

## Thoroughbreds in Action: Men's soccer vs. MCLA

By Chris Weigl, Staff Photographer

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

Skidmore men's soccer crushed Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts on Tuesday, Sept. 29, blowing them out by a score of 5-1 on a rain soaked Wachenheim Field. The win was Head Coach Ron McEachen's 100th career victory at Skidmore.

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Thoroughbreds in Action 1: Junior Matt Wolf, who had two shots on goal in the game. The Thoroughbreds move to 4-4-2 overall.

Chris Weigl/Skidmore News



## **Sports wrap: Golf claims Liberty League title**

By Audrey Nelson & Gabe Weintraub, Sports Editor & Editor-in-Chief  
On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

With four players shooting 75 or lower in the second round, Skidmore once again laid claim to the Liberty League golf title, edging past Rochester at Ravenwood Golf Club on Sunday, Sept. 26.

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The Thoroughbreds will conclude their fall season on Oct. 10, when they travel to the Greensboro Invitational in Greensboro, N. Carolina.

### **Field hockey**

Skidmore field hockey dominated two strong, in-conference opponents over the weekend, moving their record to 3-0 in Liberty League play and 6-1 overall. The team also jumped to No. 10 in the national rankings.

The Thoroughbreds opened the weekend by shutting out then-undefeated William Smith, 5-0. Junior Annie Rosencrans found senior Christine Kemp in front of the net at the 1:55 mark to put Skidmore ahead. Rosencrans had two assists and a goal for the game. First year Kelly Blackhurst also had two goals.

The next day the Thoroughbreds followed up that win by crushing Rochester, 5-1. Rosencrans, Kemp and Blackhurst all scored.

The team next plays on Thursday, Sept. 30, at home against Middlebury.

### **Women's soccer**

Women's soccer came back to victory this week, shutting down No. 25 ranked Amherst College 1-0. Christine Bellotti beat keeper, Allie Horwitz off her line to land a soft header into the goal's lower right corner 30 minutes into the first half. Bellotti was assisted by Alyssa Miller who sent a long ball for the only goal of the game.

The Thoroughbreds will face Utica College this Saturday.

### **Men's soccer**

Men's soccer won coach Ron McEachen's 100th career victory against MCLA with a final score of 5-1. Pat Wildes scored the Thoroughbred's first goal in the 19th minute where the score would stay for the rest of the half. In a nine minute span, the team took the score up to 4-0, followed by MCLA's only goal in the 66th minute. Freshman Gildas Giriman landed his second goal of the season to finish off the game.

The men look to an away game against Cazenovia this Saturday.

### **Women's tennis**

Women's tennis took several victories at the 2010 USTA/ITA Regional Championship including the 8-1 championship from doubles team, Senior Rachel Loeb and Sophomore Nataly Mendoza over Leighton/Raevsky of William Smith College. Melissa Hirsch and Molly Nolan reached quarterfinals in singles, while Mendoza reached the round of 16. Junior Tory Engros made finals of the singles consolation bracket and didn't drop a set in the first three rounds. The team will host UAlbany on Thursday at 6 p.m.

## Five inducted to Skidmore Hall of Fame

By Madeline Frank, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

On Saturday, Sept. 25, the Friends of Skidmore Athletics inducted five individuals and one team into Skidmore's Athletic Hall of Fame. The ceremony also honored the 2010 equestrian team, which won the national championship in May.

The Friends of Skidmore Athletics Benefit and Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony began at 6:00 p.m., with a cocktail hour at Skidmore's Sports and Recreation Center. About 270 people attended the event with dinner provided in one of the large gyms by local hotel and restaurant, Longfellows.

Colleen Barber '04, a field hockey player, earned herself a spot into the Hall of Fame as one of the best players in the history of women's field hockey. She is a four-time UCAA All-Star and became Skidmore's all-time assist leader. Taryn Howard Drake '03 played both field hockey and lacrosse. She was the first Skidmore student to be featured in Sports Illustrated's "Faces in the Crowd" by scoring five goals in a playoff game, a record, and remains Skidmore's all-time leading scorer.

Dana Martin '05, a basketball player, was his team's lead scorer for all four years of college and moved on to play professionally for the Vermont Frost Heaves. Josef Pohle '02, a member of Skidmore's golf team, captured many individual championships at tournaments during his time at Skidmore and even won the 2007 Taylor Made Assistants Championship and the 2009 Callaway TPD Championship as a Skidmore graduate. Kathy Tschampel '02 helped the volleyball team achieve a 0.857 winning percentage and was the first Skidmore player to be named National Player of the Week in 2000.

The men's 1999-2000 golf team was also inducted into the hall of fame. The team won seven tournaments and the Golf Coaches Association of America ranked the golf team third in the nation. The 1996-1997 men's ice hockey team earned team of distinction by capturing its fourth-straight Eastern Collegiate Athletic Association South regular-season title.

Skidmore's 2010 National Champion Equestrian Team was also recognized at the ceremony. In May 2010, seven members of Skidmore's Equestrian Team competed in Kentucky against the country's best collegiate riding teams. Skidmore began the competition with a lead and remained on top to emerge victorious against competitive schools like Centenary College and the University of Kentucky. Elizabeth Kigin '10, Laura Roberts '10, Cecilia Culp '11, Hanae Kimura '11, Kelly Campbell '12, Chelsea Jones '12 and Isabella McKeon '12 all received rings for their performance for the team at nationals, and



Alexandra McGuire '11 received a ring for her individual walk-trot-canter championship ribbon. Coaches Cindy Ford and Belinda Colgan were also given rings.

A silent auction including over 60 items took place, with proceeds benefiting the Friends of Skidmore Athletics. Speeches included a welcome and introduction from President Philip Glotzbach and Athletics Director Gail Cummings-Danson. Guest speaker, Hall of Fame NBA coach Dr. Jack Ramsay also took the stage. Ramsay coached in the NBA for 20 years, winning a championship with the Portland Trail Blazers in 1977. He finished his career as the seventh-winningest coach in NBA history.



## **Huge class brings surplus of Work-Study employees**

By Bradley Morris & Rebecca Stern, Additional Reporting by Andrew Cantor

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

Nearly 49 percent of students work on-campus as part of the Federal Work-Study Program, and the majority of those students work in Dining Services. With the admittance of the largest First Year Class in college history, and roughly half of the 2014 class working in Dining Services, some students are concerned with the availability of employment.

"It has altered my work experience a little bit because they are more of them," said Sergio Hernandez '12, who works in Dining Services and Burgess Cafe nine hours each week. "They got their first pick on [work] shifts that I wanted."

William Caney, director of Dining Services, views the large First Year Class as an opportunity to cover every station and task in the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall. In response to the financial crisis in the Fall of 2008, the Skidmore board reduced the college budget, which mean the reduction of service, especially in Dining Services.

In a Skidmore News article from Fall 2009, Canney said additional reduction in dining personnel would create an "operational problem."

Now with the large size of the First Year Class and a nearly full recovery of the college endowment, Canney believes more students means the dining services will be more prepared for jobs this year.

"We find that we're more readily able to fill more voids that we had in past years," he said. "[the first year students] are a true compliment to our full time workforce."

For first year students, the minimum they can work is five hours per week and the maximum is nine hours per week. First years are put at all locations in the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall, Burgess Café, the atrium and the spa. With more employed students, one could expect reduced hours to accommodate the need for employment.

Although students are working fewer hours than in years passed, Canney believes this will change as the semester goes on since students have come in and changed their work schedule due to class schedules. Once students are used to their classes and schedules, students are more likely to be able to work extra hours.



It appears that the students are working slightly less in hours, but it's too early to tell at this point, Canney said.

Alternatively, some first year students have quit work-study due to its demanding schedule, which will open up additional working hours.

"I quit work study because it was much more time consuming than I anticipated. And since there are so many freshmen working," Angela Tsakas '14 said. "I know that there is someone else who will gladly work my hours."

"We are very reliant on our student workforce," Canney said. "The dining hall staff has done a great job at accommodating all of the freshmen working. We are constantly busy when we are there, and we never seem to overlap."

In another area of the Dining Services operations, in early September, 150 union employees were at risk of losing their health benefits due to union negotiations with the college. The Skidmore News was not able to reach Caney for comment on the issue as of Thursday.

As reported in the Saratogian earlier in September, the three-year contract between the union and the college expired on May 31. The previous contract required the college to pay 21 percent of the gross payroll to the 1199SEIU Greater New York Benefit Fund health care plan. Since that time the 1199SEIU requested a one percent increase in the cost, which the college denies responsibility for in the contract.

Employees will be responsible for and pay all increases required by [the health plan] 1199, to ensure Greater New York Health Fund participation, and to maintain the current level of benefits provided by Greater New York Health Fund, above 21 percent of gross pay, the former contract said, published online on the college human resources website.

"The college has contributed to the Greater New York Benefit Fund in the amounts as bargained and agreed upon," said Dan Forbush, executive director of communications for the college, in a statement on Sept. 2.

"We have been discussing 1199 health care with union leadership as part of the ongoing negotiations and the college has been working diligently to a positive conclusion for our employees," said the college Human Resources Department on the same date, as reported by the Saratogian.

For a follow-up article on union negotiations with the college, read October 8th's issue of Skidmore News.

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Dining hall 1

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News



## **Pavement show: relaxed, not lackadaisical**

By Eric Shapiro, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

Judging by reviews of Pavement's shows since its reunion a couple of months ago, I expected to see a band whose slacker attitude and time apart manifested itself in extreme sloppiness.

But unless Friday night's show at the Rumsey Playfield on the east side of New York's Central Park on Sept. 24 was a complete anomaly, the aforementioned assessment couldn't be further from the truth. Actually, it's a bit insulting (although it's difficult to imagine a band known for its apathy taking offense); Malkmus, Spiral Stairs and company are seasoned musicians, and it's not as if they haven't picked up their instruments since Pavement broke up in 1999.

The only mistakes the band made were entirely deliberate. One might call such instances "audience alienation," but the fact is, the crowd—made up of both middle-aged fans from the band's heyday and college-age hipsters—seemed to relish the intentional gaffes, as if they were in on some musical joke. Barring a few half-hearted gestures, Stephen Malkmus remained studiously disengaged, seemingly oblivious to the fact that Pavement's reunion triggered a collective orgasm in the ever-growing world of independent music.

The fact that the audience responded so well is a testament to how much of an impact Pavement's aesthetic has had on modern music. 1980s alternative rock bands like Dinosaur Jr. and the Replacements pushed their brands of apathy to varying degrees of success, but Pavement set the terms for following decade.

The only aspect of the show that didn't seem entirely incidental was the setlist. Thankfully, the band had enough sense to realize that even they couldn't get away with playing all obscurities (tickets don't cost \$10 dollars anymore!); fan faves like "Cut Your Hair," "Range Life," "Gold Soundz," "Shady Lane," "Summer Babe," "Silence Kit," "Father to a Sister of Thought" and others were all forthcoming.

The mood was unquestionably positive, relaxed rather than lackadaisical. There was no stage diving, but plenty of singing along.

And honestly, although I'm too young to have seen Pavement play in the 1990s, Friday night seemed like an approximation of how the band must have sounded back in the day rather than a major event.

I wasn't blown away, but it probably wouldn't have been a true Pavement concert if I were.



## Kuch delivers Fox-Adler lecture

By Kristin Travagline, A&E Editor

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

Michael Kuch delivered the 2010 Fox-Adler Lecture on Sept. 23, titled, "The Annotated Image: When Picture Precedes Text; The Books of Michael Kuch."

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.

The title of the lecture was reinforced by Kuch's beginning statement. "Words are lovely, but they are not my first love. In my books the text is a concomitant, an adjunct, an afterthought," Kuch said.

Along with explaining the technical aspects of his artwork, Kuch described his close student-teacher relationship with Professor Leonard Baskin of Hampshire College.

After Kuch graduated from Hampshire, he wanted to continue printmaking and asked Baskin if he could use his studio in exchange for his assistance. Kuch half joked that his first job for Baskin was hanging sheetrock. "That wasn't what I agreed to at lunch," Kuch said.

Baskin had recently become friends with writer and civil right activist James Baldwin when he died in 1987. A limited edition book collaboration had been in the works involving Baldwin's poetry and Baskin's artwork.

