skidmore athletics." Every day, however, students and faculty train and compete in activities their peers may never hear of. These are just a few examples.

Chris Lord '12

He might not be able to dunk like Michael Jordan, but Chris Lord '12 can still fly like His Airness.

Lord discovered skydiving the summer before his sophomore year and found himself immediately hooked. "It's as close to flying as you can get," he said. "You kind of feel like a superhero."

He completed his first jump, sharing a parachute with an instructor, while on vacation in North Carolina. "In a tandem jump you don't really have to do anything so you don't really have to worry about anything at all," said Lord. "I was nervous but at the same time I felt no pressure to perform at all. I knew that I would do it."

With his fledgling flight behind him, Lord moved on to an Accelerated Freefall program at Jumptown, a skydiving school in Orange, Mass., where he completed another eight jumps. The course began with jumps alongside two instructors who, while not attached to him, guided Lord through his descent. After three jumps with the instructors, he finally got the chance to fly on his own.

"It was pretty nerve wracking once I was actually in charge of myself," Lord said. "It's up to you, you have to pull the shoot. It's doable though, like learning to swim. It's like jumping into an ocean without knowing how to swim."

"I can hardly remember my first jump, it's all a blur," Lord said. "There's so much to take in, and that's why I've done it 12 more times since then. The more I do it, the more I can take in, the more I appreciate what's going on. Now I can swim, or, in this case, fly."

Back at school, Lord has taken it upon himself to teach others to fly as well, organizing trips to Skydive the Ranch in Gardiner. "I've taken 23 people for their first jumps," Lord said. "Everyone who's done it said that they loved it." He has an e-mail list of nearly 200 people and wants to start an official skydiving club at the college, although that has met some resistance. "I've talked to four people, including President Glotzbach, but they said we can't have the club because of insurance issues," he said. "Skidmore won't recognize that we have a skydiving 'club,' but we have a skydiving club."

A football player in high school and a rugby player at the college, Lord views skydiving as a fundamentally different athletic experience. "To me, this is just freedom," Lord said. "It's a sport, but it's not competitive. It's not about being the best, it's just about feeling. I had this one kid who was nearly crying the night before, saying he wasn't going to do it. I said just come, you'll be fine. He came down and the first thing he said to me was 'Chris, it was better than sex!'"

Part of the excitement comes from the anxiety before the jump. "I still get nervous going up," Lord said. "You're supposed to be nervous when you're jumping out of a plane because it's not exactly natural. People weren't necessarily meant to fly, but we do it anyways."

Hugh McAdam, assistant coach for Men's and Women's Crew

McAdam is an assistant coach for Skidmore's men's and women's rowing teams. While he sees coaching as an eventual career move, at the moment it's more of an intermediate step. Coaching at Skidmore lets McAdam train with Head Coach Jim Tucci and further his chances of making the U.S. national team.

McAdam had never even seen a rowing shell before his first year at Washington College in 2004. "The assistant coach brought a boat up to campus and said to me, 'You're tall, skinny and athletic looking, you should try rowing,'" McAdam said. Originally from Nashua, N.H., he played a variety of sports in high school, ranging from football to snowboarding, but none of them ever took hold.

"My sophomore year our men's coach started pushing me to go to summer camps," McAdam said. He lacked the focus as a sophomore, but by the end of his junior year his times had improved enough to go to a camp at Penn A.C., the Pennsylvania Athletic Club Rowing Association.

"That's where I got my first real taste of high caliber rowing," McAdam said. "I was seven seat in a light 8+ and we won club nationals, which is the non-elite national championship. We also went to the Royal Canadian Henley in St. Catherine's, Canada, which is absolutely wild. They get 10 or 12 countries, 1,500 boats. It's an amazing regatta. After that summer, that's when I got really hooked."

After graduating as team captain, and with MVP honors to go along with a third place finish at the Knecht Cup on the Cooper River in Camden, N.J. and a fourth place finish at the Dad Vail Regatta on the Philadelphia's Schuylkill River, McAdam moved on to graduate school at St. Joseph's University. He also started training with the Undine Barge Club, a historic rowing club on Boathouse Row in Philadelphia. While training there he also switched from rowing sweep boats to sculling, placing his focus on the lightweight 2+.

Frustrated at grad school, McAdam met Tucci at the 2009 Masters National Championships in August. "We started chatting and he offered me this job. It was just too good of an opportunity to turn down," McAdam said.

Both believe McAdam can make the national team, but he has a long way to go. "I've only been at the top level of competition for maybe a year," McAdam said. He narrowly missed the top 12 at the 2009 Spring Speed Order, which the national team uses to scout recruits. The setback, however, does not concern him. "The nature of the sport is it takes a long time," McAdam said. "You've got to lose 1,000 races to win one. I'm just starting that process of losing 1,000 races."

Peter Kabor, shop supervisor for the Theater Department and dance theater

Absence often makes the heart grow fonder, but one need not travel to far to find that separation. Peter Kabor just goes up.

Kabor, 36, works as the shop supervisor for the Theater Department and the dance theater, but spends his weekends atop the peaks of the Adirondack Mountains. On Oct. 18 Kabor summated Mount Marcy, completing his three-year quest to summit all 46 of the Adirondack High Peaks, the mountains in the range taller than 4,000 feet.

He came to hiking late, summating his first mountain after college. "I found a friend who was actually pursuing climbing all 46 peaks, and at the time I thought that was crazy," Kabor said. "I thought that was crazy. I thought that was something I could never accomplish or even try to accomplish."

The birth of his two children put the mountains on the backburner, but after a few years Kabor decided to give the Adirondacks another shot. "It was after four or five High Peaks that I decided I really wanted to do all of them," he said. "In the last six years I've summated 73 High Peaks combined. I've done a lot of them more than once, some in the winter."

The final summit earns Kobor membership to the Adirondack 46ers, an organization that records individuals who summit all 46 High Peaks. By the end of 2008 there were more than 6,000 official 46ers, dating back to the club's founders who finished the task in 1925.

With the High Peaks under his belt, Kobor has started working on Colorado's 54 "fourteeners," peaks exceeding 14,000 feet. Thus far he has summated five. He also hopes to complete the High Peaks again in the winter, a feat that only only 445 individuals have accomplished

"I just think everybody should get outside and hike," Kobor said. "Going to Colorado made me really appreciate my own backyard. You don't need mountains... there's something about being outside and being in touch with that energy in nature that allows everyday life to be much easier."

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Above all else, he values the opportunity the mountains afford him to step away from society, even if for just a few hours. "It's just very rewarding for me to not be in touch with the world and then come back to it," he said. "You appreciate everything more. That cup of coffee means more to you, that plate of food is suddenly so important to you... I can't tell you how many times I'm dreaming of a Big Mac on my way out of the woods. It's the worst thing in the world but all you're thinking of is how good that horrible sandwich is going to taste. And it does."

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Chris Lord



Soul funkstress Janelle Monae to play Skidmore

By Jenna Postler, Contributing Writer

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

The college community is preparing to welcome soul funkstress Janelle Monáe as this year's Big Show. At 8 p.m. on Oct. 1, the Student Entertainment Committee will host the artist in the Sports and Recreation Center.

Similar to last year's act, Grizzly Bear, Janelle Monáe may be an artist who is unfamiliar to many students. Although rising in popularity, she is still widely unknown.

Some may recognize her single "Tightrope" featuring Big Boi of Outkast and the even catchier "Wondaland" remix featuring B.o.B. Currently touring and promoting her new album, The "ArchAndroid," Monáe has been a standard opener for indie pop band Of Montreal.

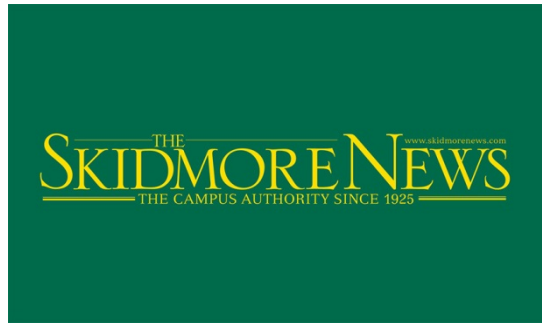
The ArchAndroid, Monáe's sophomore album, tells the story of Cindi Mayweather, the heroine of her first album "Metropolis." Through imaginative songs and orchestral arrangements, Monáe paints the picture of Cindi as the ArchAndroid, sent to free the citizens of Metropolis.

The openers for Monáe, Eli "Paperboy" Reed and The True Loves, are equally soulful and play Sam Cooke inspired tunes.

"SEC is really excited about booking Janelle because she is such a unique female performer who has her own aesthetic and sensibility. Also, we know she will put on a great energetic and very danceable show," SEC President Hannah Ronson '12 said.

Monáe will be sure to get students and community members alike moving to her soul, funk and afro-punk inspired music.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$20 for the public. Tickets are available for sale in Case Center and online at brownpapertickets.com.



Beauty is in the eye of the beholder

Case Gallery displays first year students pre-orientation artwork

By Kristin Travagline, A&E Editor

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

From Sept. 1 to Sept. 15 student art from the Tabula Rasa Art Installation Pre-Orientation Program for first year students was displayed in the Case Center Gallery.

This Pre-Orientation Program challenges first year students to harness their creative impulses and create artwork through teamwork.

Students do not need to be intended art majors to participate in the Tabula Rasa Pre-Orientation Program. Rather, the program emphasizes critical thinking and team building.

"The program teaches the first year students how to problem solve, deal with other peoples' opinions and get something accomplished. They bond with each other and forget that they're nervous," pre-orientation leader Cami Ledi '11 said.

During this pre-orientation session, the program leaders, Jon Sedor '11 and Ledi, assigned their first year students to groups and gave them the task of picking three random words from a hat.

The first word described the type of object that the students were to build. The second word was an emotion and the third word was a noun. These three words served as their artistic inspiration.

First year student Lauren Brown '14, picked the words "Bratwurst, stress and decorative." Based upon these words Brown's group crafted a sculpture of David Hasselhoff eating a sausage. The sculpture bore the inscription "don't hassel daf hoff." "We had a lot of fun," Brown said.

Another first year student, Becca Silverman '14, picked the words "easy cheese, temple and hope."

Inspired by these words, Silverman's group created a sculpture of a female figure looking toward the heavens with swirling pieces of yarn on top of her head that represent easy cheese.

"We tackled it with teamwork. We thought it would be difficult to make something so sturdy, but it was easier than we thought when everyone was involved," Silverman said.

Both Brown and Silverman confirmed that the Pre-Orientation Program served its purpose in making the first year students feel comfortable on the college campus.

"It's nice to build a foundation for the rest of the school year. It's kind of like we had an older brother and older sister relationship with Cami and Jon," Silverman said.

"Cami and Jon treated us like peers and, to this day, they are our best friends on campus," Silverman said.

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Caffe Lena to host folk singer Ani DiFranco at Zankel

By Alex Brehm, Contributing Writer

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

Ani DiFranco is Joan Baez, Joan Jett and Betty Freidan all rolled into one. The singer-songwriter has created a small indie recording empire, Righteous Babe, featuring talent such as Toshi Regan, Andrew Bird and Buddy Wakefield. She is famous as a deeply intelligent lyricist, talented musician and passionate political activist.

In a concert featured by Caffé Lena, DiFranco will play in Zankel Music Center on Sun., Sept. 26.

DiFranco writes poetic lyrics in an often punctuated, alliterative style. Her guitar work is similarly staccato and twangy, and her recording uses a wide range of instruments. Her arrangements often feature marimba, whistling, exotic percussion and dark, ambient recording effects. Her recent album "Red Letter Year" features clear electronica influences.

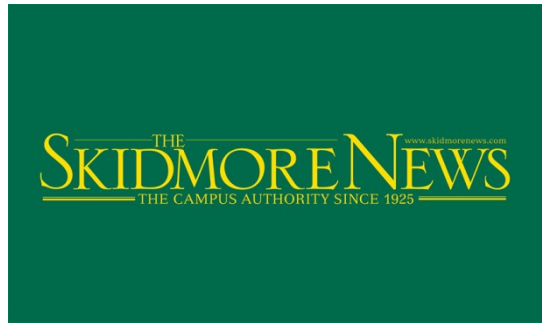
Skidmore student Fortunato De Sousa '11 praises DiFranco's "lyric" style. "It's very smooth, you know, from the heart," De Sousa said.

DiFranco writes confidently about political topics, advancing issues of gender and orientation bias in her songs, and describing rape, racism and war. More recently, she has written songs inspired by religion and by becoming a mother. "November 4th, 2008" is dedicated to President Barack Obama's election. DiFranco's personal history of challenging traditional gender roles and identification as bisexual made her a figure of the queer pride and rights movement.

Folk singer-songwriter Erin McKeown will open for DiFranco. In 1998 McKeown performed at Queerstock, a music festival that promoted LGBT musicians. McKeown's style is a swing-rock she says is influenced by, "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy." McKeown is known for her energetic stage presence and eccentric dress.

The historic Caffé Lena is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. This is not the first time the café has featured a joint concert with Skidmore College. As part of anniversary celebrations at the beginning of the summer, Arlo Guthrie played in Zankel Music Center.

DiFranco will begin performing at 7 p.m. Students can buy tickets on brownpapertickets.com for \$15.



Fun-size facts are unhealthy food for thought

Jack Sounds Off

By Jack Ferguson

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

I will wager that each of us has heard some version of this common, modern aphorism: the Internet is making your generation stupider. Occasionally, the adults wagging their fingers entertain a fair portion of humility, and includes themselves, or at least those of their age, in this blanket statement.

Unfortunately, the practice of blanketing the campus with posters that pronounce un-cited abbreviated factoids proves that the Internet, with its wealth of fun-size knowledge morsels, has spawned a culture of communication that makes us stupider.

Many of our leading intellectuals (most eloquently Steven Pinker in the New York Times) have very ably countered this claim. Many remain glumly unconvinced. Perhaps both camps have some credit to their argument.

Most of us students understand that computers are tools and, when used correctly, greatly expand our learning horizons; they increase our ability to interact with and grow in our knowledge.

Yet the laments of the pessimists - howling steadily, Viking-like from the depths of their armchairs - are not totally off base. Such irrational fear springs from real danger.

At root, the danger is this: a new trend in learning will arise, in which a multitude of sound bites accumulate in an individual's mind, and though many, all lack nuance and substance - and we will call this knowledge. Our culture risks substituting depth and comprehension for speed, ease and clarity.

Interestingly, we of the university system are perhaps the realest staging ground for the battle over the emerging direction of knowledge. We take part in proving ourselves every day. Too often, however, and with the most important issues, we take the easy, simple route of conveying information.