After Baldwin's death, Baskin etched portraits of the writer, depicting him at different points in his life. Baskin gave Kuch his professional start by inviting him to print these etchings for the book, although Kuch had never printed an edition of etchings before. "Leonard knew that he wanted a printer with artistic sensitivity as opposed to a clean, precise and proper printer," Kuch said.

Kuch continued working as Baskin's assistant, printing etchings for Gehanna Press until Baskin's death in 2000.

In 1994, while working for Baskin, Kuch decided to start his own press. Kuch named his Double Elephant Press after the largest dimension possible for page size of a book. "In truth, the name of the press was not designed to connote anything so ambitious, I merely thought I would enjoy drawing elephants," Kuch said.

In 1996 the Double Elephant Press published "Amour and Armor." The motif for Kuch's book was the image of seashells that took on the human form in the context of a field-guide.

There had always been something engaging about these spiraling, abandoned homes. I would be talking about human vulnerability, though this time it would be examining our defenses, that is the great shells we live in, carry around with us and how these shells can often be quite pointed, Kuch said.

Kuch continued the lecture by describing his milestone publications. In 2004 Kuch published "A Sphinx's Field-Guide to Questionable Answers." This publication in particular illustrates Kuch's newfound experimentation with wood block printing. Kuch had not worked extensively with this medium until after Baskin's death. The woodcut was Baskin's specialty and Kuch had wished to differentiate himself from his mentor. "After Leonard's death in 2000, for whatever reason, be it Freudian or a fellowship, I felt freer to explore the medium of woodcut," Kuch said.

Kuch's explained how he also creates artwork from a satirical perspective, motivated by current events. "In 2003 with the onset of the second war in the gulf, it was obvious to many of us that aside from the usual stupidity of any war, in that it attempts to resolve conflict by killing people, a new threshold of idiocy had been crossed by launching the precipitating attack," Kuch said.

In response, Kuch created the "Common Monsters of the United States" series, in which he designs beasts that depict aspects of social behavior that foster war. For example, one of Kuch's pieces is titled "Common Oilsucker" and depicts a moth with camouflage wings, wearing a gas mask.

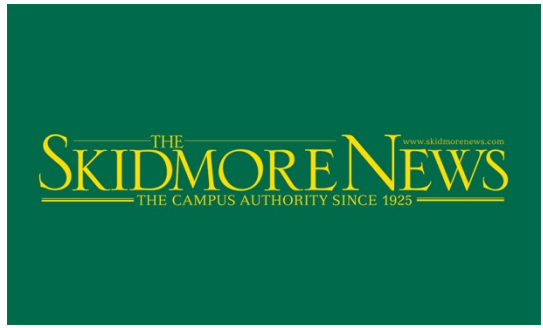
The events of Sept. 11 also had an effect on Kuch, whose apartment is five blocks from Ground Zero and his artwork.

"At first the event seemed too raw to react to as an artist. However, I was dismayed at the time at how the disaster was being used by the political and media establishment to whip up a frenzy to go to war or rather wars. I was struck by how little space was actually given to actually grieving this national loss," Kuch said.

For the one-year anniversary of Sept. 11, Kuch produced the book "Falling to Earth."

Kuch's most recent work is titled "Waterlines" and includes a work, done with woodcut, related to the destruction caused by Hurricane Katrina.

Kuch ended the lecture by relating his artistic mission. "What does it mean, 10 years into a new millennium, when there is much talk about the death of books? Will books be killed off by the Kindle?"



I'm sure they will, just as photography killed portrait painting. My mission is not to mourn the death of books, but to celebrate its death because, in doing so, I celebrate the life of books," Kuch said.

## Dining Hall employee Simon Grimes dishes out album

By Jean-Ann Kubler, Features Editor

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

On Sept. 23 Dining Services employee and emcee Simon Grimes released a 24-track album titled "Da Mixed Ape," available for free download online.

The album contains over 200 minutes of music, most of which were composed in the last four months. The album was released under the stage name Sime Gezus.

Grimes, who is originally from nearby Cambridge, N.Y., has been involved in the music industry for over 10 years, both as an emcee and a producer. His interest in music was sparked during his junior year of high school.

My girlfriend at the time got this program where you could make beats and I started to play with that here and there. It was really basic, but the more that I messed with it, the more I loved it, Grimes said.

After high school Grimes enrolled in the Art Institute of Boston (AIB) where he studied studio engineering for a year.

"The kids at AIB were so advanced -they could make the music and rhyme. I couldn't rhyme at that point. I would free style here and there, but they really opened up my eyes," Grimes said.

At AIB, Grimes mainly studied production. "I didn't take it that seriously because I knew I wanted to record my own stuff, not just produce," Grimes said.

Today, Grimes is producing his own music alongside a close-knit team at Sub-Bombin Records, a production company based in Saratoga.

Sub-Bombin is like a mini family, Grimes said. The artists connected to Sub-Bombin all help produce and are often featured on each other's tracks. Grimes is currently interested in finding female artists to become involved with the company.

Grimes is also involved with the upstate label Glass Ceiling Effect which produced "Da Mixed Ape."

The title of his new album is based on Grimes' state of mind while working on it. "I was going through some difficult personal things this summer and as a result I fell back in love with music after a little



hiatus from it. I felt like a weird monster, dealing with these issues and having all of this creativity flowing," Grimes said.

Grimes describes his musical style as abstract, eclectic and somewhat dark. "I don't want to call it depressing, but it's not exactly upbeat either. To understand a lot of it you just need to listen. Every song is a different emotion," Grimes said.

Grimes cites Biggie Smalls, Tupac Shakur, the Doors, Portishead and Radiohead as his musical influences. His biggest influence, however, is the Wu-Tang Clan.

"I was always into hip hop but when I first heard the beats RZA made for the Wu it really inspired me. I'd never heard anything like that. It's phenomenal," Grimes said.

The Mixed Ape is a change from where Grimes began 10 years ago. "My music has developed. I used to just try to put any words to a beat. I've come into my voice since then," Grimes said.

The Mixed Ape along with Grimes' previous albums are available to download at [www.simegezus.bandcamp.com](http://www.simegezus.bandcamp.com).

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Dining Services employee Simon Grimes performing at the club Bogies in Albany, New York.

Photo courtesy of Simon Grimes





## Righteous babe plays Zankel

By Alex Brehm, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

On Sept. 26, Skidmore College and Caffé Lena came together to offer Ani DiFranco's performance in the Arthur Zankel Music Center.

DiFranco, whose piercing music and poetic lyrics have enthralled fans, got her start in music in the fall of 1990 in downtown Saratoga Springs, on the stage of Caffé Lena. She performed only a year after the venue's owner, Lena Spencer, died.

"She only played for an audience of about 40 people. Everyone could feel this remarkable charisma and magic about her," said current Lena director Sarah Craig.

Caffé Lena is celebrating 50 years in operation, and has brought in a slew of well-known musicians this year. In May, Arlo Guthrie took the Zankel stage. "We're trying to celebrate the artists who have played Lena and gone on to have really extraordinary careers," Craig said.

The show opened with Erin McKeown, a folk songwriter featured on DiFranco's Righteous Babe record label. She reached the audience with interaction, encouraging snaps and claps during songs. "This song is about claustrophobia and to feel claustrophobic. I need you all to whisper while I'm singing-like you're talking about me," said McKeown. McKeown played solo on an electric guitar with a gritty sound and songs sprinkled with her own hisses and stage whispers.

Then out came the Righteous Babe herself. DiFranco took the stage to cheers and opened with her crowd-pleaser, "Anticipate." DiFranco also played solo, often switching guitars in between songs, taking advantage of different acoustics and tunings.

Members of the audience frequently took the initiative to interject in between DiFranco's songs. DiFranco played two encore songs, bringing McKeown back out for a duet rendition of "Overlap."

Caffé Lena staff used the concert as a chance to promote the venue's new student rush ticket policy. When concerts do not sell out, students will be able to purchase tickets on the night of the performance for \$5, about one-fourth of the regular price. At sold-out concerts, rush tickets will not be available.

Lena staff have expressed the desire to bring more singers to Zankel in a joint production with the college, but currently there are no joint performances billed. Downtown at Caffé; Lena, many more well known folk artists will be performing, including Mary Gauthier, Eric Andersen and John Doyle.

Music #1.1661115:1594543962.jpg

Folkmusic artist Ani DiFranco played at the Arthur Zankel Music Center.



## Twitter brings Kanye West full circle

By Jenna Postler, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

Life has come full circle recently for KanyeWest.

It's been over a year since the artist's infamous, "I'mma let you finish" incident at the 2009 MTV Video Music Awards, when he stole the microphone from 20-year-old award winner Taylor Swift. For fans and critics alike, it seems that the hip-hop artist's career is finally back on track. To re-launch his career, West used an unlikely option: Twitter.

As many celebrities do after committing a faux pas, West disappeared from the music scene for several months following the incident. Out of the public eye, we can only assume that the artist took this time to do some soul searching.

On July 28, West joined the social networking site Twitter, and he hasn't stopped tweeting yet. In and of itself, West creating a Twitter account is not big news. What's startling about West's use of technology is that he has cemented himself in popular culture as simultaneously being a professional crazy person and a gifted artist.

West, in addition to providing us with the snippets we would expect from a rap artist about cars, women and clothes, took to giving his followers important life advice. West, who tweets about a variety of things, several times a day, has composed such insights as: "HEADED TO THE CLUB... these tweets were made of real bits of panther!!!!" and "Make sure your accounts receivable are faster than your accounts payable."

After the initial insanity of West's tweets wore off, and fans stopped laughing at his random tweets about cherubs and goblets, West began to use his Twitter account for self-promotion. Through a series of tweets on Aug. 22, West announced his plans to release a new song a week as part of a program called, "G.O.O.D. Fridays."

Since then, West has kept to his promise to release a new track a week until Dec. 25. The artist's weekly releases have featured such artists as: Raekwon, Jay-Z, Swizz Beatz, Nicki Minaj and Bon Iver. The releases are no doubt part of a promotional program preparing for the release of his fifth studio album, which is currently untitled.

West's most recent, and arguably his best to date, G.O.O.D. Friday release is titled "So Appalled." The track features RZA, Jay-Z, Pusha T, Swizz Beatz and Cyhi the Prynce. The sheer lyrical genius of this

collaboration is best demonstrated by rapper Pusha-T's verse, in which he rhymes: "Success is what you make it, take it how it come. A half a mill in twenties like a billion where I'm from. An arrogant drug dealer the legend I've become, CNN said I'd be dead by 21."

With releases like "So Appalled," West is providing fans with real, talent-filled music that we haven't seen from the artist since his third studio album, "Graduation." After an ill-fated experimentation phase with auto tune, and his album "808s & Heartbreak," some feared the artist would never get back to giving his fans quality music.

Luckily, just over a year after the Taylor Swift incident, West is back on track and just as eccentric as ever.



## Is there enough space in Zankel?

By Jesse Shayne, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

As the Arthur Zankel Music Center enters its first full year in use, questions have arose concerning the rehearsal space system.

The state of the art facility offers a lot more than the old FileneMusic Building but, at a college with a highly musical student population, there still may not be enough space to accommodate student needs.

With the number of ensembles, acapella groups and other musical organizations pushing well into double digits, reserving group rehearsal space is a tricky task.

As the Arthur Zankel Music Center enters its first full year in use, questions have arose concerning the rehearsal space system.

Google Calendar has become the system used to schedule practice time. "The calendar is almost completely covered. The whole day is this dense network, sometimes overlapping," music department Chairman Thomas Denny said.

One problem with the scheduling is that the rooms in Zankel are also rented out to groups outside of the music department and sometimes groups outside of the college altogether.

Yet, performing music groups still get high priority in the scheduling process. "We have sometimes encountered that scheduling in these spaces conflicts with our offerings. Some of us worry that the College's eagerness to earn income by renting spaces might conflict with our educational mission," said Professor Gordon Thompson.

Meanwhile, students who are not enrolled in music courses are prohibited from using the practice rooms, due to the limited amount of space. The rooms require students to swipe their Skidmore ID card for access. Only the cards of students who are taking music lessons will open the doors. However, it's possible to get in without using them.

"Officially the rooms are reserved for students taking lessons. However, students do find their way to play instruments in practice rooms. Nobody is up there collecting ID cards. Students are resourceful. They have friends they can play with," Denny said.

As far as the number of rooms goes, music students haven't had much trouble finding space to practice. "Everyone has their own class schedule and their own time to practice so it works out nicely. My experiences have been really peaceful," music student Lyndsay Stone '14 said.

Despite scheduling conflicts, the new building addresses many needs that Filene did not. The new concert hall offers acoustics that none of the other theaters on campus possess. There are more practice rooms, more classroom space and the rooms offer sound isolation. "We really just outgrew the old building," said Denny.

The final issue with Zankel is that it still doesn't address the need for a permanent place for unchartered student bands to rehearse. As with Filene, bands aren't allowed to practice at Zankel. "There's a long history of bands trying to play in the music buildings. There's a number of reasons why they can't: space, concerns with equipment, damage to facility, etc. The building is primarily an academic teaching facility and has to function as such," Denny said.

As of right now it's possible for bands to rehearse at the Chapel or Falstaff's, although clubs are given priority. Robin Adams, assistant director of Leadership Activities, along with the Student Government Association and various committees on campus, are still discussing the option of a permanent place for student bands to practice. A temporary solution is being worked out.

A soundproof trailer is most likely going to be put next to Falstaff's within the next month. Bands will get priority with renting the space. Denny was optimistic about the trailer. "It's a huge need for students to have some sort of facility for bands. It's a big student life issue," Denny said.

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Zankel 1:Wylie Brown '12 practicing the clarinet in Arthur Zankel Music Center.

Music students are easily finding space to practice, although student bands are not.

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News



## **SGA endorses sexual misconduct policy**

By Kat Kullman, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

On Tuesday, Sept. 28, the Senate of the Student Government Association discussed the update to Skidmore's Sexual Misconduct Policy.

Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun and representatives from the Center for Sex and Gender Relations, Joe Yanks '11 and Claire Throckmorton '11, attended Senate in order to discuss the changes in policy.

In fall 2009, the Student Affairs subcommittee of the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee decided to undergo a comprehensive review of the Sexual Assault Policy. The Committee was motivated by the concerns of the community and decided that Skidmore needed to revise these policies.

We knew that one of the critical issues for us was that there weren't enough people in the community being actively trained to deal with sexual assault. We needed to change that, Calhoun said.

The foundation of the new policy is called 'effective consent.' Effective consent is intended to keep communication going during all points of sexual activity and requires that both people agree concretely as to how far the sexual activity will go.

"When we talk about effective consent, we're really asking of the two people, what did the victim do that you thought gave consent? And what did you do that said no?" Calhoun said.

Without this effective consent, it is automatically considered sexual misconduct, regardless of substance abuse. "A lot of times during sex, alcohol is involved. But if you're the initiator you need to gain consent. Effective consent can be given nonverbally, though a nod or a gesture, but the more you drink, the more clear the consent needs to be," Yanks said.

This policy is intended to help make the boundaries of sexual misconduct or assault clearer and more inclusive. "One of the reasons for this change is that it gives power to the victim, and it gives a definition to these acts. It is also unique in that it uses gender neutral pronouns, and it includes having more than two partners in a sexual act. "It's all covered under this policy," Throckmorton said.

Additionally, the new policy adjusts what occurs if the victim reports the assault. In the case of an accusation, the complainant is assigned an 'advocate,' while the respondent is assigned an 'advisor.'



These are members of the faculty or staff at Skidmore who have gone through numerous sexual assault trainings both at Skidmore and in Saratoga.

They have been observed and been certified to take the position of either advocate or advisor. Both guides are there to advise the complainant and respondent in a non-legal manner and to let the student know what his or her best options are. Advisors and advocates stay with the students through the entire hearing process, even after it is over. Advocates are also available for students who choose not to report the assault.

This policy of effective consent intends to put an end to reactive education and shift it to proactive education. "Effective consent is so important. We're making a policy that reflects the community we want to have," Yanks said. Calhoun agreed.

We hope to use this to enact a cultural shift, Calhoun said.

*Saunie Schuster, a partner in the Ohio-base law firm of Schuster & Clifford, LLP and recognized national expert on the issues of sexual assault on college campuses, will address students in an open discussion and review of the policy at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 6 in Gannett Auditorium.*

## Lacrosse player sues college

Suit alleges negligence by assistant lacrosse coach prior to 2009 assault

By Rebecca Orbach, News Editor

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

Michael Torpe '11 has sued the college, accusing former assistant lacrosse coach, Thomas Trapani, of neglectful behavior while knowing he was in physical danger.

Torpe also sued four Skidmore hockey players, Timothy Welsh '10, Steven Keady '10, Christopher Crowley '10 and Joseph Forstbauer '10, for allegedly invading his home on Church street and gang beating him, sending him to the hospital unconscious, with a concussion and bruises.

Torpe, a Skidmore lacrosse player, filed the civil suit last April in Nassau County State Supreme Court.

The four hockey players allegedly punched and kicked Torpe 35 times on April 26, 2009 after a night at the Caroline street bar, Gaffney's.

The issues between Torpe and the hockey players purportedly began in Feb. 2009 when Welch's girlfriend, Kelsey Thorn '12, allegedly falsely told them that Torpe was stalking her.

The suit reports that Trapani was aware of the hockey players' threats by April 18, 2009, but did not share the information with college officials.

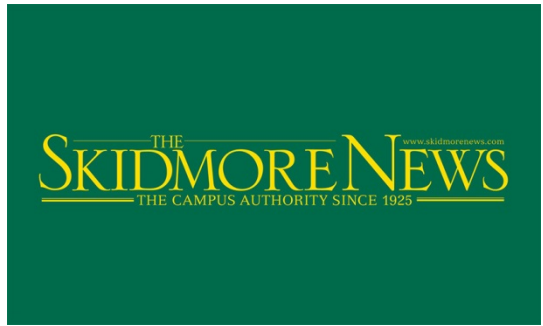
On the night Torpe was attacked, he was with Trapani in Gaffney's and allegedly asked for advice on how to handle the situation as the four hockey players approached him. "The coach replied that 'he could not help, and that he was on his own,'" the Times Union reported.

In addition to suing the college, Torpe's attorney, Thomas McDermott, accuses Thorn of putting Torpe in danger, and accuses Gaffney's of serving the four students because of their intoxication before the alleged attack.

Torpe seeks damages for pain and emotional suffering, reported the Times Union article.

The college and Trapani deny any responsibility or accountability for the alleged incident. "We fully expect that this lawsuit will be dismissed," spokeswoman Andrea Wise said to a Times Union reporter.

Torpe currently has an internship in New York City, but will return to the college in January.



The hockey players were charged with felony burglary. Keady and Welsh were indicted on misdemeanor criminal trespass charges and they pleaded guilty to those violations. Crowley and Forstbauer were not indicted.





## Club Profile: International Student Union encourages campus bonding

By Tegan O'Neill, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

The class of 2014 is the most diverse in the college's history, which also means an increase in international students.

The International Student Union seeks to help acquaint international and local students with each other.

*Skidmore News: To begin with, what is the International Student Union?*

Stefan Cocorelis (Greece, Public Relations officer): ISU represents the international students at Skidmore College. We try to promote awareness about the international students on campus.

Rohini Alamgir (Bangladesh, president): The message we are trying to send this year is that you don't have to be international to be a part of the international student union. American students are just as international to us as we are to them.

*SN: What sort of events does the ISU host to facilitate awareness and integration?*

Cocorelis: We have events such as the international dance party that we hosted on Sept. 17 which was a great success.

Alamgir: The ISU takes a trip every year to New York City. The city is such a pivotal location. Everyone has seen it on film when they come from abroad so actually visiting and getting to experience New York City is exciting and so worth it.

We are also thinking about an internationally themed week in November, and we're looking into international film nights.

Cocorelis: We try to hold events that will help Skidmore students learn more about the international students and also the other way around. These events are a great way for international students to interact with American students.

*SN: How many international students are at Skidmore?*



Cocorelis: This term, there are the most international students ever. I'm not sure of the exact number, but there are at least 30 international kids in every class.

*SN: How many students are a part of the ISU?*

Cocorelis: This year we got an astounding number of people to join. Around 150 kids signed up this year at the club fair which is something that we are very proud of.

Alamgir: I am really glad that we had such great feedback at the club fair this year. We had so many American kids show up at our first meeting. I was very proud of the Skidmore community.

*SN: How did you get the message out this year?*

Alamgir: It was awkward. I had a sign on my back that said, "You don't have to be International!!"

*SN: Is there anything the ISU is doing differently this year?*

Alamgir: There are several things. This year we are trying to collaborate with other cultural clubs on campus. We have the Ramadan dinner coming up in collaboration with Hayat on Sept. 30 at Falstaffs.

I think it is important that everyone understands the fundamental message of the ISU. International kids are desperately trying to make our way into this college culture and this society and, although it might look like we are trying to be exclusive, we really are not.

It is not always easy for us to integrate because some of us speak differently, some of us have heavy accents and some of us just don't understand the social cues of this culture. There are so many cultural differences. It is important for us to have everyone understand and accept that.

## Fast romance for first years

By Mariel Kennedy, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

Single and ready to mingle, freshmen? Here's some good news: the psychology department is conducting an on-campus speed dating study for all members of the class of 2014.

The study begins September 28 and will continue on Tuesday evenings throughout the year.

This is the second time the speed dating study has been conducted at Skidmore.

According to Professor Mary Campa, who leads the effort, new data from this year's study will be incorporated into the significant information collected during the first study. Some preliminary data can be viewed in the halls of Tisch Learning Center.

The purpose of the study is to observe how people choose dates and mates, what characteristics are desirable and how this information is used when choosing a date.

Campa said, "We are interested in the process people engage in when selecting a romantic partner. People have a lot of ideas about who might make a good partner for them and we want to see how they use this information in picking people to see again."

The study takes just over four hours to complete. After creating a username, password and nickname on [skidmorespeeddating.com](http://skidmorespeeddating.com), participants have three hours to complete an initial questionnaire with background information, past relationships and personality.

After finishing the questionnaire, participants will be scheduled for a particular speed dating event.

At the event, they will pose for a picture before being set up on 12 separate five-minute dates with a member of the opposite sex. Each date will be voice-recorded for further studies.

After each date, a short survey must be filled out. A non-obligatory secondary study follows, in which willing participants give a DNA sample collected through a simple cheek swab. The DNA is used to study the possible genetic component of attraction.

Within 24 hours of the end of the study, participants return to the speed dating website to fill out another short survey and rank their dates. Speed dating matches are sent out via the Web site 48 hours later.



Participants will be able to connect with matches for four weeks following the experiment through an anonymous messaging service. Another survey will be sent out to participants weekly for the duration of their interactions.

Campa says the Skidmore study is closely modeled after a professional speed dating service. "Generally, people have enjoyed it."

The study promises that all information -photos, voice recordings, etc.- will be completely confidential. Only study personnel will have access to collected data.

Participants are identified by either nicknames or assigned numbers. Names and study materials will also not be available to other participants. Students are able to withdraw from the study at any time.

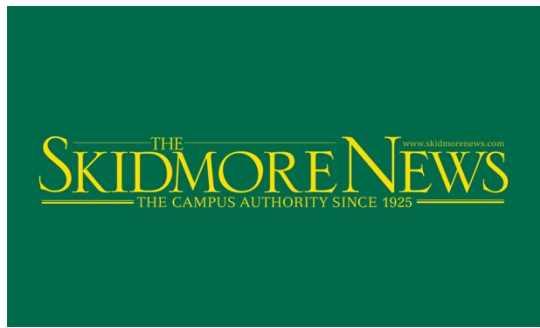
Campa plans to continue the study in the future for as long as people are willing to take part.

Each study will consist of 24 students- 12 males and 12 females. Due to size limitations at Skidmore, similar studies are being conducted on a larger scale at Queens College

Skidmore Speed Dating offers many possible benefits and rewards. Other than the potential of a date, the free dating service signs up participants for a \$100 lottery for each completed follow-up survey. There is also a \$15 reward for those who choose to provide DNA samples.

Currently the study is targeted only at first-year students over the age of 18. Personnel ask that all volunteers be individuals who are romantically interested in opposite sex partners. It is also asked that all participants not be in a committed, exclusive relationship.

The speed dating Web site does offer a disclaimer, stating, "There is a risk of embarrassment, awkwardness and / or social rejection as a result of participating in this study."