We live in an era of Twitter and pundits' chalkboards. Loud declamations of statistics are too, too familiar- in the way that the act of breathing is familiar, yet forgettable.

For the last four years, I have seen various bits of information, on posters and in chalk, that seem willfully intended to exist solely in themselves, outside or above conversation. Scrawled or typed snippets from un-cited studies dot our place of learning.

Such mass distribution of simple sentence facts-hate-crime statistics, trends of sexual assault on campuses, STI distribution-no doubt intends to educate, and perhaps give voice to, subjects often stifled in public discourse. Yet the effect is to usher information on important issues into our library of sound bites, of factoids. This is unipolar discussion; this is hardly information at all.

If one person stands up in a room and shouts into a megaphone, we will no doubt listen and incorporate the topic of his or her shouting into our separate conversations. If over a dozen people stand up throughout the year and shout into a megaphone, we will end up aggravated and rolling our eyes. This cannot happen to our gravest and most urgent issues.

For now, let us assume that the recipients of such campus-wide campaigning want very much to know and grow in knowledge (this seems fair given the price of tuition). Further, let us imagine that students care dearly about the community in which they daily exist, and want nothing more than to see it flourish.

Wouldn't such an environment, with such exciting people, be all but perfect for comprehensive publications with cited sources and suggestions for further reading?

We live in an era of Twitter and pundits' chalkboards. Loud declamations of statistics are too, too familiar-in the way that the act of breathing is familiar, yet forgettable.

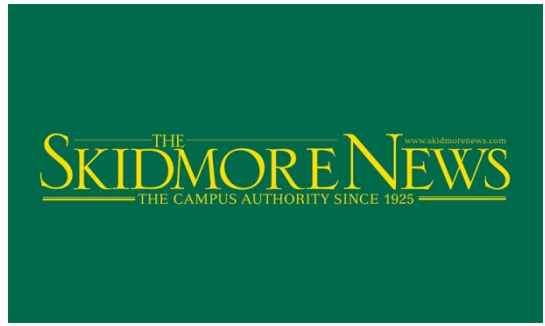
Perhaps we ought to consider that distribution of disparate facts does not contribute to our education or a sense of support for urgent causes. Perhaps it is causing detriment.

I know that when I see a poster telling me about my community as a result of a survey conducted of Skidmore students, I want to know how many people responded, what that percentage means. I am uneasy being told a statistic about my living environment for which the background specifics are obscure.

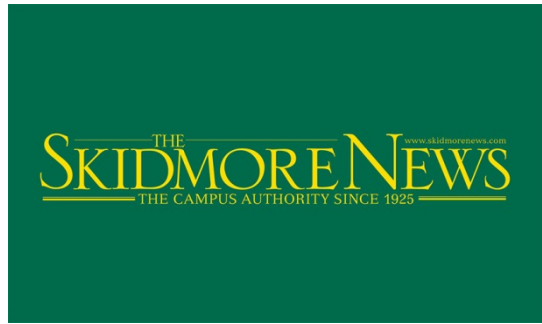
If I am learning about hate crimes, I want to know where they most frequently occur, among what groups of people, whether they have been on the decline the past decade or on the rise.

We are the new generation of highly educated citizens, and we have a new, revolutionary tool. Right now, it is under-utilized as a resource and an adjunct to how we pursue our educations. Conversely, it can too easily be accessed to call up easy, micro-bits of information.

We are called to demonstrate just how much we are capable of, how much we understand, how hungrily we perceive.



We are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity; we ought to be able to ask that of those above us, advising us. Because making propaganda of very complicated urgent issues- that will certainly make us stupider.



Surviving life in a triple

With the majority of class of 2014 in triples, comfortable living may require some maneuvering

By Rebecca Stern, Contributing Writer

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

On a hazy Saratoga summer day, the students of the largest class in Skidmore's history scrambled onto campus. Excited and anxious, First Year Students and their parents poured into dorm rooms to be greeted not only by one roommate, but two.

An overwhelming majority of the Class of 2014 is living in forced triples this semester—more than any other class in Skidmore history. Although this is not what first year students expected, Skidmore is attempting to ease the transition for the roughly 700 students forced to have awkward conversations about who gets the single bed.

Every student assigned to a forced triple received a 200 dollar compensation, available for use on his or her Skidmore ID, with a bonus to be added for those who remain in triples after October.

Associate Director of Residential Life Ann Marie Przywara said, "There are now around 180 triples on campus and it is tough to be overenrolled, but we consider this to be a good problem, seeing as the school has accommodated this unexpectedly large grade. We have hired more professors, rearranged freshmen seminars and added an extra person in health services."

In addition to the monetary reward, living in a triple allows first year students to socialize more easily.

At first I was nervous about being in a triple—but now that I am here, I am thrilled. My roommates are two of my closest friends, and I probably never would have met them if we hadn't been placed together, Vicky Janczyk '14 said.

It's not just the students who are in triples who see it as a great social outlet. Some Residential Life staff members also find triples easier to manage, seeing as big groups usually congregate in one room.

"It's much easier for areas of hanging out. There is always someone to hang out with. The odds are better you'll make a friend," RA Carol Brown '13 said.

Although not every situation is as fortunate as Janczyk's, there are many ways to make triples work. Posted on fliers throughout residence halls and in the student handbook are "Tips for Triples."

Dividing space and furniture equally is one way to make a cramped living situation more tolerable. If one roommate gets stuck on the top bunk, make sure they don't also get the small dresser.

Another way to ease tension is by making sure that each roommate has his or her own space. For example, one roommate may like to study in the window seat, while the other may like to work in his or her bed. By designating areas, roommates can then feel free make their own side of the room as messy or as clean as they want.

Abby Byers, '14, agrees, "Before we even arrived on campus, my roommates and I decided who got what-that way we avoided conflict upon arrival. And now that we're here, everything is great. We share everything from food to clothes, but we also have our own space. It's perfect!"

Roommates should also craft a "Dos and Don'ts" list for the room together. That way it is clearly outlined what is acceptable and unacceptable behavior.

Jay Dwyer, '14, did this with his roommates and has found it successful.

We know we have to respect each other's space. For example, I don't care if people are on my bed, but some people do. Don't use anyone's stuff without asking-like if they want to borrow stuff, that's fine. Just be polite about it, Dwyer said.

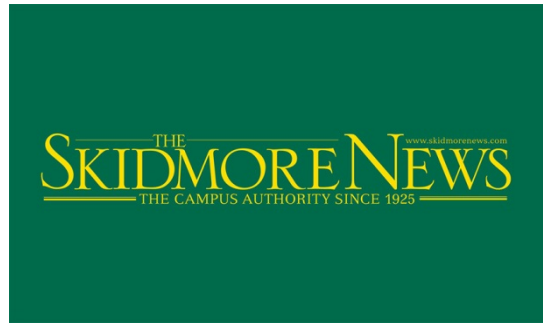
Although it is pleasant to think that by following these guidelines life in a triple will be smooth sailing, that is simply not that case.

Communication is key. Often times a person comes in here complaining about this or that - without mentioning it to his or her roommates ahead of time. Don't bottle it up-even if it's small. If it's still bothering you the next morning, then you should say something to your roommates immediately, Przywara.

When stuff comes up during the year, don't complain about it to your third roommate. Talk about it openly with the entire room. And really make an effort to get to know each other, said Grace Harman '13, who lived in a triple last year

Roommates can make or break a school year, but don't be discouraged if things aren't going as planned.

Hang out with your roommates friends. Throw tea parties and movie nights--my roommates and I did both. If you're all friends, or at least on good terms and all respect each other, life is going to be about three-million times easier, Harman said.



Outing the Outing Club

College's largest club promotes sense of community, adventure

By Danielle Eagan & Elise Taverna, Contributing Writers

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

On any given weekend, about 15 Skidmore students leave campus behind to venture into the wild. Sometimes overnight, and other times just for the day, they kayak, canoe, raft, swim, rock-climb, backpack, ice climb, ski and snowshoe. These 15 students represent the biggest club on campus: The Outing Club.

There are about 50 active members of the club, a small number compared to the 700 students who sign up at the club fair each year.

What is the allure that has so many students signing up for the Outing Club? This year's club President Coco Loehr, '12, says that it is the total inclusivity of nature that keeps students signing up.

Loehr has always felt at home in the outdoors. She took a year off before college to backpack both in Patagonia through an outdoor program called NOLS and, afterwards, across the U.S.

Loehr lived in the Outing Club house last year and this year took on the role of president.

Outing Club events create bonding opportunities because there are different standards in the outdoors.

The wild has a way of breaking deep-rooted boundaries. Conventional priorities are thrown away by club members at the bottom of the mountain.

The Outing Club welcomes a world of mud-covered legs where caring and helpful people are most appreciated.

Loehr describes the club as a group of great students, a mix of close friends and casual acquaintances. "It's a good way to meet people outside of the typical party scene," Loehr said.

The Outing Club is easy to be a part of. Supplies are available to rent for free and with easy access.

The deterrent for many people, however, is missing happenings on campus. With the Adirondacks, the club's main destination, a full 90 minute drive from campus, taking part in the Outing Club does pull one away from campus life.

Waking up at dawn can also keep some students from weekend events. "It's worth it, though," Loehr said.

Loehr, a passionate geology major, has plenty of new ideas for the coming year. She is working hard to make the club more inclusive for a close, community feel.

Loehr plans to have more trips this year, including some less advanced ones.

A lot of things last year were advanced, and I want the club to be more beginner-friendly, she said.

As much as Loehr feels at home in the solitude of the outdoors, she loves bringing people into the wild for their first intense nature experience.

Making events available to beginners will give her and the beginners a shared opportunity to learn together.

Loehr also plans to create an Outing Club Facebook group, which will make it easier for all students to be involved.

With a Facebook page, events won't have to be planned months in advance, Loehr said.

Someone can post on the Facebook page 'Hey, anyone up for a hike today?'

Another new plan is a climbing wall on campus, possibly in the new Scribner complex.

Loehr's personal favorite Outing Club activity is climbing. "The total trust one must have in the person belaying them creates a close community environment."

One of Loehr's most memorable Outing Club adventures was a four-day winter trip involving 10 students that took place last year.

For more information on club events, contact Coco Loehr at cloehr@skidmore.edu.

Business professor Betty Balevic reflects on 40 years of teaching

By Caroline Smith, Contributing Writer

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

It has been 40 years since Professor Betty Balevic first began to teach in Skidmore's Department of Business. She has watched the college transform from an all female institution into what it is today. Her loyalty to the college, as not only a dedicated faculty member but also a proud parent of two alumnae, remains strong.

Skidmore News: Where is your family from? Where did you grow up?

Betty Balevic: I'm first generation American and my parents are Greek. My father started a little candy shop with his brothers in Amsterdam, N.Y. and eventually one of the brothers went to Canajoharie and opened a city store.

My father was fairly successful in Amsterdam until the time the town fathers decided to change the town drastically. In doing so they took out a lot of the properties and they bought my father's property. It was okay because he was ready to retire at that point and we had a wonderful childhood.

I had one brother who went to Duke Law School and ended up working for social security down in Baltimore, Maryland. It was a very small family. I married 35 years ago and now I have three children - two daughters and a son.

SN: Why did you decide to become a teacher rather than pursuing a career business?

BB: For a very selfish reason: I was very tired of working 12 months a year. Having a family, I needed to work because my husband got very ill. So I decided to finish my teaching degree.

I could get a job teaching in the school year and have the summer off and grow old with my children. It was a very selfish reason. I had to go back to school; I went to SUNY Albany.

I then got a job teaching at a business college down in Albany, N.Y. One day a friend of mine called me and said there was a business position open at Skidmore, so I came up and I was offered the position and I've been here for 40 years.

SN: How has your experience been so far?

BB: Skidmore has been a great trip for me. I've had a lot of wonderful colleagues and have had a lot of wonderful students, many of whom have kept in touch with me. In a little while a trustee will be visiting who was one of my students many years ago. Hopefully, if she comes to the trustee's meeting, she will be able to visit a class because she's in the retail industry now.

SN: You came to Skidmore just as it was transitioning from a single sex to co-ed school, what were some of the issues that arose during this time?

BB: How would the women react to having the guys around? How would this affect their studying?

A lot of the guys who came here originally were art majors because art was at that time, and still is, a very important part of the Skidmore fabric. Little by little some of those guys decided to take on other majors and a lot of them drifted into the business major.

When I came there were two people teaching in [the business] department and there were seven or nine majors a year graduating. That's changed a lot from where it was 40 years ago. It has taken a lot of changes, and a lot of efforts by the college and the faculty to be where we are now.

Skidmore was a very different kind of college 40 years ago and Saratoga was a very distressed community. It didn't have the affluence and the money spending and the housing market that we have today. The stores downtown were small; a lot of places downtown were closed."

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Professor Balevic in her office

Brenna Goldstein/Skidmore News



Colorful contrasting of fantasy and reality

Schick Art Gallery hosts satirical Michael Kuch exhibition

By Kristin Travagline, A&E Editor

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

Michael Kuch's exhibit of multiple mediums and brilliant colors appears too bold to be contained within the small Schick Art Gallery, where it is on display until Sept. 26.

Kuch will discuss his experiences as a printmaker and book artist when he delivers the 2010 Fox-Adler Lecture on Sept. 23 at 5:15 p.m. in Gannet Auditorium. The lecture is titled "The Annotated Image: When Picture Precedes Text in the Books of Michael Kuch."

A reception in the Schick Art Gallery will immediately follow the lecture. Admission to the gallery, lecture and reception is free.

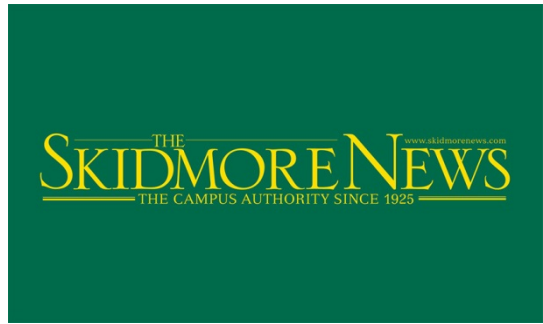
Kuch's artistic skills are primarily grounded in solid pen and ink craftsmanship. He is also comfortable working in ink wash, watercolor, oils, pastels, etchings, lithography and bronze sculpture. He often incorporates woodcuts and etchings into his limited edition books.

Kuch's wide variety of expertise characterizes the exhibition with energy and vibrancy. "Kuch's various talents give his themes room to evolve according to the subtle, expressive strengths of each material," the catalogue accompanying the exhibit said.