## Read fine print on political ads

By Tyler Reny, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

It's election season again. The media finally has something more pertinent to talk about than Lindsay Lohan's release from prison or Lady Gaga's meat dress. Now ideologically conflicting pundit's can yell at each other as they try and predict the outcome of November's elections. But who's really going to win? Who knows! We can only be sure that Christine O'Donnell dabbled in witchcraft as a teen.

With election season, however, comes a far more annoying phenomenon: political advertisements. They are omnipresent and obnoxious as hell. Some try to scare the elderly by exposing Obamacare as a Medicare killing behemoth. Others warn of the job slaying effects of any bills that would help wean us off of fossil fuels.

What is more important than the often-misleading messages of these advertisements is the nearly illegible funding groups that pop up at the bottom of the screen during the last few seconds of the ad.

The group often has a pleasant grass-rootsy-sounding name like Americans for Job Security but, too often, turns out to be a front group for wealthy donors or corporations who want to quietly and anonymously funnel large amounts of money toward influencing legislation or political campaigns.

The ads raise the important issue of disclosure. Who is funding these ads? What do they stand to win or lose? Due to loopholes in current campaign finance law, we often don't know.

Americans for Job Security, for example, was founded by Republican business interests in 1997 and because of its non-profit status can raise unlimited funds and is exempt from having to disclose its donors. The group, which sounds like a grassroots job security advocacy organization, is actually a single employee front for conservative interests that funnels money (\$6.1 million last year) into politically charged issue advocacy.

Perhaps the most influential and least known corporation, famous for quietly donating astonishing amounts of money to deceptively titled front groups, is Koch Industries, the \$100 billion dollar conglomerate from Kansas.

Koch Industries owns a variety of different companies, from Brawny towels to Dixie cups, but collects the majority of its profits from oil and gas pipelines and refineries around the country. It is the second



largest private corporation in the U.S. and has made its owners, the Koch brothers, Charles and David, some of the richest men in America, with a combined wealth of about \$35 billion.

The brothers, who have spent an estimated \$100 million on issue advocacy, have recently been credited with funding the climate change denial machine. Greenpeace has reported that between 2005 and 2008 the corporation funneled \$24.8 million to about 35 distinct groups that have fought to discredit the science behind global climate change. Their political action committee has given about \$5.7 million to conservative Congressmen and spent \$37.9 million on direct lobbying.

As the Greenpeace report puts it, Koch Industries' "tight knit network of lobbyists, former executives and organizations has created a forceful stream of misinformation that Koch-funded entities produce and disseminate. This campaign propaganda is then replicated, repackaged and echoed many times throughout the Koch-funded web of political front groups and think tanks."

When you see those ads lambasting the "questionable science" behind global climate change or "job killing" government initiatives funded by organizations with names like The Institute for Energy Research, just be aware that much of their funding often comes from greedy billion-dollar corporations who fear a potential threat to their bottom lines.

A functioning democracy requires the transparency that comes from better disclosure laws. Citizens must know just who stands to win or lose on a given issue. Last week Senate Democrats tried to push a bill through Congress that would require corporations and unions to disclose how they spent their money in political campaigns. The bill quietly died when the GOP blocked the bill from coming to a vote and accused the Democrats of ignoring the larger issues. Republicans clearly don't want us to know who pays their bills.

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





## **EDITORIAL: To learn and respect**

By The Editorial Board

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

Rumors rage all over campus. Students wonder whether the Saratoga Springs Police Department really threatened to Taser students at an off-campus party, question why the police took away students' Skidmore Cards and try to place faces to the names of the students arrested.

Some of these rumors are true. Others are not. But on the green, in the dining hall, on the walk home from class, students are talking. At the heart of the rumor mill is one question: what, exactly, is happening?

## Krefting brings comedy to the classroom

By MacKenna Lewis, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

Professor Rebecca Krefting of the American Studies department takes comedy seriously. While working towards her doctorate in American Studies at the University of Maryland, this new professor focused her studies on humor and laughter.

This semester, she's bringing humor to the classroom as she teaches Themes in American Culture: Diversity in the United States and two sections of Introduction to American Studies.

*Skidmore News: Where are you from originally?*

Rebecca Krefting: I'm from a lot of places. I was born in Germany. My dad was in the military, so I was born on a military base and then we moved around to Arizona, to Alabama, back to Germany and then back to Alabama again. My education path has taken me to Ohio, the Maryland and DC area and here. So a lot of different places, but if I had to isolate where my home is, it would be Alabama. That's home.

*SN: Has it been a big adjustment to move from the South to upstate New York?*

Krefting: It has. I love that sense of community that exists in the South, but there's also a conservatism that is so strong that it became difficult to be who I was there. Coming out in the South can be kind of difficult. It feels different to live in places like Ohio, Maryland and here. It feels more freeing.

*SN: How do you like Skidmore so far?*

Krefting: I hope it doesn't sound cliché, but I love it here. I love the atmosphere. The community here is so nice and everyone has been so helpful. All the students are friendly, they're engaged and they're interested in the curriculum, so it's kind of picture perfect.

*SN: How does your background in stand-up comedy and improvisational acting play into your studies and your teaching style?*

Krefting: Well it informs it a lot. Not only does it inform my teaching style because I joke a lot in the classroom, but I also try to deliver a lecture or present a discussion in an entertaining way so that we're all enjoying it and we're getting engaged in the topic.



I actually focus on humor when I do my own research, so humor is absolutely infused in so many different aspects of my life—my personality, my teaching and my research.

*SN: You also have degrees in English, Psychology and Women’s Studies. How did you become interested in American Studies?*

Krefting: Well the only center for Humor Studies in the U.S. is housed at the University of Maryland, in the American Studies Department.

I grew to love American Studies. I really began to embrace what American Studies is about. I think it combines the best of all the disciplines. Not that it’s superior, but I think it does a good job of pulling from the different approaches and ideologies.

*SN: Have you incorporated your background in Women’s Studies into your Diversity in the United States course?*

Krefting: Yes, definitely. In any course where you’re looking at diversity, you’re going to have issues come up about categories of identity.

The way that the U.S. frames difference is by race and sexuality and religion.

Although I don’t necessarily agree with how the world has cordoned all these different identity categories, I think it’s important that we talk about how the U.S. is addressing them.

*SN: Can you tell me about the book you’re currently working on?*

Krefting: Well I’m turning my dissertation into a book, and my dissertation looks at stand up comedy, but it looks at a particular kind of comedy.

I call it charged humor. It’s humor that’s used by the author or performer to mobilize, to activate, to inform, to educate, in some way to charge his or her audience with information about how to make their lives better or about how to make the world a better place.

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Professor Krefting holds degrees in English, Psychology and Women’s Studies.

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News



## Transitioning to college: tips and tricks from a peer health educator

By Adam Cohen, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

Welcome (back) to college. I know, I'm a little late with the welcome wagon and you're all sick of hearing it already, but I've got some good information to share that will help you survive these first few weeks and have a successful semester.

It may sound like I'm only speaking to first-year students, but really, who wouldn't want to hear some good tips to improve quality of life on campus? I'm going to cover some basic elements of campus life in this article, as well as some tips for an easy transition.

Let's start with nutrition. Eating at the dining hall can be really exciting, especially when you first get to school. Unfortunately, this means overeating in the buffet-style setting will be one of the most difficult things to resist.

In order to maintain a healthy diet, there are a few simple changes you can make while eating at D-Hall. First, try to take a full look at what there is to offer for the day before grabbing that slice of pizza right when you walk in, or heading straight to the diner.

Secondly, look out for some healthy foods to add to your plate. The dining hall offers great healthy options-be sure to check out Emily's Garden for a small DIY salad, one of its pre-made salads or delicious vegetarian options

Try to keep your focus on balance. Replace a piece of cake or cookies at lunch with a fresh apple a few times a week, or grab a refreshing glass of water instead of sugary juice. Following one or all of these simple tricks will find you in much better nutritional health in no time.

Let's move on to fitness. Skidmore students are actually much more privileged than it may seem when it comes to fitness opportunities, and fitness is a huge part of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and feeling good in general.

Our campus is very walk-able, allowing all of us to get at least some exercise in our daily activities (not to mention the stair climbing exercise that the residents of Scribner Village get each morning!)

But just walking around campus is usually not enough exercise for the day. We have great gym facilities with all kinds of exercise machines and sports equipment. The gym is open to all students and faculty, with long hours from early morning to late at night on the weekdays.

We also have access to plenty of outdoor activities while the weather is still nice! There's nothing like going on a hike or run in North Woods, and for those of us with bikes, the ride to town is beautiful this time of year.

For those who don't own their own cycles, the bike rental program on campus is a great resource- just rent a bike from Campus Safety on the ground level of Jonsson Tower for the day and go for a ride!

There are also mountain biking trails close to campus, which the Saratoga Mountain Bike Association (SMBA) and its members constantly use. Check out its website for more information - Skidmore's a great place to take up mountain biking, hiking and even intramural sports!

Finally, one of the most important topics as we progress into the colder weather is wellness.

This semester I'm living in Scribner with three friends, all of whom have a cold or cough. Sickness spreads like wildfire on a college campus, so it's definitely worth taking some precautions.

Your first defense against sickness is sleep. I know it's practically impossible to get enough sleep at college, but do your best. And if you don't get enough sleep, at least try to take a nap during the day-it really helps!

There have actually been some studies suggesting that taking a nap during the day actually helps you remember what you've learned that day. My suggestion is try to fit in a half hour nap if you feel you need it.

Additionally, try to wash your hands often and well. Avoid sharing drinks with others who may be sick, and if you are sick and don't feel well enough to go to class, then don't! Most professors are very understanding when it comes to sickness-related absences, and you don't want to spread germs to an entire class. (But don't take advantage of the sniffles just to sleep in, as tempting as that may be.)

If you do get sick, don't be afraid to get help by going to Health Services. It's a great, free service to students and should be used when necessary.

I hope this information has been helpful, and that students will take advantage of the resources at Skidmore.

*Adam Cohen is a Peer Health Educator who knows more about your body than you do.*



## Shubin helps students dig up their inner fish

By Rebecca Orbach & Alex Brehm, News Editor & Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 1, 2010

Approximately 600 students and faculty gathered in Arthur Zankel Music Center this past Monday to hear paleontologist Dr. Neil Shubin share findings from his research and argue that humans have likely evolved from fish.

Shubin's book, "Your Inner Fish" was the assigned summer reading for the college's first year students. The book is a journey through the 3.5 billion year history of the human body.

Shubin regaled the audience with his personal journeys through Pennsylvania and the North and South Poles while looking for rocks and fossils of fish.

In Philadelphia Shubin and his colleagues found arm bones in amphibians that have the same position and similar shape as they have in humans. They also found jaws the length of human arms, but teeth the size of railroad spikes. Shubin started his career hypothesizing that a flat-headed fish would display a likely step in the evolution from fish to mammal.

He showed photos of himself and his colleagues digging by the side of a train track in Philadelphia. "Here we are digging ancient beasts out of the side of the road, with modern cars and trucks whizzing by on the highway," Shubin said.

After extensive research, Shubin realized that there were ancient rocks that had been completely unexplored in the Arctic Islands and they were of the right age to match his theories.

It took about one year to raise enough money to travel to the North Pole, but in 2000 Shubin and his colleagues finally arrived and set up camp in the Arctic. "We spent most days walking around looking for bones on the surface because in the Arctic there's a freezing fog. The cold breaks up the rocks and bones come up on the surface," Shubin said.

After days of hiking and searching for the proper fossils, one of Shubin's colleagues found tens of thousands of broken-up fish bones piled on top of each other. They also found the snout of a flat-headed fish on Elsner Island. "This fish had fins with bones that correspond to your forearms," Shubin said.

Shubin took the audience through a few specific examples of body parts that seemingly evolved from fish. "You have an entire tree of life inside your ear. I could trace them from gill bones and sharks," Shubin said.

By examining fossils and DNA, Shubin showed that human hands resemble fish fins, human heads are organized like those of long-extinct jawless fish and that major parts of our genome look and function like those of worms and bacteria.

People look at Albert Einstein and see the pinnacle of humanity; I see him as a giant fish, Shubin said.