The exhibit explores themes as weighty as imperialism, mortality and the human imagination, keeping the viewer's mind reeling. "Kuch's art does not focus on verisimilitude, nor does it dwell in aesthetic interpretation; rather, these qualities attend human experience as revealed from the inside: a world of psychological reflection," a description accompanying the exhibit said.

Kuch's piece "Fossil Dirigibles" is an etching on handmade paper that serves as a powerful reminder of human mortality. The etching displays a skeleton attached to a long-stem flower by thin, delicate threads. Bronze wires and clusters of string bind the pages and creatively mirror the composition of the image.

Another primary theme coursing through the exhibit is the relationship between reality and fantasy. "Kuch portrays a world both fantastic and familiar," the description said.



The monotype "Pegasus" is especially arresting and exemplifies this theme of the show. Monotyping is a type of printmaking. The artist draws or paints on a smooth, non-absorbent surface. The image is then transferred onto a sheet of paper.

Pegasus is the largest framed piece in the exhibition and Kuch's skillful use of bold primary colors gently provokes the attention of the viewer. Strong reds, blues, greens and yellows accent the arches of the broad wings that span the entire length of the canvas. Further traces of these colors add emphasis to the mythical creature's muscular chest and strong legs.

Yet, the piece maintains a soft, misty, ethereal quality appropriate to Pegasus' divine associations. The predominantly light gray background and white accents on Pegasus' body and wings help achieve this effect. "Patient tenderness suffuses his imagery," the description said.

The head, chest and front legs of the Pegasus command the central focus of the image, while the rear of the body and back legs recede into the background. This deliberate composition gives the impression of Pegasus emerging from the canvas, blazoning forth in a full gallop.

Kuch was born in 1965 and grew up in Northern VT. He was self-taught until he came under the wing of Leonard Baskin at Hampshire College.

In 1994 Kuch started his Double Elephant Press. In 2000, he produced the book "Falling to Earth," in response to the events of Sept. 11.

More of Kuch's artwork is on display on the first floor of the Lucy Scribner Library.

Many of Kuch's limited edition books are held in the artists' book collection in the Department of Special Collections in the Pondorff Room of the Lucy Scribner Library.

More information about Kuch can be found at <http://cms.skidmore.edu>

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Kuch incorporates woodcuts and etchings into his limited edition books.

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News

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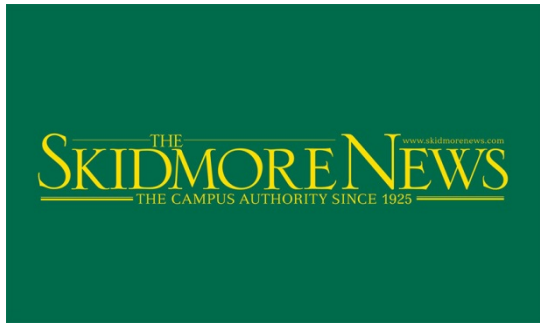
Kuch's artwork evokes satirical messages about American Imperialism.





Battle of the Bands kicks off semester

By Isaac Baker, Contributing Writer



On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

The first Battle of the Bands this year went down Friday Sept. 10 at Falstaff's and, like all Skidmore events, it rocked.

The Student Entertainment Committee pulled together four fantastic bands to compete for the grand prize of opening for the band Beach Fossils the following night.

After the audience filed out of the Falstaff's lounge, the host turned things over to the first band, Baliwick. This band's comfortable acoustic presence brought the audience to the floor where they sat peacefully and appreciated the intricate harmonies and diverse instrumentation. They were called back to the stage for an encore and laid down one final tune that was met with raucous applause.

The second band to take the stage was Sticky Friction. They kicked off their set with a Jackson Five cover that brought everyone quickly to their feet.

The funk and rock influences took the audience by storm and the dance floor was packed with students jumping and singing along to the music. They "were a tight band all around and certainly knew how to shake things up," Jesse Shayne '14 said.

The next band, Slim Charles, took things in a different direction. The house lighting went out and the black lights came on which gave the band a heightened psychedelic feeling. Each song featured multiple time changes and hypnotized the crowd with powerful bass playing and intricate riffs.

The final band, DTF, finished out the night with a few covers that grabbed the attention of the dwindling crowd. They covered a variety of bands ranging from MGMT to Old Crow Medicine Show and pulled it off with gusto. A few technical difficulties aside, this group rocked the house.

After a riveting night of music, judges from the SEC and WSPN struggled to choose a winner out of the four talented groups. The panel picked Slim Charles as the winner of the evening, but no one could deny that it was a close contest and certainly the best concert anyone had attended so far this academic year.

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Alex Jarvis and Walker Bragman performed for the crowd at the Battle of the Bands on Sept. 10.

Melissa Cohn/Skidmore News



Fall sports teams in full swing

By Pat Babbitt and Gabe Weintraub

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

Men's soccer

9/15

Utica 2, Skidmore 1

A penalty kick in extra time dropped the Thoroughbreds to 3-2-1 on Wednesday, lifting Utica to a 2-1 victory. Skidmore led for most of the first half, then surrendered a tying goal in the 60th minute.

The score remained tied to the end of regulation. Six minutes into extra time the Thoroughbreds were called for a penalty in the box, and Utica was awarded and converted a penalty shot, giving them the win.

The team plays next on Saturday, Sept. 18 at 7 p.m., hosting SUNY Plattsburgh.

9/12/2010

RIT 3, Skidmore 0

At home, the men's soccer team lost 3-0 to RIT in the last game of the 2010 Skidmore Alumni Invitational.

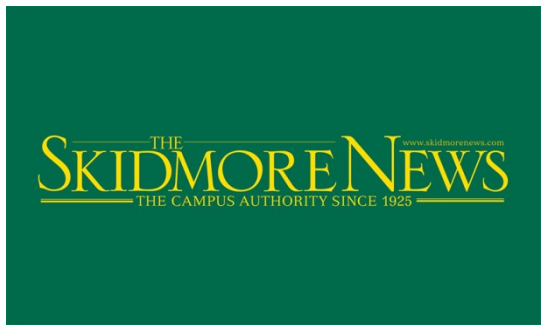
Skidmore battled back and forth with RIT throughout the majority of the first half. RIT did not score its first goal until the 40th minute. Shortly after half, in the 50th minute of play, RIT gained a commanding lead with a second goal, followed eventually by a third.

9/10/2010

Skidmore 0, St. Vincent 0

In the first game of the Skidmore Alumni Invitational, the Thoroughbreds finished against the Bearcats with a tie, though Skidmore outshot the Bearcats 28-4.

9/4/2010



Skidmore 4, Lehman 0

The Cardinal Classic

Senior Matt Kelsey bolstered the Thoroughbreds in a bid for their third straight win. With two goals and one assist, Kelsey would later be named tournament offensive MVP. The Thoroughbreds controlled the tempo, outshooting Lehman 47-1.

9/3/2010

Skidmore 3, Southern Maine 0

The Cardinal Classic

In the first game of the Cardinal Classic, junior Diego Reinero led the charge by scoring the first goal of three by the team, in the 70th minute. Skidmore outshot Southern Maine 11-9.

Women's soccer

9/12/2010

9/11/2010

Skidmore 2, Cortland 2

The Cortland Red Dragon Invitational

The Thoroughbreds team battled back against Cortland College, tying their hosts 2-2 and holding through double overtime. Both goalies, Lawrence and Sleezer recorded saves.

Skidmore outshot Cortland 20-15 in the contest.

9/4/2010

Skidmore 4, New Paltz 1

At home, Skidmore beat New Paltz 4-1, the effort spearheaded by junior Elena Stansky who scored two goals in the Skidmore Invitational Tournament.

9/2/2010

Plattsburgh 2, Skidmore 0

In their first game hosting the Skidmore Invitational Soccer Tournament, the women lost 2-0 to Plattsburgh, who scored both goals early in the first half. Both Thoroughbred goalies, Sleezer and Lawrence, made three saves. Although managing to outshoot their opponents 11-9, Skidmore was unable to beat the Plattsburgh goalie.

Field hockey

9/11/2010

Skidmore 5, New Paltz 1

Senior Christine Kemp and first year Kelly Blackhurst combined for five goals to lead the No. 10 ranked Thoroughbreds past New Paltz, 5-1. The win brought the team's record to 2-1.

Senior Thoroughbred goalie Liz Catinella allowed one goal and made one save.

The team next plays at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 18 when they open league at home against Union College.

9/3/2010

Cortland 3, Skidmore 0

No. 5 ranked SUNY Cortland shut out Skidmore 3-0, improving their record to 2-0.

Catinella had 12 saves.

9/1/2010

Skidmore 8, Castleton State

The Thoroughbreds opened their season by rolling over Castleton State, 8-1. Sophomore Annie Rosencrans had two goals and two assists on the game.

Golf

9/14/2010

Golfweek Division III Fall Invitational

The Thoroughbreds shot a third-round 296 to finish third of 15 in the Golfweek Division III Fall Invitational played at the Southern Dunes Golf and Country Club in Haines City, Florida. The team finished ahead of defending NCAA champion Methodist College

First year Scott Pinder was Skidmore's top finisher, shooting a final round 71 to finish tied for 15th.

Skidmore is at the Middlebury Duke Nelson Invitational Saturday and Sunday.

Volleyball

9/12/10

Ithaca - Ithaca College Bomber Invitational

Skidmore volleyball went 3-1 at the tournament, improving upon their first two wins. The Thoroughbreds beat Geneseo, Union and Rutgers-Newark, but lost their second match to Baptist Bible.

In the first game, Skidmore beat Geneseo 3-1, with significant contributions by senior Meredith Palmer, junior Kelley Vershbow and sophomores Sam Friedman, Mallory Mendelsohn and Carolyn Botterlier.

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Skidmore's only loss in the tournament was dealt by Baptist Bible. Vershbow, Palmer and Mendelsohn played well, offering a combined 31 kills, 11 digs and 18 assists.

Skidmore volleyball plays next on Friday, Sept. 17 at the Union College Invitational.

9/3/2010

Skidmore College beat both Union College and then Sage College 3-0, starting the season 2-0, recording match scores of 25-16, 25-15, 25-21 and then 25-14, 25-21, 25-15.

Men's tennis

9/13/2010

Skidmore's men's tennis team opened its 2010 fall season at the Middlebury Invitational after falling to the host school in the second round of the NCAA tournament in May.

Senior Yahia Imam and first year Oliver Loutsenko both reached the semifinals of the Singles C flight and freshman Danny Knight reached the semifinals of the Singles D flight.

The Thoroughbreds host Connecticut College at noon on Sept. 19.

Women's tennis

9/13/2010

Williams Invitational

First year Keirsten Sires represented the Skidmore women's tennis team in singles, and also in doubles, accompanied by classmate Sophia Bryan-Ajania.

Sires went 3-0 in singles, defeating Middlebury's Lauren Kelly 6-3, 6-2, Blake Harries 6-3, 6-1 and Whitney Hanson 6-0, 6-3. Sires and Bryan-Ajania went 1-1 together, losing 8-2 to Williams' doubles team of Li/Shoemaker, but winning 8-6 over Middlebury's team of Paradies/Hanson.

The team next plays on Sunday, Sept. 19 at 3 p.m., hosting Connecticut College.

2014 housed in record number of triples

Administration attempts to minimize effects of over enrollment

By Tera Johnson, Contributing Writer

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

The Class of 2014 is the largest class in the college's history. Of the 731 first year students living on campus, 591 of them are living in triples.

Those students have received compensation from the Office of Residential Life. In addition to the newly refurbished resident halls, students living in triples will also receive 500 dollars per semester.

The admissions staff did not anticipate such a large first year class based on previous trends. For the past three years, the percentage of students who chose to attend Skidmore annually decreased by one percent.

When you're thinking about enrolling a class, it's more art than science, said Rochelle Calhoun, dean of Student Affairs. "You are trying to admit students based on your history and way students have behaved in terms of enrollment. This year's yield went against the economic climate and the history of previous years" Calhoun said unexpectedly, the yield of student enrollment increased four percent.

The college is taking steps to minimize the effects of over enrollment. "We've been able to de-triple several students by offering upperclassmen incentives to move off campus. About 30 have taken up the offer. There have also been fewer triples through leave of absences and no shows," said Don Hastings, associate dean of Student Affairs.

The administration has also refurbished all of the study rooms in the residence halls to accommodate the larger student population. Additionally a game room has replaced the faculty lounge in Case Center to promote a sense community throughout the student body.

"In anticipating such a big class, we wanted to create gathering spaces both for quiet study and community outside of the residence halls. We really try to be attentive to making the in-residences as comfortable as possible," Calhoun said.

Although the college is adapting to the increase in population, it has no intention of changing its reputation of being a small liberal arts college. The college's intimacy has remained important to students and faculty alike.

“We tried hard to preserve the integrity of the educational experience in both academics and co-curricular activities. Academic Affairs did a great job in anticipating pressures in terms of enrolling classes, really working with departments and staff in such a way that students get the classes they want,” Calhoun said.

The admissions office plans to be conservative when enrolling the next generation of students by acknowledging the fact that classes are in need of balancing. This year the maximum class enrollment has only increased by one student.

Despite the student population increase, many have yet to feel its effect.

“I think my class sizes are perfect. There are only 15 people in my Scribner Seminar and I am able to participate and feel comfortable,” said Sam Cochrane ‘14’.

Furthermore, it is projected that once the Class of 2011 graduates there will be more room on campus for students. The Class of 2011 was the largest class before the Class of 2014. Recalibrating the housing situation will be much less demanding after graduation when space clears.

Until then, the majority of the Class of 2014 will remain in triples. Although the housing situation was not initially received well by most first year students, many have grown accustomed to the living arrangements.

“Initially, I didn’t like the idea of being in a triple, but now that I’ve met my roommates I don’t mind it. We all have similar habits and get along well. It’s also nice to have an extra friend around,” Elizabeth Cohen ‘14 said

“From this point forward you are going to find yourself living in community. You are going to find yourself negotiating how you live productively with other people for the rest of your life. It’s simply one of life’s lessons,” Calhoun said.

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First year students Tom Wiseman (left) and Jeremy Selecky (right) enjoy their triple.

Melissa Cohn/Skidmore News



Don't watch mosque madness

By Tyler Reny, Columnist

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

If you have been paying attention to the conservative echo chamber of talk radio and Fox News, and I certainly hope everyone does once in a while (it is good for a laugh, scream or an occasional cry), you should be aware that the so-called "Ground Zero Mosque" is a serious issue (it isn't).

According to our fearless leaders, Glenn Beck and Rush Limbaugh, we have been informed that the mosque is being built by the shifty radical "Muslim Brotherhood operative" Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf, who harbors a nefarious "secret agenda." The mosque, we are told, is a victory for radical Islam and a slap in the face to the victims of the September 11th attacks.

Or, if you decide to use your brain, probe a little bit and examine the man for yourself, you will learn that Feisal Abdul Rauf has devoted much of his life to fostering better Islamic-U.S. relations. He authored the book, "What's Right With Islam Is What's Right With America," and is the vice-chair of the Interfaith Center of New York. According to Hendrik Hertzberg, who wrote a New Yorker piece on the mosque debate, Rauf has consistently denounced terrorism and the September 11th attacks and has been hired various times by the FBI to conduct sensitivity training for its agents.

Hertzberg also points out that Daisy Khan, Rauf's wife, runs the American Society for Muslim Advancement, which, according to the organization's Web site, "promotes cultural and religious harmony through interfaith collaboration, youth and women's empowerment and arts and cultural exchange."

The center itself, Cordoba House, will also not be located at ground zero, as the media's name suggests, but two blocks north, and will be far more than a mosque. Hungry? Grab a bite to eat there, it will have a restaurant. Wandering around lower Manhattan enjoying the hundred-degree weather and the smell your shoes produce as the rubber melts into the pavement? Go for a swim, there will be a pool! The plans also include a gallery and a memorial to the victims of the 9/11 attacks, and it will be open to all.

But with the November elections looming and an energized base of tea-partiers, the GOP has turned this non-issue into a serious issue. Armed with an extremely influential media arm and GOP wordsmith Frank Luntz, who conducts focus groups to see what the most effective language will be for framing the issue, the "Ground Zero Mosque" has become a hot topic of debate, a mobilization tactic and vote producer.

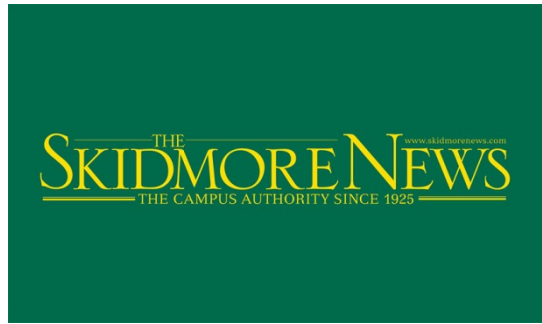
The jowly Conservative history professor and architect of the 1994 House Takeover, Newt Gingrich, has perhaps been the most vocal opponent of the center. According to Gingrich, the construction is part of an "Islamist cultural-political offensive designed to undermine and destroy our civilization" by "replacing it with a radical imposition of Sharia." He refers to the construction as part of a larger "stealth jihad," harking back to memories of Sen. Joseph McCarthy's "fifth-column" scares of communists lurking around every corner during the Cold War.

While there is no factual evidence for any of Newt's rants, though plenty of speculation, it does scare people. And when people are scared, they tend to support the national security measures offered up by our Republican brethren. As Lisa Miller pointed out recently in her Newsweek column, terms like Jihad and Sharia freak people out and cause a general distrust of all Muslims. A few weeks ago, a New York City cab driver was stabbed when his passenger found out that he was a Muslim. The hysteria and paranoia clouding this event resemble the political climate that led to past injustices and atrocities like the mass internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II.

Words do matter and new media, especially conservative talk radio and news sources, have a huge amount of influence in this country. All of the sudden the percentage of Americans who believe President Barack Obama is a Muslim has risen from 11 percent in March to 18 percent in August. Public opposition to Cordoba House is booming and anti-mosque rallies have popped up in New York City to protest the project. While there is no way to accurately measure prejudice against Muslims, all indicators show that it is growing, and is being fueled by people like Limbaugh, Beck and Gingrich.

The real issue isn't a mosque, or the placement of a mosque or even Islam. The issue is that Republicans are telling blatant lies and using shameless fear tactics to trigger voter anxiety, gain political support and fuel prejudice. So next time you find your remote under a pile of dirty beer stained clothing and switch on that TV, put on Fox, see what they are saying about the mosque, scream at the TV and change the channel.

Tyler Reny is a senior government major who enjoys good food, politics, and jazz.



EDITORIAL: Make taxi debate a two-way street

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

Opponents of the new taxi program have an anthem, and it goes like this: it only takes one. A driver decides to save the \$6 taxi fare by careening his way back from drinking at an off-campus party. A pedestrian impatient with an unfamiliar bus schedule decides to walk down the shoulder of a dark 3 a.m. road. It only takes one and, after that, the anthem goes, the money saved by the new taxi program would not have been enough.

The first weeks of this semester, these dangers seem more possible than ever before. Confused by a new program, frustrated by a decision made without substantive student input, unwilling to shell out the extra cash to call Saratoga Taxi, stranded students might make dangerous choices. But after students adjust to the new schedule and forget how things used to be, the changes to the program pose more of an inconvenience than a new threat.

Students venturing off campus will not always be safe, whether they cram into free cabs or lurch back on a free bus. Long before they were told to shuffle to a bus stop, some students would decide to drive drunk or walk home in the dark instead of competing for a cab. Saratoga Taxi will still answer late-night calls, and most students can save money that would have gone toward another beer, buying a ride home instead.

But the new schedule makes a larger statement about administrators' approach to student life. Free taxis showing up at the end of the night told students that administrators wanted us to come home safe, regardless of the financial investment required. It only takes one, the free taxi program said, and that chance is more of a cost than the college is willing to pay.

The free taxi program was a convenience and a symbol, but students didn't realize it at the time. It was as invisible as school-funded lunches with your favorite professor and limitless paper for printing in the library, as quietly reassuring as calls from Campus Safety reminding students their lights are on in the parking lot. It was there like all the other small pieces of campus that make the college our home.

Students miss the free taxi program, and hope members of the class of 2014 might just have a good story to tell in three years: "When I was a freshman." But administrative attention could be better used in other places than tallying up taxis and buses.

When they heard about students falling out of cabs, too drunk to stand after binge-drinking in the "dry" dorms, hopefully they came to a different conclusion than just deciding cabs might not be a bad idea.

Changes to students' drinking need to take place at home, with the examination of procedures based on hypocrisy and mutual disrespect.

Get students drinking responsibly on campus, rather than worrying about how to shuttle them off. Consider alterations to the "dry campus" policy and the red tape that keeps Falstaff's from returning as an on-campus bar. Question the assumption that students just don't know how to drink responsibly.

The free taxi program represented laudable concern and respect from administrators, a spirit students wish they could see reflecting in all aspects of the school's approach toward student life. It should have only taken one, Skidmore, and the drinking policy has hurt more than that.

Faculty discuss over enrollment

By Alex Brehm, Contributing Writer

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

The faculty and administration met on Friday, Sept. 10, to convene the first faculty meeting for the 2010-2011 academic year.

The agenda included a proposed approval of a new Faculty Handbook. The Faculty Handbook is updated regularly to describe college policies regarding the duties of professors and other faculty members.

The new edition proposes to make more accommodations for faculty members seeking tenure. Faculty may now be granted yearlong extensions in cases of illness, injury or maternity leave.

The agenda also included "Pedagogy Sessions," educational improvement seminars that would teach faculty about new practices in education and improve their teaching skills.

Proposed sessions include "Teaching in the Tang Galleries," a demonstration of using the space and resources of the Tang to teach classes, "Providing Rich Classroom Experiences via Videoconferencing," a session featuring guest speakers in classes electronically and "Active Learning in Larger Classes," an introduction to techniques that help engage a particularly large classroom.

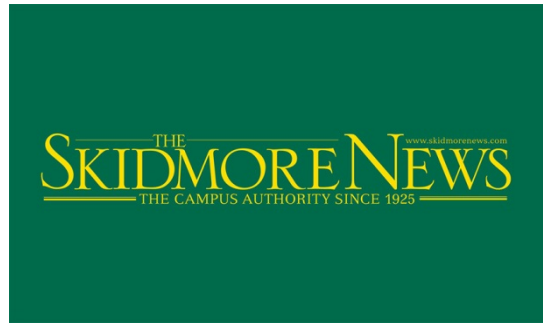
President Philip Glotzbach began the meeting with a statement of thanks to the members of the faculty and staff who worked during the orientation events. Citing the enrollment of the largest class ever at Skidmore, he emphasized much gratitude.

Music Professor Gordon Thompson commented on the strain the excessively large freshman class places on professors.

The senior class is the college's second-largest class and these large "bookends" tax the abilities of all college personnel, especially Residential Life, Admissions, Facilities and professors who teach increasingly full classrooms.

Will we send those students a post card saying, 'Sorry, you can't come?' Glotzbach asked. He said that the increased enrollment could not have been predicted and that once students have enrolled college staff members cannot reject them.

Others professors said that despite the difficulty of teaching and planning for a historically large student body, the situation stands as a challenge to be met, and as a chance for achievement.



New game room in Case lounge

By Maxx Salat & Ethan Fisher, Contributing Writers

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

Among the many renovations undergone by the college over the summer was the conversion of the old faculty lounge into a new game room.

Located on the second floor of Case Center, the idea for a game room came from Campus Life Office and was funded and supported by the office of President Philip Glotzbach and by Rochelle Calhoun, dean of Student Affairs.

Operating on the same schedule as Burgess Café, from 7:30 a.m. - 2:00 a.m., the game room is a place for students to take a break from their academic and extracurricular activities.

In order to access the game room equipment students need to submit their Skidmore IDs to an employee working at Burgess Café

The administration decided to create a game room because of the tremendous first year class joining Skidmore. The Campus Life Office felt it necessary to create a place for people to retreat to for entertainment and bonding.

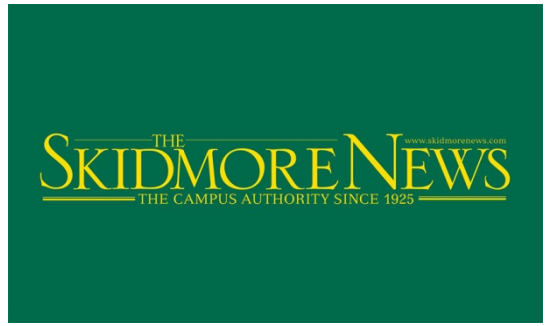
“With such a large first year class, the idea is to create more places for people to hang out. Case Center, we think, should function more as a proper student center and have a more vibrant atmosphere. The game room is a small step in that direction,” said Robin Adams, assistant director of Leadership Activities.

Students contributed to the creation of the game room. The administration received constant feedback from students on a multitude of subjects ranging from decorations to the very games within.

While the game room is a good place for students to bond, it is not a completed project. “For now, it’s a trial run to see if it works. In many ways it, at the moment, looks like a former faculty or staff club with games in it. If it’s as much a success as it currently is then I can see a lot more effort being put into the interior design. For now, we just wanted to get games in there,” Adams said.

The administration, however, has high hopes for the game room.

It could be a place for clubs to hold events, Scribner Seminars to meet...who knows? “For me, the idea of doing more to make Case Center the central hub of student life is important,” Adams said.



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Dylan Lustrin '13 enjoys a game of air hockey.

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News



SGA looks to motivate voters

By Kat Kullman, Staff Writer

On Mon, Sep 20, 2010

On Tuesday, Sept. 14, the Senate of the Student Government Association convened for its first meeting of the year with Alex Stark, Class of 2011, as the new president. The primary item on the agenda was a resolution to amend the election policies and procedures for student government candidates.

Vice President for Communications and Outreach Jenny Snow '10 introduced the topic of amending the election policies. At Skidmore's last election, only 17 percent of the student body cast a vote. Snow's resolution would establish tighter time frames for students to vote in the elections of their peers.

Snow feels that this shorter time period would encourage students to not delay in their voting.

"Elections used to run over a very long period of time. I've just compacted it into a week. If elections were all in one day, students would be more likely to vote then and there," Snow said.

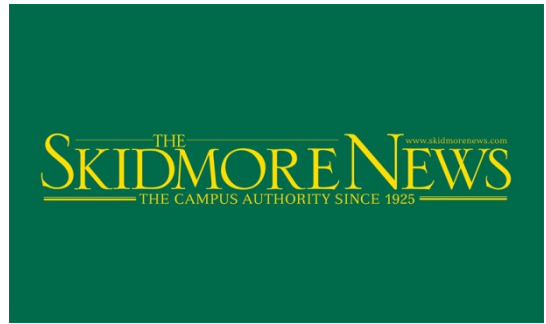
Snow also proposed several ideas to help get the student body excited about voting. "To hype up elections, we're thinking about a meet and greet after the election speeches so that everyone can have one-on-one conversations," Snow said. She also mentioned a raffle for gift cards to Saratoga shops and restaurants. To enter, students must forward the SGA confirmation email they receive after voting.

The resolution to condense the voting period into one day was passed unanimously among the Senate. Elections for SGA will be held in the upcoming weeks.

In other news:

Several students were appointed to various committees and vacant spots among the student government. Senator Aaron Shifreen '13 was appointed as both the Parking Court chair and Honor Code commissioner. Senators Lauria Chin '12 and Stacy Sullivan '13 were both appointed to the IPPC Subcommittee on Student Affairs. Senator Gabby Stern '13 was appointed to the Campus Environment Committee.

All students are welcome to attend the weekly Senate meetings. Senate meets at 8 p.m. on Tuesdays in Ladd 307.



Welcome to the new Skidmore News

By Gabe Weintraub, Editor-in-Chief

On Tue, Sep 21, 2010

Welcome to the new and improved skidmorenews.com. The entire site has been completely rebuilt, and we're still working out the kinks, so please bear with us while we put everything in its proper place.

There are a lot of exciting new features that we plan on utilize, so keep coming back to check for updates and improvements.

If you have any feedback on the new website, please leave a comment on this article, or email us at skidnews@skidmore.edu. Your input is appreciated.

New bus route shakes up late-night transportation

By Gabe Weintraub, Editor-in-Chief

On Tue, Sep 21, 2010

This year, returning students accustomed to being shepherded home late at night by free rides from Saratoga Taxi, are forced to adjust to a revised policy that, from Thursday through Saturday, does away with the taxis in exchange for a bus service.

The fall semester invariably presents returning students with a changed campus. Some are subtle: new window blinds in Scribner apartments, a new milkshake machine at the Burgess Café. Others require more of an adjustment.

This year, returning students accustomed to being shepherded home late at night by free rides from Saratoga Taxi, are forced to adjust to a revised policy that, from Thursday through Saturday, does away with the taxis in exchange for a bus service.