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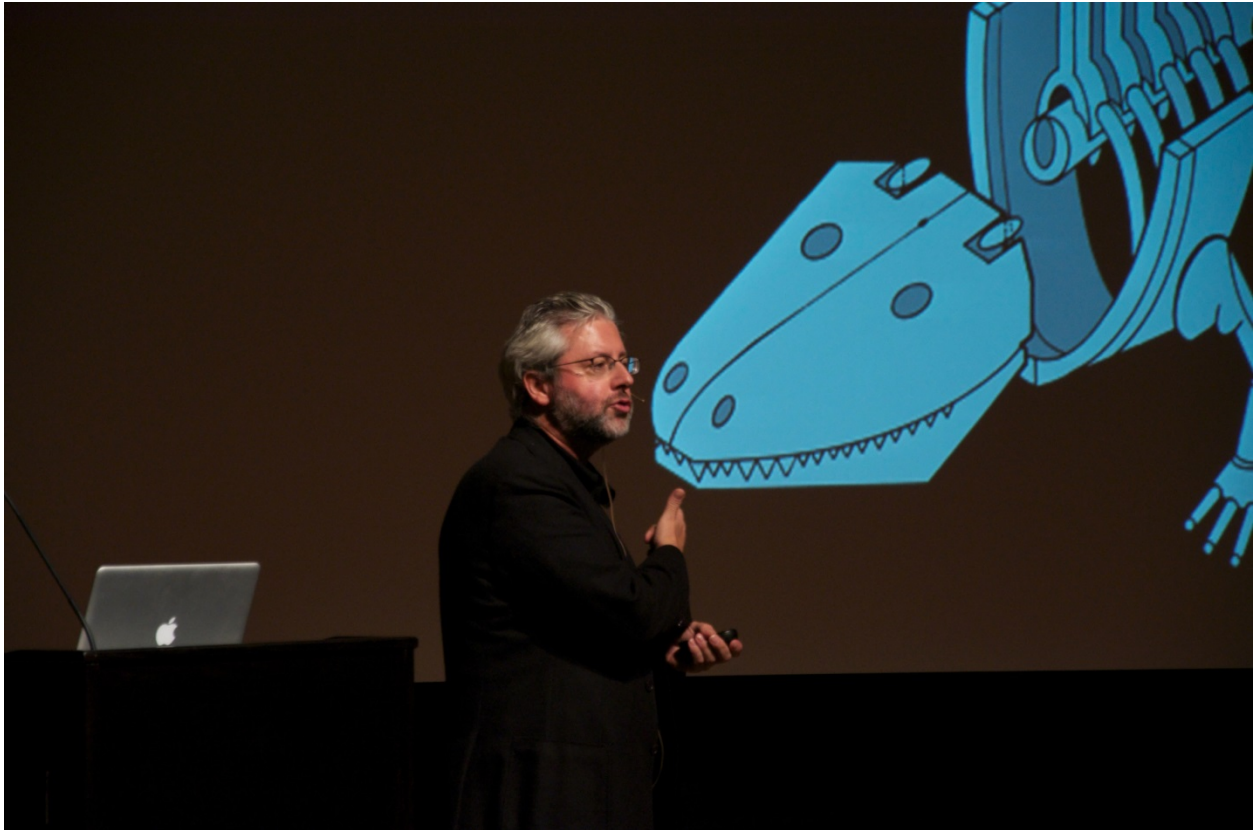
Shubin shows slide that first inspired him to study human evolution from fish.

Melissa Cohn

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Students listen as Shubin talks about his fossil findings.

Melissa Cohn





## Theater of war in a house of peace

By Tegan O'Neill, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

Theater of War in a House of Peace signals the first attempt at a year-long initiative on the part of the Director of Religious and Spiritual Life Rick Chrisman to foster a campus-wide reflection on war.

The exhibit, as the title suggests, is located in Wilson Chapel. Chrisman procured art for the exhibit from Jason Blue Lake Hawk Martinez with the intention of sparking conversation about America's wars. The exhibit opened on Sept. 21 and runs through Oct. 11.

We have been a nation at war for eight years and it is unthinkable that we have pushed it to the back of our minds. We read the paper and we see clips on TV, but nobody asks us to really think about the war and express what we feel about it, Chrisman said.

The project was partly inspired by a touring production called "Theater of War," which presents readings of Sophocles' tragedies "Ajax" and "Philoctetes" to military communities in the U.S.

The exhibit includes a series of 14 paintings titled "Stations of the Cross" as well as a sculpture titled "Kiva." Martinez incorporates elements of Native American and Roman Catholic traditions to represent the effects of war on humanity. According to a statement written by the artist, "Each painting corresponds with the traditional Roman Catholic Stations of the Cross combined with Pueblo and Judeo-Christian end time scenarios."

Martinez uses the image of the Kachina doll, a symbol in Pueblo culture, to represent the suffering of Christ prior to his crucifixion. "The paintings represent the pain that humanity feels because of war. Christ stands for humanity. Humanity is being crucified by war," Chrisman said.

In his paintings, Martinez depicts party balloons on the cross and uses a light color pallet. "It is lovely when you first look at it but frightening and disturbing when you examine the content," Chrisman said.

The sculpture, "Kiva," is also an unconventional religious depiction. A Kiva is an underground meeting place used by the Pueblo peoples for spiritual ceremonies. In the bowels of Martinez's "Kiva," a tape-recording plays the sounds of an atomic bomb going off. "Basically, it forces us to get down on our hands and knees and think hard about destruction-something that we generally just gloss over," Chrisman said.



Chrisman also hopes that the exhibit will shed light on what he believes to be the injustices of the recruitment policy. "We place the costs of war on very few people. Just the other day, Secretary Gates warned that we are slipping into this state of having a professional fighting class, which is contrary to our country's founding principles," Chrisman said.

Chrisman advocates a Universal National Service that would require all citizens from the ages of 18-22 to serve in the military, the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, hospitals, urban schools, etc. Chrisman feels that the Universal National Service would alleviate the burden of war that befalls a small portion of the population.

On the closing day of the exhibit, Oct.11, there will be a round table discussion with Martinez in the Chapel.

Upcoming exhibits include a series of photographs taken by an Iraqi student who rebuilt a school in his community, a short ballet piece produced by the dance department and a play presented by the classics department, among other events and installations.

"It is going to take the entire year to build up a body of expression for the community to be able to reflect on war and articulate what it means to be a nation at war," Chrisman said.

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Theater of War 2 "Theater of War in a House of Peace" displays art by Jason Blue Lake Hawk Martinez in Wilson Chapel until Oct. 11.

Courtesy of Rick Chrisman

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Theater of War 3

Courtesy of Rick Chrisman

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Theater of War 1

Courtesy of Rick Chrisman















## **Sports wrap: Men's soccer defeats Southern Vermont**

Field hockey ranked No. 9 in nation

By Audrey Nelson, Sports Editor

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

The men's soccer team won 4-2 against Southern Vermont College on Oct. 5, improving to 5-4-2.

The Thoroughbreds landed the first two goals of the game by the 36 minute mark with rebound shots from sophomore Joe Phelan and senior Matt Kelsey.

After a SVM goal at the 41st minute, Kelsey beat the Mountaineer keeper one second before the first half final whistle, securing the score at 3-1.

After the Mountaineers second and final goal, senior Doug Yeates took a cross in the box from junior Diego Reiner and deflected it in for the last goal of the match and his first of the season.

Skidmore maintained a strong advantage in shots on goal of 38 to SVM's 4. The team will travel to play St. Lawrence on Oct. 8.

### **Thoroughbred Society**

On Oct. 6, the Skidmore College athletic department held a ceremony in the Sports and Recreation Center recognizing 109 student-athletes as members of the Thoroughbred Society.

Each semester, the Thoroughbred Society honors student-athletes who achieve a 3.67 GPA or higher as well as teams who compile a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. This semester's group of students also includes five two-sport athletes and 19 student-athletes with a 4.0 GPA.

### **Field Hockey**

Moving up from the No. 10 to the No. 9 spot in the most recent Kookaburra/NFHCA Division III National Coaches Poll, the Skidmore College field hockey team earned two 3-0 wins over No. 17 Middlebury and Utica.

Skidmore is 8-1 overall and 3-0 in Liberty League stats for the season and has won seven straight games.

Salisbury (8-1) holds the top spot in the poll followed by Tufts at No. 2 and Messiah is 3rd. The Thoroughbreds return to league play at Vassar on Oct. 8 at 4 p.m.



### **Liberty League Recognitions**

The Liberty League recognized six Skidmore student-athletes for their performance within the past week.

First year men's tennis player Oliver Loutsenko and first year Melissa Hirsche of the women's tennis team earned Rookie of the Week honors.

Keeper on the women's soccer team, junior Meghan Sleezer was named Defensive Performer of the week, while first-year teammate Christine Bellotti '14 earned Co-Rookie of the week honors.

Defensive Performer of the Week honors in field hockey went to senior goalie Liz Catinella. Meredith Palmer, senior volleyball player, was named Performer of the Week.

### **Women's volleyball**

The Skidmore women's volleyball team has stepped up for Breast Cancer Awareness month by participating in Dig Pink, a nationwide event that uses volleyball as a way to help raise awareness and accept donations for breast cancer victims and survivors.

This year, the official event will be held on Oct. 12 at the Skidmore vs. Middlebury match. The team will also collect donations at both the Skidmore Classic on Oct. 22-23 and the Skidmore Invitational taking place on Oct. 29-30.



## Music review

### The Roots and Legend wake up N.Y.

By Eli Cohen, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

On Sept. 23, veteran hip-hop group The Roots came together with R&B crooner John Legend and legendary director Spike Lee at Terminal 5, a nightclub located in Hell's Kitchen, New York.

The concert was broadcast live and for free on Youtube to publicize the new collaboration album "Wake Up!" that was released two days earlier on Sept. 21.

The partnership has allowed The Roots, a group known for playing its own instruments rather than having a backing DJ, to display a more rock 'n roll side to its musicianship. The group proves its worth with scorching guitar solos from Captain Kirk Douglas and powerful drum beats by the revered Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson. "Wake Up!" presented Legend with a chance to depart from his usual piano-backed ballads, and allowed him to play what some might consider more substantial, ambitious music.

The Roots, a historically outspoken politically charged group, and Legend claim that they were inspired by the 2008 presidential election to record this album. This vision lead the artists to re-imagine 1960s and 1970s soul music for the new record.

Except for the closing track "Shine," which was written by Legend, the record is composed exclusively of covers from classic songwriters such as Curtis Mayfield and Marvin Gaye. The show, however, integrated originals by both The Roots and Legend, combining smooth hip-hop, courtesy of Tariq "Black Thought" Trotter, with Legend's soulful brand of rhythm and blues.

Guest appearances were made by celebrated Chicago rapper Common and R&B diva Jennifer Hudson. Both artists are featured on the new album. These two very different musical forces combined smoothly and effortlessly. Pure enjoyment emanated from every performer and there was no struggling for attention or reserve. Both The Roots and Legend threw themselves full-bodied into their performance.

They played with no opening act, and only one short break in the set. The amount of physical exertion was clear from Legend's sweated-through button down shirt.