The new system does not abandon cabs completely. From Sunday through Wednesday, starting at midnight and running until 6:30 a.m., Saratoga Taxi provides free rides back to campus from the area traditionally defined "Downtown Saratoga." That area covers, from north to south, the college campus to Crescent Street, and from East Avenue to West Avenue. The program also includes the Wilton Mall and, during the day, provides rides to and from the college stables and boathouse for the riding and crew teams respectively.

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, however, CDTA will provide a bus beginning at 9 p.m., running until 4:15 a.m. the next morning. The "Night Loop" bus follows a revised version of the 473 route, which departs outside Case Center every half-hour during the day. Affectionately dubbed "The Drunk Bus" by CDTA drivers, the bus follows essentially the same route as the daytime route, traveling down Clinton Street, Van Dam Street and onto Broadway, making a loop at Spring Street and Putnam Street before returning to campus. The bus eschews regular daytime stops at the Embury Apartments and Saratoga Gaming and Raceway.

The idea for the change originated two years ago when, facing a tumultuous economy, the college sought ways to reduce expenses. Mike Hall, the college's director of Financial Planning and Budgeting, Purchasing Services and Residential Life, audited the taxi program and began work on developing an alternative. "They felt they could come up with something that would be better and more cost-effective

for the college, while still succeeding in providing safety for our students coming from downtown back to campus," Director of Campus Safety Dennis Conway said.

Before unveiling an alternative program, however, the college began by altering the existing taxi program. Starting in the fall of 2009, the program was reduced to covering only its current area.

"The intent, always, of [the taxi service], had a particular scope, mostly down North Broadway and into some of the neighborhoods," said Rochelle Calhoun, dean of Student Affairs. "But when we looked into where the taxi services were actually serving it was way beyond that. We really just reestablished what had been the contractual agreement with the taxi service about the areas we were serving."

"What we tried to do, in talking to CDTA, was to recreate those areas, the areas that the taxi had been servicing, in as close an approximation as we could, so that service would be similar to what the taxi service had been. That was our goal in working with CDTA. They came back to us with a proposal that seemed to address what we were asking for, so we decided to give it a try."

The college was also concerned about the safety of the taxi program. "We heard students talk about the fact that sometimes they did not feel like they were being treated well by the taxi drivers," Calhoun said. Last year a student went to authorities complaining of an assault by a taxi driver. The college has been unable to determine whether the driver was from Saratoga Taxi or another service. According to Calhoun, the college also received numerous reports from students of taxi drivers cramming as many as 15 students into a single car.

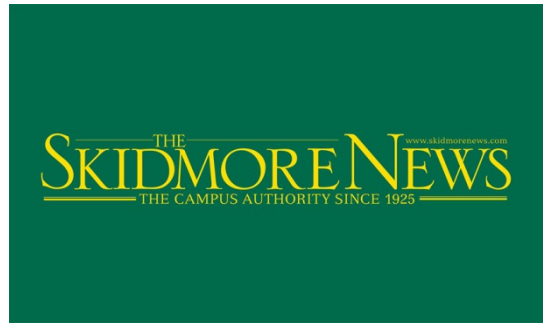
The hope is that the new program will be safer and more reliable. "It's important to say that we're piloting this," Calhoun said. "We'll be reviewing it and we'll be talking again with students and getting their opinions."

Some students have expressed dismay over the limitations of the bus system, particularly that it does not provide easy access to and from off-campus house parties. "Students need to take responsibility for thinking through how they're going to preserve their own safety and wellness when they are making choices about what they're going to do," Calhoun said. "So know the bus schedule, know what the route is."

As I hear students and their concerns, it raises for me an additional concern about students' own relationship with alcohol and other drugs. I'm not naïve enough to believe that that's not going to happen, but I do want to encourage them to not rely on a cab or this kind of service to be the point at which they are making responsible decisions.

Are students really saying to themselves, 'I can go get blasted because I have a free cab ride home?' Is that how we're making choices about our own health and wellness? If it is, I think that's a huge question. I think part of what we also need to be thinking about, institutionally and collaboratively with students, is what was the cab service actually serving?

Was it serving a population that was saying 'It's important that I feel safe and well and can enjoy the downtown and be responsible and not have to drive' or is it serving a population that is being excessive in a way, and the cab service was a way to support that behavior. I don't know the answer to that, but I do think as a community we have to ask ourselves that question.



Residence hall WiFi almost ready

By Jake Dolgenos, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

Laptop and smartphone owners will soon have something to celebrate as the prospect of wireless Internet access in the residence halls becomes a reality in the next few days.

The new wireless coverage will supplement the existing network already available in the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall, Case Center, the Scribner Library and the academic buildings.

Laptop and smartphone owners will soon have something to celebrate as the prospect of wireless Internet access in the residence halls becomes a reality in the next few days.

The new wireless coverage will supplement the existing network already available in the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall, Case Center, the Scribner Library and the academic buildings.

The original plan was to have the wireless system functional by move-in weekend, Sept. 4-5, but a hectic summer of renovations and unexpected technical snags delayed the new network's launch, explained Justin Sipher, the college's chief technology officer.

Under a renegotiated contract with provider Time Warner Cable, the new system will allow students to access the Internet without being tethered to a modem. Students should resist the urge to burn their Ethernet cables, however, as the wireless network is not intended to replace the existing system.

"Your best experience will always be through your cable modem. So my advice is, if you're at your desk, plug in and use this service which really is dedicated to you, and then use the wireless network when you're away from your desk, in the lounge or outside," Sipher said.

Five years ago we partnered with Time Warner Cable to take advantage of its Roadrunner service, which is its broadband network service, to support our students. But more and more students are not bringing desktop computers and leaving them on their desks; they're bringing laptops and handhelds and even tablets. We wanted to adapt to that. So, at the end of the five year contract, when it came time to renegotiate, we said 'we've got to find a mobile solution to go on top of, but not replace, the modems,' Sipher said.

Sipher says he sees wireless as someday being the dominant, and perhaps only, option for Internet connection at Skidmore. He wanted the new service to act as a pilot for the future- a step forward to slowly transition Skidmore from one system to another.

In addition to Sipher's advice to plug in Ethernet cables, he also suggests students refrain from using their own wireless routers.

Students should resist the urge to install their own personal modem or wireless access point, because it uses similar channels and it can create problems for them or others who may have trouble connecting. If you know of a particular problem area, let us know. We won't be able to test every room, but we can't fix a problem we don't know about, Sipher said.

As part of the renegotiated contract, Time Warner no longer provides free HBO. "For those students who needed HBO, who were hooked on one of the shows, there's an avenue to buy that as well," Sipher said.

College prepping Scribner plans

Trustees will review final design proposal in October

By Savannah Grier & Audrey Nelson, Art Director & Staff Writer

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

Plans for the Scribner Village renovation are in their closing stages, with the hope of presenting a final design to the Board of Trustees by Oct. 16.

Completed in 1973, Scribner Village was designed as a temporary housing facility and has since become a housing community for upper-classmen.

“The original thinking was that we would be building, as a replacement for Scribner Village, one or two apartment-style buildings. And when we brought that plan forward to students they were hesitant because they liked the character of Scribner Village,” said Rochelle Calhoun, dean of Student Affairs.

Calhoun explained that student voices have been essential throughout the design process through participation in the planning committee meetings, consistent updates to the SGA Senate and numerous open community meetings.

Dan DeMartini '11, the committee's student representative, has proven to be a valuable asset to the construction of the plans.

“He has been very good about giving us feedback as far as what he is hearing when he talks to students about their desires and their responses,” Calhoun said.

The committee held a presentation for students interested in sustainability to voice their opinions or concerns about the renovation. Suggestions included solar panels to provide power and a sustainable use of thermostats.

“We have tried to be both responsive to a number of things-the architecture, the sustainability efforts, the student response-and so all of those inputs have helped us evolve this design,” Calhoun said.

The committee hopes to hold one last community meeting around Oct. 11 to answer any remaining questions and to address any concerns.

Despite its upcoming over-haul, smaller renovations in Scribner Village were still conducted this past summer as part of its continual maintenance.

“Even though we’re replacing everything, we still need it to be habitable and attractive. So facilities did go through and do some work on it,” Calhoun said.

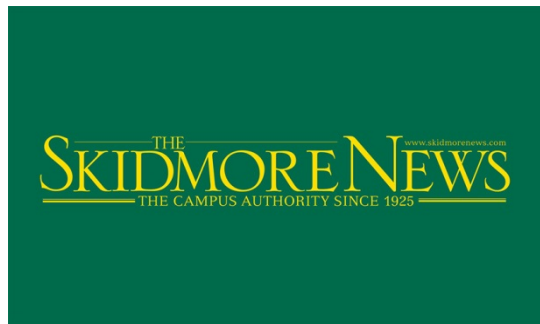
Built with the intent of ephemerality, the Scribner Village renovation has, after 37 years, risen to a high priority status.

“Institutionally, we think this is our highest priority in the queue of many things. Getting the replacement of Scribner is our highest priority at this time,” Calhoun said.

Recent projects included the 2006 Murray-Aikins Dining Hall renovation, the completion of Northwoods Village in the same year and the 2010 Arthur Zankel Music Center.

A new name for Scribner Village has yet to be discussed.

“We haven’t even talked about that. We have been calling it Daughter of Scribner, so I don’t know. It’s something we haven’t even put on the table to think through, Calhoun said.”



Glotzbach using sabbatical to study higher education

By Mariel Kennedy, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

President Philip Glotzbach will take a six-month sabbatical leave from his position as president of the college beginning Nov. 1, 2010.

This will be Glotzbach's first sabbatical leave since fall 1991.

During this time, his wife, Marie Glotzbach, whose campus duties include fundraising and community relations, has been permitted a reduced workload by the Skidmore Board of Trustees.

Glotzbach feels that this is an appropriate time for his sabbatical as the successful "Creative Thought, Bold Promise" campaign is coming to a close. This campaign is a six-year long fundraiser that has thus far raised more than \$200 million for various projects around the school, such as the Tang Museum, Zankel Music Center and athletic and healthcare facilities.

With the 'Creative Thought, Bold Promise' campaign soon to achieve its very successful conclusion, and as we reach the midpoint of the current strategic plan, I felt-and the trustees agreed- that this was an opportune moment to step back and reflect upon the wider higher education landscape, said Glotzbach in the letter.

Glotzbach will remain in Saratoga while on sabbatical.

Glotzbach intends to "step back and reflect upon the wider higher education landscape."

"In the best of all possible worlds, I'd have a book by the end of my sabbatical, but I won't promise that," Glotzbach said.

"More specifically, this leave will afford me an opportunity to complete a number of writing projects on various topics relating to higher education and to consider Skidmore's future direction within that broader framework," said Glotzbach in his letter.

The Glotzbachs took time to send gratitude and appreciation to both the Skidmore Board of Trustees for approving the sabbatical and all those on campus who will be taking on additional responsibilities.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Susan Kress will serve as acting president; Dean of the Faculty Muriel Poston will serve as acting vice president for Academic Affairs; and Associate Dean of the Faculty Patricia Rubio will serve as acting dean of the faculty.

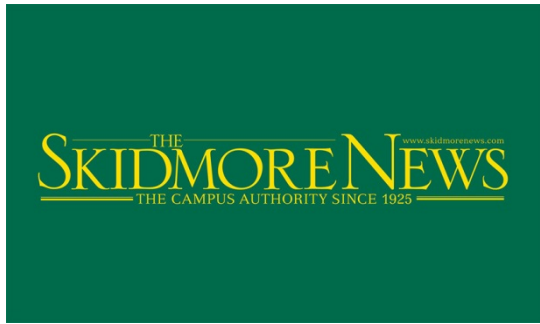
Associate dean's responsibilities have yet to be announced.

The appointments of individuals to serve in acting positions during Glotzbach's sabbatical were made by the president in consultation with the cabinet, the leadership of Academic Affairs, the Committee on Appointments, Promotions, and Tenure and the Board of Trustees.

Glotzbach has expressed full approval and confidence in the leadership and ability of this group of individuals and that of several other cabinet members.

In a letter to the college and Saratoga Springs communities, Glotzbach stated that he looks forward to returning to campus May 1, 2011.

"Marie and I will return to campus life refreshed and reinvigorated following this leave, and I very much look forward to continuing to serve our community as president in the years ahead."



Senate seeks to amend ICC bylaws

By Kat Kullman, Staff Writer

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

On Tuesday, Sept. 21, the Senate of the Student Government Association met for the second time in order to discuss a resolution to amend the Inter Class Council Operating Codes in order to keep the codes consistent with other SGA regulations.

Class President Libby Gronquist, '11, brought the resolution to the floor. The resolution would even out the workload between the vice presidents and the secretaries.

"We sat down with ICC, and the major criticism is that the vice presidents do too much. Secretaries are the only ones to not sit on any other committee," Gronquist said.

In this resolution, Gronquist proposed moving the responsibility of the Falstaffs Operating Codes to the secretaries. This resolution was met with approval from the Senate and the resolution was passed unanimously.

To make this change official, there must also be a resolution to amend the Constitution, which must be approved by the student body.

This resolution will be added to the election ballot available Thursday, Sept. 23.

In other news:

Ali Drucker, '11, vice president of Residential Affairs, is holding a meeting to discuss Moorebid Ball, the annual Halloween dance. Members of the student body are encouraged to attend and give their ideas about the dance, as well as any changes they'd wish to see.

The meeting will be held at 8 p.m.

A dormroom with a view

By Rick Chrisman, Columnist
On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

"Where the hell am I?" Have you awakened in the middle of your room in the middle of the night silently screaming that question in your dreams yet? I hope not. Because the answer to this question will probably not materialize until you've left Skidmore. It can take that long to figure out what a wonderful, crazy and unreal place college is.

You certainly realize you are not in Kansas anymore, Toto. Noise till midnight, mind-bending concepts, people you can't avoid, awkward silences in the classroom, academic standards too high for you (or too low), dark thoughts that can't be shared, no pets, no dog, no cat, no siblings, pressure, pressure, pressure, hang-overs due to medicine for pressure; plus all the hazards of working and living in the same place. When will this unnatural state be over?

Well, at least it's an improvement over high school, right? I mean, the manic hallways, the rumor mill, the bullies, classes at virtual DAWN! Get me outta there! What's not to like in college, compared to that? Besides, no parents, and it's all in a good cause, right?

You think, "M-m-m-m, what was that again? A bachelor's degree; four more years of school on top of the last 12 for a ticket to security, may be worth it. Don't see many jobs out there right now, do you suppose I can stretch this out a little longer?"

All that uncertainty can make college seem a little like hell. If it weren't for that, a person could really enjoy this excursion through beauty and knowledge. So it's best not to dwell on the uncertainties right now. You think, more medication. But the walls close in anyway, and things just feel worse.