The Thursday night concert, for which tickets were a mere \$36, featured John Legend staples, including "Green Light" and "Ordinary People." The set list also included some less predictable choices, such as "I



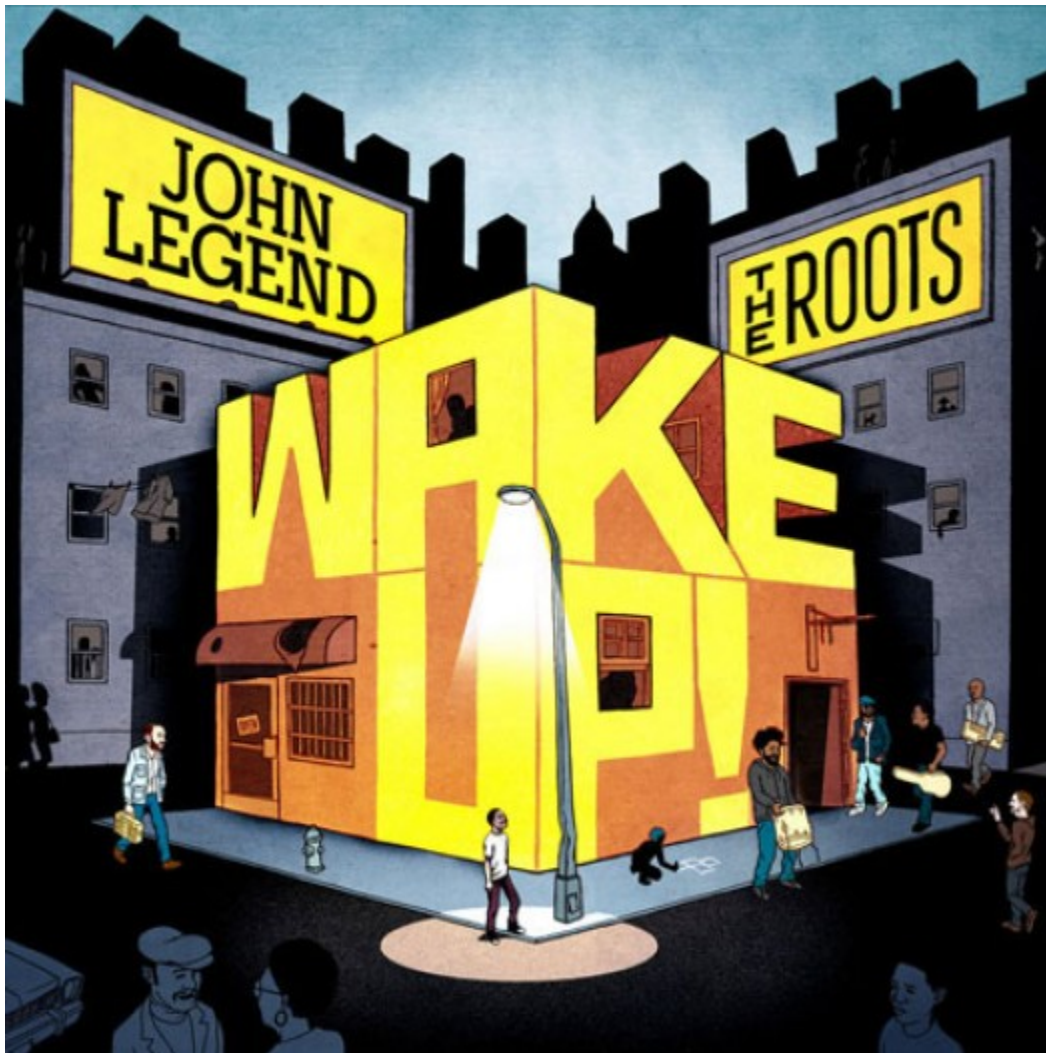
Can't Write Left-Handed," a song focused on the Vietnam War. They also played "The Fire," a cover of Canadian indie-rockers Arcade Fire, demonstrating the band's diverse musical interests.

Wake Up! combines the Marvin Gay-esque heartfelt singing of John Legend with the funk rap that The Roots have become known for.

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The roots/John Legend

GOOD Music/Columbia Records



## Janelle Monáe brings funk to Skidmore

By Jenna Postler, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

This year's Fall Big Show on Oct. 1, featuring both Janelle Monáe and Eli "Paperboy" Reed and the True Loves, was more than just a show- it was a performance. The sheer stage presence of both acts was overflowing with excitement.

Both Janelle Monáe and Eli "Paperboy" Reed and the True Loves thrilled students and community members with their interactive, experimental funk and soul show, which the Student Entertainment Committee brought to Skidmore College.

Openers Eli "Paperboy" Reed and the True Loves exuded cool, soulful energy as they performed for a small crowd. The group performed its single, "Come and Get It." Alex Orthwein '13 was thoroughly impressed by Eli. "Eli brings back such a unique style from the '60s. It's not a cover though. He puts his own spin on it," Orthwein said.

Although Eli is the face of the group, on Friday night he left the stage and let the True Loves showcase their talent. The horn section, guitarist and other musicians played their best and demonstrated that the True Loves can stand on their own.

Both acts performed energetically, which translated well to the crowd. Eli's drummer displayed a heartwarming grin throughout most of the performance, and playfully tossed his drumsticks into the crowd.

After a brief pause between acts, a member of Monáe's entourage stepped onto stage and invited the audience to the performance. Shortly after, Monáe appeared as the ArchAndroid on a video screen broadcast against the back of the stage. When the video ended, Monáe entered the stage wearing a dark cape over her traditional black and white ensemble.

From then on, the show adopted an air of unpredictability. Monáe's show was well choreographed, but still appeared spontaneous. The artist's antics for the night included her traditional dance moves: a fake seizure, a crowd-surfing stunt and an onstage painting to the mellow tunes of "Mushrooms and Roses." The show was far from placid as Monáe's surprises kept the mood upbeat.





Nick Santa-Donato '13 got up-close and personal with the songstress, when she dove into the crowd near him. "I saw the crowd surfing, and I pushed some girls to the ground. I helped to support her, but then she sort of fell into my face," Santa-Donato said.

The artist attempted to give her painting of the female form to a lucky spectator, but a member of Monáe's entourage took the painting back, due to struggles for it in the crowd, which left most of the front row covered in paint.

Monáe's set primarily included songs from her sophomore album, "The ArchAndroid." She also performed music from "Metropolis." Some of the highlights of the show included her performances of, "Cold War," "Faster," "Wondaland" and "Dance or Die."

While some audience members may have been skeptical of the headliner's futuristic funk, the show was very danceable.

Monáe saved her single, "Tightrope," featuring rapper Big Boi, as her closing number, then treated fans to one final encore performance. After the show, the artist remained in the gym, selling and signing albums, T-shirts, and other merchandise.

Eric Moretti '13 thought the show was downright amazing. "After seeing Janelle perform live in the gym, the 'ArchAndroid' will be the soundtrack of my fall semester," Moretti said.

There's no doubt that Eli "Paperboy" Reed and The True Loves and Monáe brought funk to Skidmore. The Fall 2010 Big Show was a performance that won't easily be outdone.

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Oktoberfest 2:Janelle Monae performing the Fall Big Show, on Oct. 1.

Skidmore News



## Bailiwick shows off diverse acoustic stylings

By Samantha Skurdahl, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

The on campus hot spot Falstaff's has seen its fair share of DJs and dance bands over the years. More recently, however, Skidmore students are packing the place not only to dance to the newest hits, but also for the acoustic stylings of student band Bailiwick.

Sophomores Jane Esterquest, Brett Hartman, Colin Manjoney and Ned Porter formed the band last academic year. Since then, Bailiwick has made a name for itself both on campus and throughout Saratoga. The bands past performance spots include Virgil's Cafe and the legendary Caffe Lena.

While Bailiwick chooses not to lump itself into one specific genre, the group's mix of instruments, which include the guitar, mandolin, ukulele, and banjo, create a sound which violinist Esterquest terms, "crunk folk."

Bailiwick has found a large fan base in Skidmore music lovers of all types. "Obviously our friends are our biggest, most obsessive fans, but I think people's enjoyment of our music has spread pretty far across the student body," Brett Hartman '13 said.

The band cites its song "That Boy" as eliciting the most enthusiastic response, with fans clapping and singing along. "A memorable moment was when we played Virgil's Coffee House last year and people knew the words to our songs. Two kids gave each other high fives when we played 'That Boy.' That pretty much blew my mind," Jane Esterquest '13 said.

Bailiwick hopes to have a full album recorded and for sale this year. The members also plan to continue performing and hope to widen their venues beyond Saratoga.

Bailiwick has Facebook page, [facebook.com/pages/Bailiwick](https://facebook.com/pages/Bailiwick), and a website, [Bailiwick.bandcamp.com](http://Bailiwick.bandcamp.com), where its songs are available to download.

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Bailiwick from left-to-right: Colin Manjoney, Ned Porter, Brett Hartman and Jane Esterquest.

Photo courtesy of Bailiwick



## Professors talk majors at faculty meeting

By Alex Brehm, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

Professors convened the second college faculty meeting for this academic year Oct. 1, during which an amended faculty handbook was adopted, grouping departments by academic discipline was debated and the recently released sexual misconduct policy was discussed.

There was a brief report on the Biology-Philosophy interdepartmental major, which is being dissolved. Almost all interdepartmental majors are ending, or have ended within the last four years, because faculty have come to believe such programs lack rigorous grounding in either participating department.

The Biology-Philosophy major currently has one student enrolled and will end once the student graduates or leaves the major.

Next, faculty debated categorization of majors by academic discipline. Two lists produced by administration categorized majors by discipline: Art, Humanities, Social Science and Natural Science. However, there were major discrepancies between the lists, inspiring a long analysis of the differences.

The disciplines listed as Arts on the first list, such as Music, Dance, Studio Art and Theater, were listed as Pre-Professional programs on the second list.

In addition to showing some disorganization, the list also represented miscommunications between the department faculty and the administration: for instance, music does not offer a Bachelor of Science degree, which it must offer to be a true Pre-Professional program.

The discussion among the faculty concluded with indications that there would be better structuring of department-discipline categories in the future.

Finally, there was discussion of the new, and soon to be enforced, Sexual Misconduct Policy. Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun and other members of the Sexual Assault Task Force outlined the training that will be offered to faculty and staff in the next few weeks.

## **EAC plants benefits of local foods**

By Robin Kronsinsky, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

The Environmental Action Committee hosted its third annual Harvest Dinner from 7-10 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2 in Falstaffs. Student volunteers and EAC members prepared the dinner with produce from the Skidmore Garden and donations from local farms.

The goals of the Harvest Dinner were to promote the value of eating local foods, spread awareness about the Garden and to create a delicious, healthy meal for anyone who wished to attend.

While the meal was free, there was a requested donation of \$3 to \$5. The EAC raised more than \$500 in contributions - more than any EAC event has raised yet.

It was really successful. Within the first 10 minutes the room was packed, Gabby Stern '13, leader of the Garden Subcommittee, said.

EAC members and student volunteers spent three hours on Friday night prepping food and seven hours Saturday in the test kitchen preparing fresh food for the masses.

The Skidmore gardeners support the local food movement and want to make members of the community aware of the importance of knowing where their food comes from.

When you buy locally you know what you are eating. So much of our food is reshaped until it's unrecognizable, Stern said.

The migration from processed food to local, organic alternatives is becoming a more popular trend in the world of food and health.

Local foods typically refer to vegetables, fruits and grains that are farmed and harvested within a relatively small vicinity of one's home.

Purchasing local foods implies that the items are fresh, picked in season and grown without the use of chemical enhancers. It also eliminates the need to ship food long distances, thereby reducing the carbon footprint of the food industry.

If produce has to travel to reach its recipient, it has most likely been chemically modified in some way in order to ensure that it remains fresh during travel. These chemicals are inevitably consumed by whomever purchases the shipped food.

The Harvest Dinner was both a celebration of the produce grown by students, as well as an effort to inspire people to eat local foods. "When you know exactly where your food is from, it celebrates the art of making it," Stern said.

Stern hopes that the trend of eating locally grown foods from the college's garden will catch on.

A lot of people are aware of the garden and I can't wait to see how it will grow, Stern said.

*Any student who would like to work in the garden is welcome to join. For the next few weeks student gardeners will be re-composting the beds in preparation for winter. Work on the garden will resume in April. Anyone who would like to get involved should email Gabby Stern at [gstern@skidmore.edu](mailto:gstern@skidmore.edu).*



## Re-evaluating the Sexual Assault Policy

By Alex Brehm, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

Why does anybody rape anybody else?

Why would one Skidmore student rape another?

"I think there are different levels of sexual assault, and I think it's because we have sick people-people who want to cause harm, they get something from that," said Joe Yanks '11, Head Peer Advocate of the Center for Sex and Gender Relations and member of the Sexual Assault Task Force, the committee charged with drafting a new sexual misconduct policy for the college. "We also have a culture of sex, a United States culture that promotes disrespect and a lack of communication."

"I agree," Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun, said. "There are sexual predators on college campuses, likely serial predators."

She described a culture where college men seek out vulnerable women as targets and sexual objects. "We're trying to change the culture. We want to create a dialogue that equalizes responsibility for respect. We want to get to a culture of zero tolerance."

"We know that this happens," said Calhoun, "now let's prevent it as a community."

The Sexual Assault Task Force, the Center for Sex and Gender Relations, Health Promotions, Residential Life, and other campus organizations have all released new programming on the upcoming enforcement of the revised Sexual Misconduct Policy, slated for adoption on Oct. 18. On Wednesday, Oct. 6 there was a discussion between the Task Force and other members of the college community. Calhoun addressed the audience, which was made up of students and a handful of staff members, outlining the recent development of the policy.

In Sept. 2009, the Student Affairs subcommittee of the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee called for a group to review and revise the college's sexual assault policy. The Task Force met every other week for the fall and spring semesters of the 2009-2010 academic year.

In April 2010, an article in the Albany Times Union criticized college policies regarding sexual abuse, and featured the case of a former Skidmore student who was allegedly sexually assaulted on campus during the previous summer.

The news rippled through the campus and the Task Force held an open review of the sexual assault policy with the college community. Students and professors packed Davis auditorium, many voicing rage that the sexual assault policy was re-traumatizing survivors of sexual assault and letting their rapists and abusers go free, holding victims up to a standard of evidence they could not possibly provide.

A few weeks later, students taking a Feminist Theory and Methodology class staged a rally on Case Green calling for more attention to revision of the policy and confrontation of sexual assault on campus.

But if the meeting last Wednesday was any measure, many students have lost passion with the issue. The crowd of 75 students in Gannett looked sparse, and was mostly made up of members of associated organizations, Peer Advocates from the Center for Sex and Gender Relations, mediators from "Fight Club" Conflict Resolution, and members of Pride Alliance.

"How will you track effectiveness, and how will you educate the community?" Fight Club Co-Chair Nick Hara '11 asked the Task Force, "because I don't see everybody here."

The Task Force has a tall order in envisioning a complete college community that is active in preventing and decrying sexual assault. "Certainly the cases from last semester made everyone get out in the streets," Calhoun said, "but the kind of cases where someone did not give effective consent, where someone wasn't willing to have sex and then ended up having it, those don't get people out in the streets. But guess what? That's rape."

Effective consent is the dictum students will be seeing in the coming weeks and years, the central idea of the new college policy. Students received cards in their school mailboxes defining effective consent as "freely and actively given, in which both partners are equally informed through mutually-understood words, body language, and actions."

We like this policy because it no longer takes the victim and asks 'What did you do to say no?' says Dr. Julia Routbort, director of the Counseling Center. "Instead it asks the accused 'What did you hear, to hear a 'yes?'"

The Task Force expects that the idea of effective consent will not only serve as a disciplinary criterion, but also as a tool for teaching. Effective consent was the message of sexual education programs for students this past summer, has become part of first-year orientation and will continue to spread through programming from campus organizations involved with sexual issues.

Other important changes include the widening of the policy from sexual assault to sexual misconduct, including behavior such as harassment and inappropriate touching under the new policy.

The new policy adds the roles of Advocate and Advisor, aides for alleged victims and perpetrators of sexual misconduct. An Advocate provides support and facilitates options for dealing with the problem of an abuser on campus-changing residence halls, classes, or pursuing a disciplinary hearing about the abuser. The Advisor helps the alleged abuser in navigating the hearing process and other disciplinary issues.

The Task Force also wants to stress the new change in evidentiary requirements. Sexual misconduct cases will no longer be held to the standard of "clear and convincing evidence," as they once were, but "preponderance of the evidence." The phrases are legal terms, and the change means no longer laying a large burden of proof on the victim, but instead relies on a majority of evidence from either party to decide whether an instance of misconduct occurred.

The Task Force stressed the two stages of a hearing ;evaluating whether an event occurred, and deciding the severity of the punishment. Past accusations, members of the Task Force said, would generally not be necessary to decide whether an instance of misconduct occurred as the complainant described.

Jen Burden of Health Promotions, compiled statistics about assault at Skidmore based on student surveys last semester. Skidmore is an anomaly among colleges in that most incidences of sexual misconduct occur on campus: 80 percent of cases, according to Burden's report.

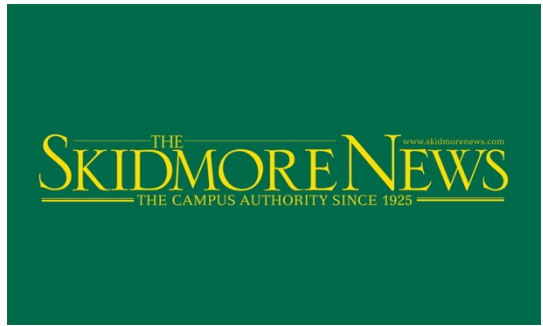
Burden's statistics estimate that 3.9 percent of Skidmore students have been raped at Skidmore, and 83 percent of them were female. But members of the Task Force emphasized that they consider sexual misconduct and assault a problem that affects people of any sex, gender, and orientation.

"That's why we included gender-neutral language in the policy," said Calhoun. Yanks took particular care in articulating that the Center and the Task Force see sexual abuse as a problem that affects everyone. "It's not just girls getting raped."

There are resources on campus for survivors of rape and sexual misconduct. The Counseling Center, college chaplains, and Health Services are groups that listen and treat cases confidentially. The Center for Sex and Gender Relations' Peer Advocates, "Fight Club" Conflict Resolution, First-Year Experience Peer Mentors, Campus Safety, Residential Life staff, and college faculty are also available for student support.

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Spread 3: From left: Claire Throckmorton '11, Joe Yanks '11, Health Educator, Kate Child, Kate Millar '11, government professor Pat Ferraioli, Director of Counseling Center Julia Rontbort, Clinical Director of Health Services Patricia Bosen and Director of Residential Life Don Hastings.



Melissa Cohn/Skidmore News

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Spread 4: Don Hastings, director of Residential Life, spoke at the panel.

Melissa Cohn/Skidmore News

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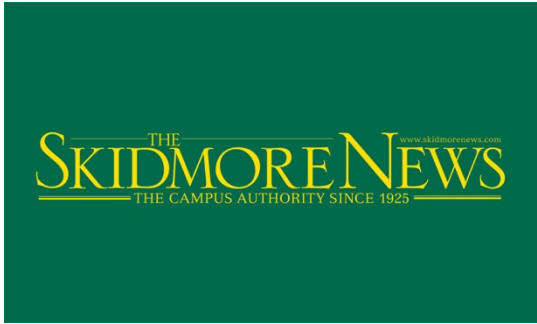
Spread 2: Jen Burden, director of Health Services, spoke at the panel.

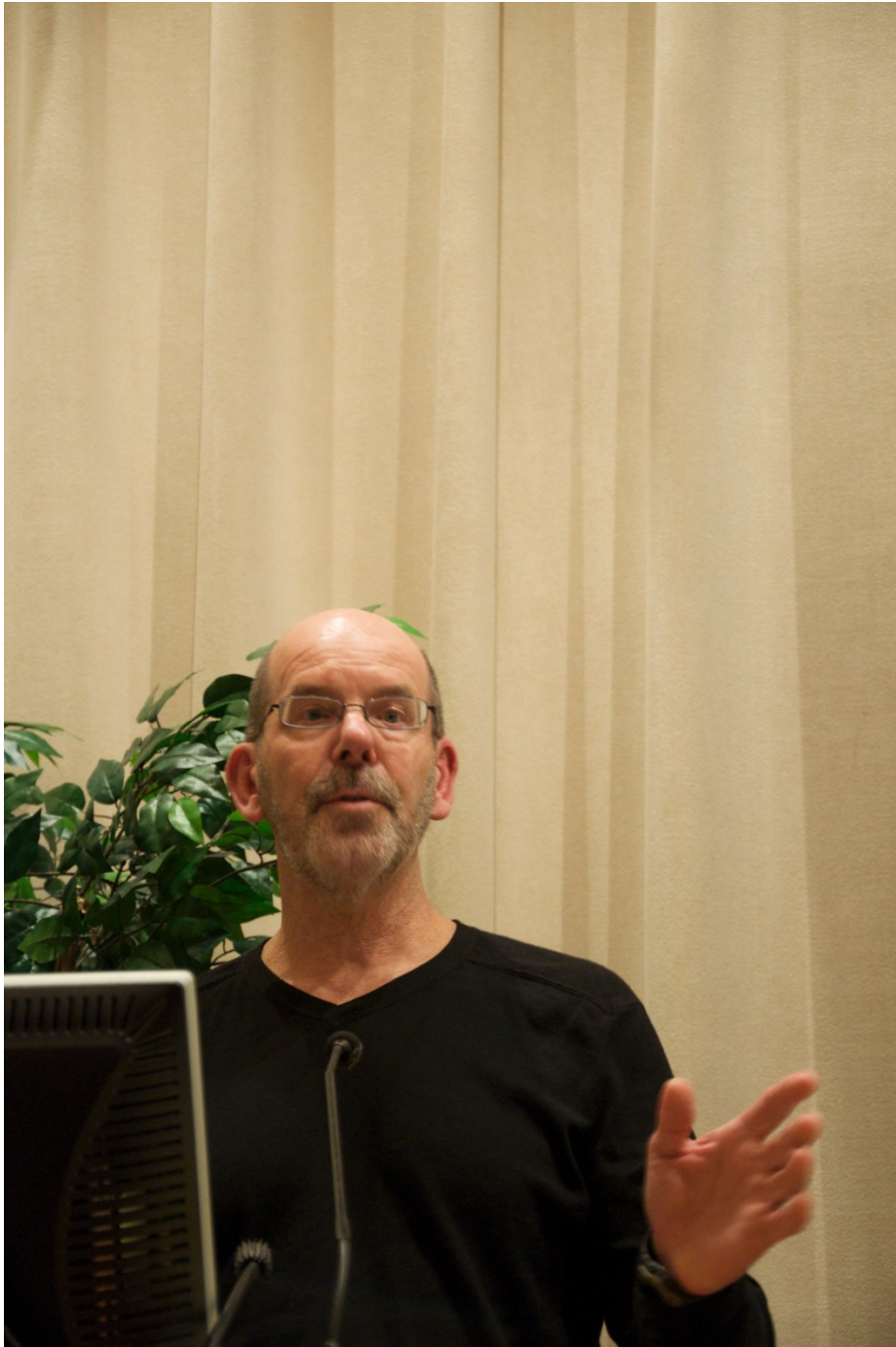
Melissa Cohn/Skidmore News

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Spread 1: Rochelle Calhoun, dean of Student Affairs, spoke at the panel.

Melissa Cohn/Skidmore News













## Request for budget rollover denied

By Kat Kullman, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

On Tuesday, Oct. 5, the Senate of the Student Government Association discussed a resolution to allocate funding from retained funds to the Drastic Measures a cappella group, as well as a resolution to establish Willingness-to-Serve operating codes.

The Budget Rollover section of the financial policies states that ‘it is not permissible to roll over revenue if it has been in the club or committee’s revenue account for longer than one year...’ Jono Zeiden, vice president for Financial Affairs, said.

However, the Drastic Measures approached the Senate in order to request that the group be given funds it had raised at the end of 2008, but had lost due to an error in a loan and miscommunication with SGA.

The Drastics had earned a total of \$1,149 worth of CD sales and fundraising by the end of 2008 and much of that money was intended to pay back a loan it had taken out in order to create the CD. However, the loan was denied at the end of 2008, but the group was never notified of this. It was not until this year that group realized that the money had not gone through to the loan and instead had been absorbed back into SGA.

Bryce Klatsky ‘11 and Emily Conner-Simons ‘13 addressed the Senate body to request that the funds be returned to the group despite the SGA policy.

“We’re only about \$400 short of paying back our loan. We’re asking for the money we earned. We understand that this sets a dangerous precedent, but it’s important to understand that we applied correctly and that this money was lost due to miscommunications,” Klatsky said.

Zeidan spoke to the rationale behind the policy and explained why letting even one club receive a rollover fund is dangerous. “We budget for each year. If we allow rollover, it creates incentive for clubs to save their money instead of spending it and it becomes a slippery slope. This situation isn’t about whether the money should be applied to the Drastic’s loan or not, it’s about whether it fits into our policy,” Zeidan said.

After a long discussion about the policy and the situation at hand, the Senate voted to uphold the policy and to deny the Drastic Measures the funds.



The Drastic Measures request for a budget rollover, albeit of revenue the club raised above its required revenue line, did not comply with the aforementioned financial policy. Consequently, the request was not recommended by the Budget and Finance committee, and ultimately not passed by Senate, Zeidan said.

The group was denied the money by a margin of four votes.