I blame it all on the view. On a lovely campus like ours, the view is surely lovely enough but I believe that the view is just not l-a-r-g-e enough. You can't see very much from where you sit at any one time. You can't see, for instance, all your peers in other colleges across the country, in urban universities, in art schools, in community colleges, in church schools and military schools, in beauty courses and computer classes, all leaning over their books and into their futures, too, wondering what will evolve for them.

You can't see them and how much they are like you. And you can't see the others who didn't opt for college, who are hammering out their destinies on a day-to-day basis, too, some in entrylevel jobs, some picking up from summer jobs they had, others in the military (we are a nation at war, don't forget). The view is too limited to see them either and how much they are like you.

I think I should lobby President Glotzbach to raze the Wilson Chapel (you knew we have a chapel on campus, right?) and build in its place a sort of Eiffel Tower that we can climb up in whenever we want and get a view of the world around us, to remind us where we really are. You could go up to a first mezzanine (climbing stairs, never elevators) and see Saratoga and, with the binoculars installed on the railings (free for once), you could see all the families (like yours) raising children who will follow you and your peers into the seats you leave behind one day when you go on your way.

On a platform a little higher you could view the great natural valley we live in, the Hudson River coming down from the Adirondacks and flowing toward Albany (you can just see it) while it waters the crops and the souls who live nearby. Another couple platforms up and you could see the extensions of this country around the world, the perfervid commerce, the syndicated TV shows, the charitable enterprises, the overcommitted military (we are a nation at war, don't forget). And what you would see from the top! You would really see that you are not alone in your tasks and that exciting responsibilities ahead await you.

I wish people could always see where we really are. And really enjoy college. It isn't hell at all, far from it.

Rick Christman is director of Religious and Spiritual Life, teaches occasionally in the Religion and Philosophy departments and suspects art is the one true religion.

EDITORIAL: Have faith in education

By the Editorial Board

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

On Sept. 11, 2010, a few members of the college's community came together. Amidst the turmoil sparked by the "Ground Zero Mosque" and "International Burn a Koran Day," faculty and students quietly answered questions related to their own personal and intellectual connection to Islam. In contrast to the rampantly combative arguments occurring across the country, everyone involved spoke civilly and with respect.

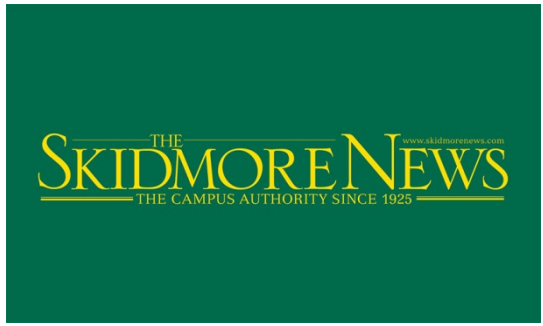
This kind of dialogue is rare in a country that sometimes seems fueled by hysteria and half-truths. But the Sept. 11 event, called "Unburnable Qurans," holds a different kind of value in a college community that too-frequently falls uneasily silent when discussing faith.

On a campus that comfortably embraces identities related to ethnic background, sexual orientation and economic status, religious belief falls to the margins of the community discourse. With the predominant voice on campus being the indifferently agnostic, students of faith can feel uncomfortable bringing up their religious beliefs among friends or in class discussions. But by relegating religion to the margins of the campus dialogue, students can graduate with only a narrow engagement with different faiths.

When the college talks about diversity and intercultural dialogue, it's easy to just picture the changes to the student body that can be spotted on a promotional brochure. But a college community representing varied religious backgrounds can play an important role in breathing life into campus discourse that, when it comes to topics related to faith, can feel stagnant.

As a college that seeks to make educated and contributing citizens of its students, this is the place for students to engage with other cultures and beliefs through intellectual dialogue. If students graduate without an understanding of other faiths, we just contribute to the rampant ignorance in today's discourse. This is the time to start our journey toward becoming educated members of society, and an understanding of religion is essential to that education.

Events like "Unburnable Qurans" give students the opportunity to learn about religious beliefs as they relate to worldly matters. The newly revitalized Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, which had formerly been associated with only the resources it provides to students of faith, has engaged students in a new way. In events like the one on Sept. 11, the college provided programming that is applicable to the entire campus, both spiritually and intellectually.



The college can only go so far. As students, it's our responsibility to go to events, sign up for classes and engage ourselves in discussions that improve our understanding of the world around us-which includes educating ourselves about other faiths. Let's count ourselves among our country's voices of reason, rather than the deafening fomoters of ignorance.

Landy lectures on executive power

By Jean-Ann Kubler, Features Editor

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

At 5 p.m. Sept. 17 in the Pohndorff Reading Room of the Scribner Library, Marc Landy gave a lecture titled, "Terror and the Constitution".

Landy, a professor of political science at Boston College and renowned scholar of American government has published several books on American politics and environmental policy.

The lecture was part of the Constitution Day series and focused on the powers given to the president to combat terrorism, as well as the response of Congress and the Supreme Court to these powers.

Government Professor Natalie Taylor introduced Landy to the audience as a well-regarded and beloved teacher. "I have long considered myself a student of Marc Landy," Taylor said.

Landy began by explaining the significance of the brevity of Article II of the Constitution, which deals with executive power. It is concerned mostly with the president's power as commander in chief.

He described the presidency as we know it now as a drastic departure from the founders' intentions in the Virginia Plan, which laid the groundwork for the Constitution.

Landy noted three historic examples of stretching presidential power.

George Washington's Declaration of Neutrality, issued without Congressional approval in 1793, was the first example. Washington refused to get involved with the French-British conflict, even though the U.S. had a treaty with France. Congress was out of session at this point, so Washington was able to justify his actions by claiming it was an urgent matter.

The next example was Lincoln's suspension of habeas corpus during the Civil War. Lincoln claimed that in order to protect the Constitution, he had to temporarily ignore it. He also ignored the Supreme Court's declaration of his actions as unconstitutional.

The final historic example was Franklin Roosevelt's suspension of neutrality during World War II, when he agreed to aid Britain with arms. Landy explained that Roosevelt thought about going to Congress, but his advisors cautioned him against it.

Unlike the other examples, Roosevelt could not claim wartime urgency. "Notice what an expansion of power this is. The United States was not even at war in 1937," Landy said. He also explained that Congress was in session at the time of Roosevelt's action.

Landy then moved on to the current controversial expansion of the executive: the detainment of enemy combatants at Guantanamo Bay. Bush had the authorization for military force when he began detaining people at Guantanamo Bay, which gave him some flexibility in his actions, but many still claim he is violating the Constitution.

The Supreme Court agrees, and has declared the use of non-traditional judicial proceedings at Guantanamo Bay a violation of the prisoners' rights.

Obama has essentially sided with Bush on the issue. "As I'm sure you all know, Guantanamo remains open," Landy said.

Landy went on to address the question of what students should think of these extensions of executive power.

I don't have a simple answer. The Constitution is a more subtle and complicated document than we think, Landy said.

He also argued for empathy for the presidents who make tough decisions in these dangerous and time sensitive situations.

On Constitution Day, it's worth remembering that the Constitution, as masterful as it is, is not as self correcting machine, Landy said.

A question and answer period, as well as a reception, followed the lecture.

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The audience listens as Landy discusses Guantanamo Bay.

Melissa Cohn/Skidmore News



Roommates and running shoes

By Jack McDermott, Columnist

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

We've all experienced it: the neat-freak, the not-so-neat-freak, the just plain freak, the gamer, the druggo, the drug dealer, the chronically late person who sets 10 alarms and sleeps through every single one of them, the perpetual sexiler (and the perpetually sexiled) and, last but not least, the one who isn't even your roommate but is there all the time.

Living with roommates is possibly one of the strangest and hardest things to deal with when coming to college. Most of us are just completely unaccustomed to the idea of sharing such close quarters with another person, especially someone you barely know (or two, if you get stuck in a triple-sorry freshmen).

Eventually, you get a chance to choose who you live with, but that's not always a walk in the park either.

I'm a junior and I've had my fair share of weird roommates, but suddenly I find myself in one of the weirdest situations of all. I am the sole male in a house of five girls. That's right, the token dude.

Before I came to Skidmore, the only girl I had ever lived with was my mom. And really, for all intents and purposes, she doesn't count. You would think that living with all girls would be filled with sugar, spice and everything nice, and that perfume would strangle you every corner you turn.

Well, there certainly is a lot of perfume, but actually, it's surprisingly messy.

For example, I have never, in my 21 years, seen so many random shoes lying around. Except maybe in a shoe store, and that might even be pushing it.

There are shoes everywhere: they are scattered throughout the living room, under the dining table, under the couch, next to the TV, on the stairs, probably on the porch and on the windowsill.

I'm completely serious, I found a pair of shoes on the windowsill.

I have, at most, three pairs of shoes: flip flops, running sneakers and regular everyday shoes. Oh, and the three-year-old pair of dress shoes sitting in my closet.

Between the five of them, they have 84 pairs of shoes. I counted. I can't wait until winter when there are 20 different pairs of furry Uggs lined up next to the door.

I'm sure by that time I'll be able to teach a whole Scribner Seminar on the difference between wedges and stilettos, flats and espadrilles and how to properly tuck your skinny non-hipster tight jeans into your boots. Not that I would ever want to.

But don't get me wrong, I am good friends with these girls and I 100 percent chose to live with them. But when you are sitting at the dinner table after a long day of classes and someone says "These PMS pimples are killing me," you can't help but think this is going to be quite a semester.

Jack McDermott is from Mars, but he lives on Venus.

Plum Dandy is fine and dandy

By Madeline Frank, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

Plum Dandy has joined Uncommon Grounds and Mrs. London's as one of the many beloved destinations in downtown Saratoga Springs. As a new frozen yogurt shop on Broadway, Plum Dandy has quickly become popular among Skidmore students.

Eight different flavors of frozen yogurt reside against the back wall. It is entirely self-serve. Customers are given a generously sized cup and can try a single flavor or even mix all eight options together.

Along with the classic flavors such as vanilla and chocolate, the management rotates through other delicious choices to ensure that there are new flavors to try each week. The euro-tart has become very popular and has earned a permanent spot at Plum Dandy. Because of its tart taste, it is perfect to mix with some of the fruity sorbets.

Amanda Werner '11 said, "My favorite mix is the euro tart topped with various berries from the topping bar."

Unique flavors like green tea and coconut make occasional guest appearances while favorites such as cake batter, red velvet cake and peanut butter rotate more regularly.

After you mix and match the flavors into an impeccable blend, you move onto the topping station.

At first, this counter seems overwhelming as you try to read all of the small labels to distinguish the different choices.

There are two main routes: the nutritious path that consists of fruits, nuts, cereal and granola, and the sugary direction containing cookie dough, brownie bites and chocolate chips.

You can also have a blast from the past and elect to add Fruity Pebbles or Cocoa Puffs cereal.

There are also some obscure choices such as mochi and green tea jellies. Either way, you cannot go wrong.

"My favorite part about Plum Dandy is the large assortment of toppings," Megan Merritt '11 said.

However, if you are not feeling inventive, you can make one of the pre-designed sundaes.

Plum Dandy holds contests where customers can submit a favorite sundae that they have created. The winner receives a \$25 gift certificate and Plum Dandy employees place the top three recipes around the store.

Next, take one step to your left and lay your full cup on the scale in front of the cash register. Plum Dandy charges 55 cents per ounce, so the amount of money you spend is in your own hands.

Skidmore students can use their SkidCards to purchase their frozen yogurt. You can also purchase a Plum Dandy card, and if you spend more than \$5 five times, Plum Dandy gives you \$5 to spend on your next purchase.

Not in the mood for frozen yogurt or sorbet? No problem. Plum Dandy also offers bubble tea, fruit smoothies, iced tea and juice drinks.

Bubble teas are inspired by the Asian milk teas. They come in various flavors and have balls of tapioca on the bottom of the cup.

There is an extensive smoothie, tea and juice menu as well.

Along with creating an enjoyable product, Plum Dandy focuses on customers' health and carefully chooses what ingredients to put in the frozen yogurt.

All of the yogurt flavors are low fat, low calorie, low sodium and low cholesterol.

Everything is kosher and gluten free. These features make Plum Dandy a tasty and guilt-free indulgence.

Transitory nature of art at the Tang

By Kristin Travagline, A&E Editor

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

Many people find contemporary art confusing. The unconventional structure of Paula Hayes' exhibit, "Understory," at the Skidmore College Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery, imbues the art with a refreshingly accessible quality.

In contrast to the bustling nature of the college campus, one cannot help but appreciate the peacefulness of Payne Room, where "Understory" is located. Tall evergreens in green and blue malleable silicone planters, as though the trees are wearing slippers, fill the space.

To the left, a rectangular platform displays numerous glass terrariums of varying sizes. Each terrarium is a clear, round orb, pleasing to the eye in its simplicity. It appears as though the artist grew miniature, magical worlds in her carefully designed pods. Likewise, each terrarium differs in its plants and composition.

At the back of the room, several sets of hand blown glassware and printed cloth napkins are on display, stacked on shelves much like one could imagine them in the artist's own home. Similar to the terrariums, the plates were constructed out of curving, clear glass, resembling the organic shape and texture of a clamshell. Deep ceramic bowls, quite unlike dainty dinnerware, lead the viewer to draw associations with comforting home cooking.

The most surprising aspect of the room is two enormous, dark blue beanbags that rest in the center of the gallery, imprinted with the form of the students who last sat there. Yet, these beanbags embody the spirit of "Understory" and encapsulate Hayes' philosophy on art. In fact, Ian Berry, the associate director for Curatorial Affairs at the Tang, conducted most of his interview with Skidmore News from a deep seat in the middle of one of the bags.

Hayes is a Skidmore alumna. She grew up on a farm not far from Skidmore and spent her time at the college discovering what the life of an artist could entail. After she graduated from the college, Hayes moved to N.Y.C. and received her Master of Fine Arts from Parsons School of Design. While living in the city, Hayes supported herself by developing a gardening business.

The smaller portion of "The Understory" that is located on the second floor of the Tang is based upon the artwork that Hayes made during this earlier period of her life. Accompanying this section of the exhibit are personal touches from Hayes' journey as an agricultural artist. In the center of the room is a

large tree branch suspended by the ceiling with a yellow cloth draped from the extending limbs. Below the branch, on the floor, is a mixture of colored tissue paper, glitter and wood chips. In comparison to the main exhibit of "The Understory," one can sense in the chaotic mezzanine Hayes' initial struggle to balance her two passions.

Gradually, Hayes learned to merge her artistic passions with her gardening practice until they seamlessly evolved into a single lifestyle, represented by the main gallery of "The Understory." In subtle ways, Hayes' dilemma in striving to merge her agricultural knowledge with her life as an artist exemplifies her greater desire to create art that interacts with life, which is illustrated by the way that students literally leave their imprint on the beanbags.

Paula is trying to figure out how her artwork can intersect in the spiritual life of people and how artwork can interact with our everyday health and good feeling, as opposed to just being something at arms length that is in a gold frame on a wall, Berry said.

Skidmore student Melinda Kiefer '11 also interacts with the exhibit on a first hand basis as she helps Hayes maintain the terrariums as part of her job at the Tang. During her interview with Skidmore News, Kiefer was in the middle of removing mushrooms from one of the terrariums with enormous surgical tweezers.

A really big, important part of Paula's work, even her mission as an artist, is to have you interact with her art and experience its transitory nature. I've changed the terrariums up and that's okay because I'm doing it and it's my aesthetics. I've even added some crystals and just fun things, Kiefer said.

To ensure that students and faculty interact with the exhibit, Hayes and the Tang faculty have planned a series of 10 dinner parties throughout the course of the academic year, which will be held in the gallery and eaten on the hand blown dinnerware.

Although the dinners are by invitation only, campus wide events are being held in conjunction with the meals. One such event will be held on Sept. 25 at 1 p.m. at the Tang. There will be a panel discussion given by local farmers followed by a "hands on party" in the college garden.

I would like to encourage students to think about how plants, and food and their lives can be intertwined with art and what happens at the museum. I think sometimes people don't see those things as connected. This is really about a holistic experience, Berry said.

#1.1647037:2789818425.JPGTang 1

Hand glass blown terrariums are on display in Hayes "Understory" exhibit at the Tang.

Rosie Dienhare/Skidmore News

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Each terrarium differs in composition.

Rosie Dienhare/Skidmore News

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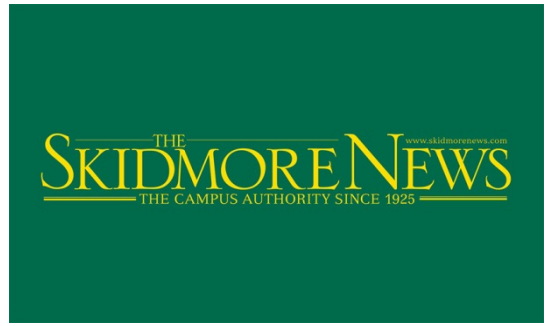
Ten dinners will be served in the Tang on Hayes' handmade glassware.

Rosie Dienhare/Skidmore News









Cartoon

By Wyatt Erchak, Cartoonist
On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

Sports wrap: Tennis teams wallop Camels

By Gabe Weintraub, Editor-in-Chief

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

Men's tennis moved to 2-0 by blanking Connecticut College, 9-0, on Sunday. Junior Luke Granger took the win at No. 1 singles, beating the Camels' George King in straight sets. Senior Spencer Cheng followed that by beating Craig Stanton in the No. 2 spot, also in straight sets. Granger's singles win, accompanied by his No. 2 doubles victory with Yahia Imam, earned him Liberty League co-performer of the week.

The team next plays on Oct. 1, when they host the ITA Regionals.

Women's Tennis

Led by first year Melissa Hirsch, women's tennis improved to 2-0 with an 8-1 win over Connecticut College on Sunday. Hirsch beat Connecticut's Cassie Smith in the No. 1 singles spot, and followed that with a win at No. 1 doubles along side sophomore Nataly Mendoza. Mendoza also had a win at No. 2 doubles over Becca Heupel. Hirsch was named performer of the week and first year Molly Nolan received co-rookie of the week honors after winning at No. 5 singles and No. 2 doubles along side junior Tory Engros.

The team next plays on Sept. 25 when they travel to William Smith for ITA Regionals.

Men's Soccer

Men's soccer suffered its first loss of the season, falling 1-0 to SUNY Plattsburgh Saturday night at Wachenheim Field. The game's only goal came in the 15th minute when Plattsburgh's Joey Jones redirected a ball off a restart by Chris Taylor.

Junior keeper Nick Peterson had five saves but his teammates were unable to sink an equalizer, missing opportunities in the 73rd and 76th minutes, and letting their record fall to 3-3-1.

Men's soccer next plays on Sept. 24, when they open Liberty League play at Hobart.

Women's Soccer

Women's soccer had its four-game unbeaten streak snapped on Sunday, losing 2-0 to Middlebury and dropping to 3-2-1 on the season.

Middlebury broke the game open in the second half, scoring two goals in a span of just more than two minutes, starting at the 70:05 mark.

The team will play again on Sept. 24 when they host William Smith.

Golf

Skidmore's golf team finished 10 strokes behind champion Rensselaer at the Middlebury College Duke Nelson Invitational on Sunday, settling for a fourth-place tie with Hamilton. St. Anselm was second, Manhattanville third. There were 25 teams competing. Senior Joe Flowers was Skidmore's top finisher, tying for fifth with 77-72.

The team looks to defend its Liberty League title on Sept. 25, traveling to Rochester for the 2010 championship.

Volleyball

The Skidmore College volleyball team went 4-0 to win the Union Invitational on Friday and Saturday. The Thoroughbreds were a perfect 12-0 in games, sweeping Cortland, Utica, Hartwick and Sage. The team's record now stands at 9-1.

Sophomore Carolyn Bottelier was named co-performer of the week after totaling 42 kills, 13 assists, six serving aces, 29 digs and three blocks with a 1.000 reception percentage in 29 attempts. She was also named to the All-Tournament team.

The team next plays on Oct. 1 at the Oneonta Red Dragon Invitational.

Field Hockey

No. 14 ranked Skidmore field hockey moved to 4-1 on Wednesday after fending off SUNY Oneonta, 5-2.

Creating space on campus for Skidmore students to jam

By Kristin Travagline, A&E Editor

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

Due to the increasing scarcity of space on campus, Skidmore College is taking steps to create a temporary space for unchartered student bands to practice.

Robin Adams, assistant director of Leadership Activities, is heading the project and hopes to have a sound proof trailer installed near Falstaff's within the next month.

Various committees are still discussing plans for a permanent space. Adams, however, is optimistic. "I'm fairly sure this will happen, but we're still running it through various committees on campus that raised some concerns, but nothing that we can't address," Adams said.

The temporary space, a soundproof trailer, will cost approximately \$10,000 to remain in place until the end of May. Payments will be coming from the Presidential Discretionary Fund, which aims to "support projects that, as determined by the president, are designed to sustain institutional vitality and self-renewal," the Presidential Discretionary Fund application said.

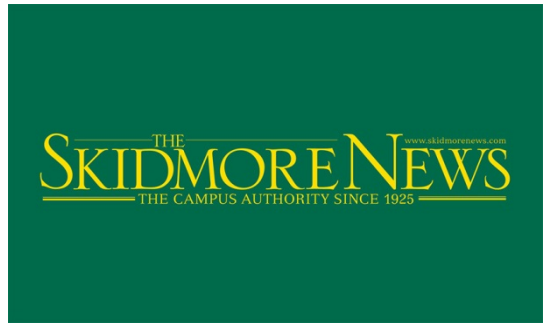
Student bands will have first priority. Student bands will sign up with Adams to practice in the space for a time-span of two to three hours. Once the bands have been accommodated, clubs will then be able to sign up to use the space as well.

"The hope is that it'll become student run entirely," said Student Government Association President Alexandra Stark '11.

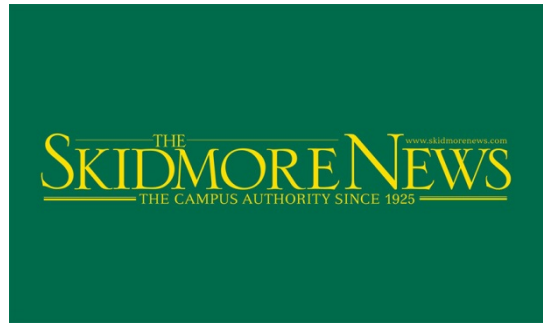
"Clubs get first dibs on everything including Falstaff's and the Chapel. For just this one space we are going to reverse it. Ninety percent of what I do here is working with clubs, but I think we all have a responsibility to every student on campus," Adams said.

If the trailer receives a positive response Adams will move forward with plans to establish a permanent structure for student bands to use. Adams is not sure how much the permanent structure will cost, but hopes to build a fairly inexpensive steel structure.

"From the SGA perspective, we are so excited about this possibility and we feel that it's a really great solution to the problems that we've been hearing. We've been wracking our brains trying to figure it out



because we know how important it is for student musicians and bands and anyone who needs a practice space to have that,” Stark said.



Theater students think outside the box

By Kristin Travagline, A&E Editor

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

Creative endeavors are coming from Skidmore College theater students. October will bring two completely student-run theater studio projects, one an original play, the other an adapted musical-comedy.

The original play, tentatively titled "Pegasus," is being written by Sam Kahler '11 and directed by Ilana Saltzman '11. Kahler and Saltzman discovered last summer that they were each interested in writing and directing, respectively, an original project. They also both wanted to delve into the dream world and explore its relation to reality. Motivated by these common interests, they constructed the story together.

The premise centers on three characters, a couple and one of their fathers, who are all struggling to come to terms with the young couple's pregnancy. Their worries, as it so often happens in reality, start to influence their dreams. Yet in this case three symbolic dream characters help them sort out their problems nocturnally.

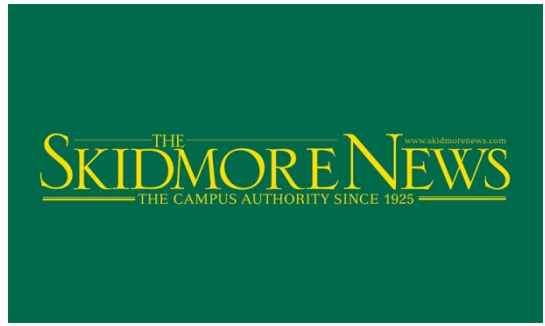
The title refers to the Pegasus constellation symbolizing the dream world they reach in slumber. Incidentally, the impregnated woman in question is named Peg. Kahler and Saltzman wanted the creative process to be collaborative and evolving. They are polishing off the latest of several drafts with the help of the cast and all involved.

The other up-and-coming studio project is a comedy-musical directed by Danielle Zweibon '11. Though not an original production, Zweibon is hoping to breathe new life into a show that affirmed her passion for show business. The yet to be named show is based on "Title of Show," which had a short stint on Broadway and enjoyed a cult following. The student directed show humorously centers on two guys writing a musical about two guys writing a musical. Paige Hempe '12 is the musical director.

Pegasus will be performed at 8 p.m. Oct. 13-15 in Studio A in the Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater. The musical-comedy will be performed at 4:30 p.m. on Oct. 8 as well as at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Oct. 9 in Studio A in the JKB Theater.

#1.1647053:3218098271.JPG Ilana Saltzman

Skidmore student Ilana Saltzman is directing the original production "Pegasus." 



Kristin Travagline/Skidmore News



Affleck saved by a few good plot twists

By Rachel Kim, Copy Editor

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

Ben Affleck tries his hand at directing with "The Town" after his critically acclaimed directorial debut, "Gone Baby Gone." Unfortunately, this one falls flat.

The Town is a crime-thriller that follows Doug MacRay, our troubled star from Charlestown, Boston. Our typically flawed hero is tied to his notorious hometown and dark childhood.

Fallen far from his pro-hockey days, MacRay wreaks havoc and robs the banks of Boston with his neighborhood friends, Jim Coughlin (Jeremy Renner) and Desmond Elden (Owen Burke).

When one of the plans falls apart, MacRay and his gang become the new targets of FBI agent, Adam Frawley (Jon Hamm). MacRay finds himself in more trouble when he falls for the hostage, Claire Keesey (Rebecca Hall), a witness to the bank robbery who is not aware of MacRay's true identity.

Take the oft-used story about the bad streets of Boston, mix it with a cliché love story, add in a rushed ending and the result is "The Town."

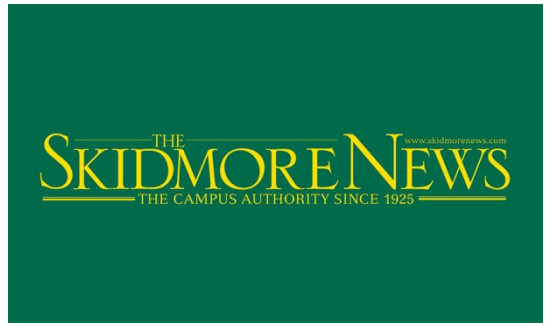
Writers Peter Craig and Affleck tackle this overly familiar plot and develop some good characters. A few good plot twists save them from losing the audience's interest.

The few nods to "Good Will Hunting" are endearing, but Craig and Affleck make the mistake of giving too much attention to the personal troubles and love life of MacRay, leaving other characters like Frawley with little screen time and character depth.

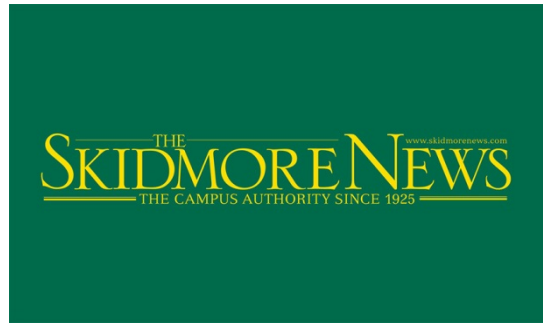
As a director, Affleck is able to successfully control the audience's attention with the well-timed unfolding of the characters' stories. Still, "The Town" reminds the audience why Affleck has had better luck working behind the camera, rather than in front of it.

The car chases, elaborate bank robberies and active plot make "The Town" an entertaining, fun movie that commands the audience's attention until the final scene.

However, the mediocre acting and lack of an innovative plot weigh down Affleck's potential directorial skill.



Once Affleck is finally able to separate himself from his own native city of Boston, he may make the full transition from actor to director and find himself capable of continuing his Hollywood career as a successful director.



Prof. Addy receives Heritage Award

By Kristin Travagline, A&E Editor

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

On Sept. 22 in Washington, Skidmore faculty member Yacub Addy received a National Heritage Fellowship Award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The NEA annually awards National Heritage Fellowship Awards for master folk and traditional artists. These fellowships recognize artistic excellence and support the artists' continuing contributions to an American traditional arts heritage.

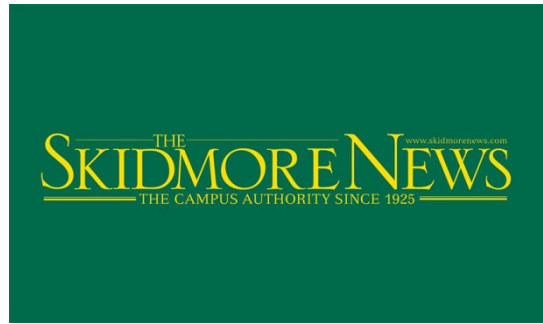
Addy has been a faculty member of the college music department since 1995, sharing his talent for creating new musical works that are rooted in tradition.

Addy is the eldest living drummer in the Addy family of performers from Ghana. He is a son of Okonfo Akoto, a medicine man, and Akua Hagan, a lead singer in her husband's medicine music. Addy credits his elder brother, Tetteh Koblah Addy, as his most influential drumming teacher.

In 1956, the year of Ghana's independence, Addy organized and led the first major staged performance of genuinely traditional Ghanaian music and dance at the Accra Community Center.

Addy later formed the historic groups Ashiedu Ketrekre, which set a performance standard in Ghana in the 1960s, and Oboade, which became the first professional traditional Ghanaian group to tour in the West. Addy's music took him from Ghana to Europe and America where, in 1982, he created the acclaimed performance ensemble Odadaa!, composed predominantly of Ga artists, which he leads to this day.

Addy's work has preserved and contributed to the music and dance heritage of Ghana, and has maintained in the U.S. a rare standard of traditionalism. "I don't agree with the western idea of stardom; it brings nothing but division. With God's help, I'm determined to stay true to my culture and speak the truth," Addy said.



Men's soccer trains in Brazil

By Morgan Long, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

This past August, 21 members of the Skidmore men's soccer team went on a trip to Salvador, Brazil. Their 10 days spent in Brazil were both productive and recreational.

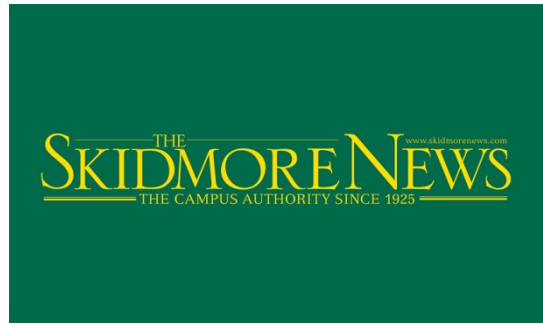
One major part of trip included a community service project with the Favela Project, which is a non-for profit organization that helps poor city children by giving them the resources to participate in soccer and giving some scholarships to the Brazilian Touch Soccer Tours. The Skidmore soccer team helped with this project by bringing soccer gear, shoes and uniforms to the children of Salvador, as well as raising money. "You name it, we brought it," said Coach Ron McEachen.

Through working with the people in the favelas, which is the Brazilian term for slum, many members of the Skidmore soccer teams say views on their lives changed forever. "It made us appreciate everything we had; it was heartwarming to see the little kids' faces light up when you gave them something," Matt Wolff '12 said.

In addition to community service work, the team did some training. They went to semi-pro and professional games. It was great practice for the fall semester at Skidmore because they played against competitive teams and always traveled to the training grounds of the other teams. "Every Brazilian kid knew how to play soccer since he or she was born," Sam Glickman '12 said.

Besides playing games, the team also became immersed in the culture by exploring Salvador. They went to a beach but even then, when they were just supposed to be enjoying the view, the team still wanted to play soccer and found that the locals shared their passion equally.

The food was also an adjustment but a pleasant one. They agreed the barbeque was phenomenal. In addition to the food, the soccer team experienced the nightlife of Brazil and had fun dancing to local live music.



The best of SGA Speech Night

By Andrew Cantor, Managing Editor

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

On Wednesday evening at the Spa, 21 first year students running in the Student Government Association fall elections were not visibly intimidated by the audience of nearly 100 of their fellow students.

All candidates, including four students running for positions in the classes of 2011 and 2013, gave short speeches outlining their objectives if elected and entertained questions from the audience. With the exception of class of 2014 treasurer, students ran for every first year position, although not every position was contested. The student body voted in the election either online or in Case Center from 12:01 a.m. on Thursday, to noon on Friday.

I believe this is the first year in a long time that we had a candidate run for every freshman position, said Ali Drucker '11, vice president for Residential Affairs. "It's great to see this type of enthusiasm from the candidates, and I hope it carries into the year. I'm really excited to work with the new first year students."

The candidates, while representing both geographic and ethnic diversity, largely concerned their election platforms on the issues of environmental sustainability, financial austerity and general diversity.

Environmental sustainability is clearly a hot topic, not just at Skidmore, but globally. It's logical that the freshmen were sensitive to the issue only being at the college for a few weeks, said Alex Stark '11, SGA president.

Several first year candidates mentioned the need for a compost pile with organic material from the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall.

A lot of students seem to want a compost pile, and I think this is a great idea, especially with all the food wasted in the dining hall, said Brianna Wellen '14, who ran for the positions of Class of 2014 secretary and First Year senator.

Leland Martin '14, also running for the First Year senator position, said a compost pile could supplement the Environmental Action Club-run student garden as a fertilizer.

It really is a shame how much food is being thrown away in the dining hall, and I see that first-hand having worked there a couple of times, Martin said. "I took a glance at New York composting laws and there doesn't seem to be anything against it."

In acknowledgement of the current tumultuous financial market, Libby Gronquist '11, class president, asked the candidates for their proposals on keeping within a small budget for class events.

Money is good, but money is not the most important thing. People are. Whether we have one dollar, two, or 2,000, we're gonna make the party happen, said Xavier Hatten '14, running for the position of class president.

I'm into do-it-yourself stuff, similar to those old fashioned carnival games when you win a prize and kind of get crafty about it, said Lily Jordahi '14, also running for class president. "I think one of Skidmore's best traits is that there are students that are really creative, so I would put those resources to work."

First year candidates also addressed the issue of ethnic diversity.

"I've been in an international school and I really enjoyed being with people from different countries. I speak almost six languages because I like to connect to people," said Tashi Sherpa '14 from Nepal, running for First Year senator.

"I come from Maine which is not that diverse of a place, but I've written a lot about it for courses in high school. And coming from Maine, I see the need for diversity," said Brianna Wellen '14, running for First Year senator and class treasurer.

"Diversity is such a strong issue here because there are so many different types of people," Hatten said. "That's good but a lot of them don't look like me, and everyone should be heard."

Following speeches from the class of 2014 candidates, students from the classes of 2011 and 2013 ran for various positions, all of them uncontested.

Emilee Bell '13

Emilee Bell '13, running uncontested for the sophomore class president, brings geographic diversity to Skidmore, hailing originally from Washington state and recently moving to Arizona.

Bell ran on the platform of a proposed universal card swipe system, or a policy which would allow students to swipe into any dorm with their campus ID. This past year, Alex Stark '11, now SGA president, originally proposed the idea of all-dorm access for the student body, but the policy never came to fruition.

"It was an all-around difficult measure to pass," Stark said. "There was hesitation on behalf of the administration to allow the campus-wide dorm access, and we had many other things to accomplish in SGA, so we never went through with it."

This is the second year Eve Lewis '11 is running unopposed for social chair of the 2011 class. Lewis, in continuing her position from this past year, believes in tradition at Skidmore.

"One of my favorite events is the lighting ceremony in December," Lewis said. "I know that might sound corny but I think it's a wonderful way for the Skidmore community together, with the a capella performances. It's really a great thing."

Lewis is also in charge of Senior Week in May, where the seniors participate in a series of social events before they graduate at the end of the week. She emphasized a greater community responsibility during that week.

"It's very important to have our last hoorah as a class, but it is also really important to do that in a way that collaborates with the community," Lewis said. "Perhaps it could be along the lines of a formal ball to raise money for a non-profit group or a community group in Saratoga."

Emmeline Taylor '14

Although a first year running unopposed for class social chair, Emmeline Taylor '14 has unique ideas for her class' social events. As a member of the first year class, Taylor would be responsible for the February weekend event.

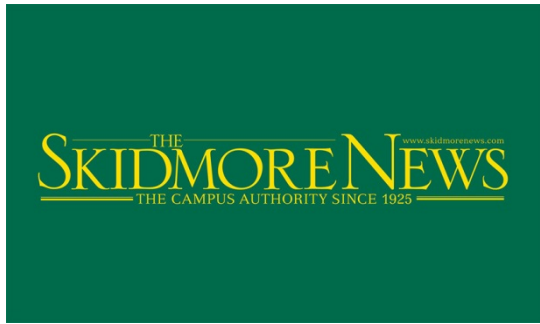
"I was thinking along the lines of an ice cream snowball fight, but that would get dangerous quickly," Taylor said. "Instead I'm proposing a sled decorating competition where dorm floors would compete with their own decorated sled in a race. And of course we'd have hot chocolate."

When asked about a tradition she would bring to Skidmore from her high school, Taylor suggested a "pet day."

"We had a senior pet day, and I'm allergic to a lot of pets so I brought in a hermit crab. I thought maybe we can bring in pet animals on campus," Taylor said.

Katherine Lodge

Katherine Lodge '11, running for class secretary, will, along with Lewis, be in charge of Senior Week and other senior events during the year.



Lodge, citing long waiting times at bars, suggested a ticket system at campus events with alcohol where drinks are prepaid on a number of tickets. This would reduce extensive waiting times at the bar, and yield a more social environment.

#1.1647073:2593350164.jpg

Nearly 100 students crowded the Spa in Case Center on Wednesday night for SGA fall elections.

Melissa Cohn/Skidmore News



Best study spots on campus

By McKenna Lewis, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Sep 24, 2010

When it comes to finding a place to study at Skidmore, creative thought matters. As Scribner Library is the only library on campus, many students have put the school's motto to good use and discovered nooks and crannies all over the school, and even off campus, in which to study.

This year, with the rush of freshmen who comprise what the school's Web site calls "the largest first-year class in Skidmore's history," Scribner Library will now be serving over 100 more people than it did last year.

Many Skidmore students recall over-crowding in the library in past years, especially during exams.

"During mid-terms and finals you have absolutely no chance of finding a place to study in the library," Josselyn Agura '12 said.

When it seems as though the library is overflowing with stressed-out students, where can Skidmore students find a quiet place to study?

Stefan Cocorelis '13 named Student Academic Services (SAS) as a great on-campus resource and explained that it is a drastically underused campus resource.

SAS, located in Starbuck Center, boasts three rooms with whiteboards and tables for group study, four rooms for individual study, a common area with couches and tables, three computers and a printer.

SAS has extended its evening hours this year in response to the larger student body, and is now open from 7 p.m. until midnight, Monday through Thursday, and from noon until midnight on Sundays.

Darren Drabek, the academic counselor at SAS, suggests other options outside of SAS where students can study, such as the academic buildings after-hours. Once the school day is over, these buildings are usually vacant and their doors don't lock until around 11 p.m.

Drabek adds that the study rooms on each floor of every residence hall also make convenient places to study, and are equipped with chairs, desks and couches.

Students housed off campus who don't have access to these study rooms can make use of the Saratoga Springs Public Library. The Public Library is open until 9 p.m. every night and includes designated quiet study rooms.

For students who seek a less structured environment in which to study, many outdoor locations exist on and off campus.

Rachel Hutchins '13 said, "I don't want to give away my secret spot, but in warm weather, the Alumni Garden behind the Surrey Inn is incredible. I went there for my art class one time and fell in love with it."

For those willing to make the trek, the Surrey Inn is located on Broadway near the Office of Admissions, across from Skidmore's main entrance.

Stacy Sullivan '13 also enjoys studying outdoors; one of her favorite spots is the small green quad at the intersection of Howe and Rounds.

No one is ever out there except the occasional Frisbee thrower-it's really quiet and the wireless works perfectly.

Even though Anna Graves '14 is only a first-year student, she has already found her favorite place to study: "I like the swing by the Tang, either to study on it or to sit nearby and be inspired by people swinging."

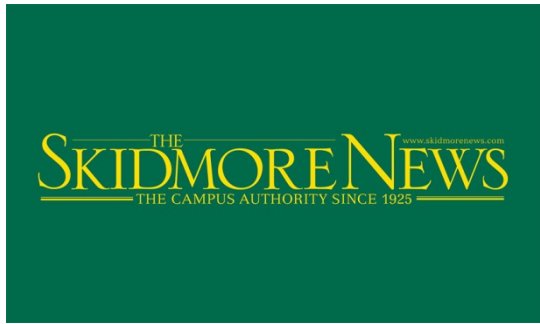
Students also mentioned such outdoor spots as Porter Plaza [the patio and steps on the south side of Case Center], Congress Park, the Adirondack chairs outside the library and, of course, Case Green.

Alex Orthwein '13 said, "The tables by the Green outside Case Center are a popular place for upperclassmen to go. The freshmen sit on the Green. It's a hierarchy." While Orthwein offers an interesting perspective on Case walkway and the green, both of these outdoor areas are, of course, available to all students.

Places to study in the sunshine abound on Skidmore's campus, but when winter comes, anyone who prefers not to study in a blizzard will have to retreat to the indoors.

Case Center offers many different types of places to study, such as the Spa on the first floor and the second floor area outside of Burgess Café, which is equipped with computers and printers.

Sarah Ryan '13 says, "If it's really late and the library is closed, I like to go to the third floor of Case. I've had a lot of good late night study sessions up there with lots of coffee."



SGA election results

By Gabe Weintraub, Editor-in-Chief
On Wed, Sep 29, 2010

Below are the results of the Fall 2010 SGA Elections. 919 votes were cast, equaling 34% of the student body.

SGA Fall Elections Winners:

Class of 2011 Secretary: Katherine Lodge

Class of 2011 Social Chair: Eve Lewis

Class of 2013 President: Emilee Bell

Class of 2014 President: Xavier Hatten

Class of 2014 Vice President: Will Makepeace

Class of 2014 Secretary: Brianna Wellen

Class of 2014 Social Chair: Emmeline Taylor

First Year Senators: Leland Martin, Tashi Sherpa, Amanda Roddy

Northwoods Senator: Dan DeMartini

President of Jonsson Tower: Arissa Fram

President of Kimball: Jay Dwyer

President of McClellan: Amanda Seres

President of Wait Hall: Jess Sonnenfeld

Vice President of McClellan: Osman Pino

Vice President of Penfield: Maggie Andreoni

Vice President of Wilmarth: Grace Zutra