Next, Jenny Snow '11, vice president for Communication and Outreach, and Dan DeMartini '11, Northwoods senator, presented a resolution to establish Willingness-to-Serve operating codes. Willingness-to-Serve is an election process that allows students to sit on numerous campus committees after an interview process.

These new operating codes would create a solid set of rules for the process of electing the students and the purpose of Willingness-to-Serve.

"Willingness didn't have a definite role, and we were appointing people without clarification," DeMartini said.

DeMartini hoped that this would help get the student body more involved. "This set of codes will help us not just to advertise for Willingness, but to really reach out to the community," DeMartini said.

It establishes Willingness-to-Serve as a subcommittee of the Communication and Outreach Committee. My thinking is that freeing up half of Communication and Outreach will help to open things up and allow Willingness to do a lot outside elections. It's nitpicky stuff right now, but it's very necessary, Snow said.

The resolution to establish the operating codes was passed unanimously.

## Letter

### In Senate, conservative thought matters too

By Bryce Klatsky

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

Dear Editors,

Dealing with SGA is not a fun prospect. Anyone who has ever had to prepare a resolution and propose it in front of Senate knows this to be the case. Recently, I found myself having to do just this and, unfortunately, found myself feeling dejected when my efforts turned out to be for naught. Ruminating in my disappointment, it occurred to me then that SGA is a conservative body on this campus.

That is not to make any assumption about its collective political sentiment but to say that by virtue of its very function ([to] establish and maintain conditions of student life) it is tied to rules that limit its freedom of interpretation. This rigidity to Skidmore College policy was what ultimately doomed my proposal, and yet I understand why it had to be so.

What truly impressed me, and the reason I thought it necessary to write this commentary, was the creative thought that flourished on the Senate floor even within those rigid guidelines. Despite what might have been a clear "no" under strictly bureaucratic consideration, my proposal was able to evoke more than a few "yeses." Some of these even came from senators participating in one of their first Senate votes. Suggestions were made that amendments be considered in the future to make some of the SGA policies more flexible.

While I am still disappointed that my proposal was rejected, I applaud the vast majority of the SGA senators for approaching it with an open mind, a concentration on their role as a constitutional filter for the Skidmore community, and the inherent frustration in having to balance the two. Say what you will about SGA, but the truth remains that it serves the Skidmore community with good intentions and embodies the perhaps corny axiom that, "Creative Thought Matters."

- Bryce Klatsky, '11

## Apple and Agent Orange

By Jack Ferguson, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

With the coming elections in November, and politicians running back and forth everywhere screaming like their shirts caught on fire, I am reading a lot about the apathetic (or at least 'unenthusiastic') youths. Are we so apathetic? If so, how did we get here?

On a recent train ride up from New York City, I met and befriended a man who had grown up in our parents' generation. As we talked, I realized something about the modern day discussion on youth culture: comparisons of our society to that of the Sixties are everywhere. With nearly every mention of the Iraq War comes a correlation to the Vietnam War; the threat of global warming looms as large as the Cold War's specter of Mutual assured destruction; universities have an even stronger toehold on the liberal discussion than before.

It is not unreasonable, then, that my new friend asked me: why aren't all you more politically active? Why don't you take to the streets?

By a better comparison of the Sixties to the present day, I hope to draw better distinctions. Hopefully this will leave us better able to define exactly what we are. Drawing analogies to the overarching dilemmas (lies that got us into a massive war; potential planetary ruin) have some merit, perhaps, but the comparison between generations is erroneous.

MTV, video games and Facebook are not the causes of our hesitance and lack of action nearly as much as the historic moment in which we were born.

Our parents, of the picketing, protesting and pamphleteering generation, were born of the Baby Boomer generation, into a world of both U.S. prosperity and deep uncertainty. I think it is safe to say that by the time of the Gulf of Tonkin Incident in 1964 (after which Congress wrote President Johnson a blank check for the Vietnam effort) our parents were approximately the age that we are now. They lived in a divided U.S., wherein the Civil Rights movement was struggling to have its voice heard. Political activism and politically charged discussion pervaded their generation both abroad and at home. Moreover, the undercurrent of this generation was the threat of the Cold War, which started as soon as WWII ended - that is to say, started with our parents' birth.

They were born at the onset of the Cold War, and into a divided nation that did not know what to do with its prosperity, responsibility and rocky history. The nation's divisions were heightened all the more so with the draft and the economic and racial inequalities of the U.S. army.

Contrast this with when we were born-the median of which I will put at 1990. We were born into the pinnacle of U.S. prosperity and security. Our major, national moral confrontation (in the media, at least) was whether or not the president was the recipient in an instance of oral sex. When our parents saw the dogs and water hoses used in Montgomery, Alabama, they saw reflections of a system, perpetual and pernicious, eating away at the Bill of Rights. Our two political worlds defy comparison.

We-the children of the Internet boom and Walmart -were hurled into a world without precedent. The End-Game horrors of global warming present themselves in a thousand different man-made processes, not from a big red button at a distant missile silo. The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, were from without, and therefore much harder to grasp and rail against.

What does a 'War on Terror' even mean? This war has no centralized enemy to confront, rather a proliferated ideology. Too: this ideology is abhorrent beyond debate; this was not so in the Sixties, with Communism.

So how do we become politically active? How do we go from a world of one huge enemy with one huge weapon to that of myriad possibilities and processes that potentially leave us vulnerable, or even threaten to destroy us? How do we open a debate on what political activism means when we cannot decide on what to confront first?

I suspect that this atmosphere contributes in a major way to the Tea Party and similar movements (which exist among environmentalists and liberals, too) that are so radical as to see the world in binary terms.

Surrounded by variables, we entrench into simplicity. Which is understandable. But we, the Young and Educated (like it or not), who are beginning to perceive nuance and contradiction, who balance variables and evaluate confusion, are hamstrung.

We search for something intelligible (that is also intelligent) and what do we find? Where do we go with our world of many threats, unschooled and under-nurtured from birth in the ways of political action? We need to form an active political consciousness and thrust.

I'm not about to propose that I know how to do that; I wish I did. You can start by voting.

*Jack Ferguson is senior history and English double major from Philadelphia, Penn.*



## **EDITORIAL: Don't tolerate hate**

By the Editorial Board,  
On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

A recent tragedy has reverberated around our campus and others across the world. On Sept. 22, Tyler Clementi, an 18-year-old Rutgers freshman, jumped off the George Washington Bridge after his roommate secretly streamed a video of his sexual encounter with another man. This horrifying incident exposes the urgent need to reevaluate and strengthen our community's commitment to abolishing intolerance.

We know Tyler's story, because it's everywhere. Celebrities released video tributes, legislators pushed for new criminal penalties and newspapers across the globe covered the incident. But discussion of Tyler's death on campus took a turn when Jen Burden, Skidmore's director of Health Promotion, sent out a campus-wide email about the tragedy.

"I would very much like to believe that the sort of cruelty that Tyler experienced would not take place on our campus," Burden said in an email that expressed the anger and frustration that we all felt at hearing his story. "Unfortunately, my desire to believe these things does not make them so."

With her thoughtful and impassioned letter to the student body, the conversation changed. It was no longer, "How could something this terrible happen?" but now, "Could something this terrible happen here, at Skidmore?" And the answer, unfortunately, is a frightening and undeniable 'yes.'

We are living in the beginning of a new millennium where technology has overshot morality. The growing pains inherent in this transition have left us communicating in a thousand different ways without yet understanding the responsibilities involved in their use. We live in a time of instantaneous communication and, simultaneously, continuing prejudice and hatred: Tyler Clementi's death is an expression of how dangerous this can be.

This tragedy further resonates with the hopes and disappointments we all felt upon coming to college for the first time. As freshmen, we arrived at Skidmore expecting college to be a safe space of progressive understanding and open-armed acceptance. Unburdened by the expectations and disappointments we might have suffered at home, we looked forward to the freedom of discovering ourselves in a community that, everyone assures us, will embrace us for who we are.

We love our campus, but no school can live up to the expectations of a wide-eyed first-year. That's why the college spends weeks training RAs and peer advocates, holds lectures on diversity and combating

prejudice and equips a Counseling Center that allows students to make appointments free of charge. A student in Tyler's situation would have many avenues to seek help, we assure ourselves.

But Rutgers offered a Counseling Center, campus diversity initiatives and RAs who spoke with Tyler days before he jumped off the George Washington Bridge. Policies and training can only go so far: it falls to us, as members of the college community, to make up the difference by refusing to tolerate cruelty and prejudice in our fellow students.

As she ended her email, Jen Burden said, "I would like to believe that we are not a community of silent bystanders." If we want to prevent Skidmore becoming a home to the same kind of tragedy suffered by Tyler Clementi, we can't be.

## Senior employees lose perks

College, union agree to cut senior benefits to cover health insurance

By Andrew Cantor, Managing Editor

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

On Sept. 26, the Service Employees International Union Local 200United, which represents 144 college Dining Services, mechanic, maintenance, facilities, post office and stablehand employees, narrowly passed a labor contract with a vote of 56 to 55. Through the new contract negotiations, several benefits for senior employees were eliminated to cover owed health insurance costs. Thirty-four eligible employees did not vote.

In the previous contract, effective June 1, 2007 through May 31, 2010, unionized employees were personally responsible for increased costs in health insurance. Their plan, the 1199SEIU Greater New York Benefit Fund, increased by 1.75 percent in the past year, which rendered an owed \$150,000 from the union members.

Administrators in the health plan demanded the owed money in the next six months, and instead of each unionized employee paying monthly fees of \$150 to \$180, the union and college negotiated to eliminate several senior benefits to cover the deficit.

The senior benefits, a retirement allowance which pays retired employees of 25 and 30 years, 8 weeks and 10 weeks salary after retirement, respectively, was eliminated, along with a yearly \$300 service recognition bonus for employees who have worked 25 years and more.

Approximately 18 employees were eligible for the senior benefits. Many of these senior employees are displeased with the negotiations.

"The senior people here gave up the most in the contract," said Jimmy Potter, Maintenance Mechanic Lead, an employee for 31 years. "It's unfair because if you calculate the new contract in dollar amounts, the seniors sacrificed the most."

I just feel very disrespected, said Karen Stevens, an employee in Burgess Café who has worked at the college for 34 years. "We earned these benefits and now they're gone because some of the younger employees were afraid of losing their health insurance."

"The [senior] benefits have been in my contract for 31 years and they were here when the union started," Potter said.

The union chairman and negotiator on-campus, Chuck Ure, baker, an employee of nearly 33 years, was not pleased with the negotiations, but said he needed to sacrifice the needs of a few for the larger group.

"I don't know if it's the way I was raised or the values I've learned along the way, but I had to put everyone else's interests above my own, Ure said. "I was eligible for all the senior benefits, and I would like to see all of them come back in future contracts."

Ure mentioned he would continue to research options to restore the previous benefits in the new contract, which will expire May 31, 2013. He also said he would explore the possibility of amending the current contract to grandfather old benefits.

The college, however, will not entertain an amendment. According to Barbara Beck, associate vice president for Finance and Administration and director of Human Resources, an amendment to the contract would require renegotiation of every single clause in the agreement, which will occur anyway upon new contract negotiation in three years. Ure, conversely, said it may be possible to isolate a single clause in the contract to renegotiate.

Beck is also disappointed senior employees lost their benefits, but said the negotiations were finalized and the college respects senior employees.

We did the best with the resources we had, and I believe we were creative with the outcome, Beck said. "We respect all employees, whether union, faculty or staff. We recognize employees with 25 years of service with a very expensive Skidmore chair or rocking chair-I do respect these employees."

Beck also mentioned that the college met the union pension and salary requirements.

"We were very generous with the pension and salary in relation to other, similar schools in the area," Beck said.

The new contract which has been signed by the college, will become effective immediately once the union business manager in Syracuse signs the contract.

The negotiations were tough, Ure said. "The vote was the closest I've seen in my 33 years here."

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Burgess: Karen Stevens serves a student in Burgess Cafe. She has been an employee of the college for 34 years.

Andrew Cantor/Skidmore News



## T-shirt time in Scribner

The peril of getting ready with girls

By Jack McDermott, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

Last Friday at about 6 p.m. I was sitting in my living room enjoying a nice bowl of barbecue chicken and a bottle of root beer (light on the "root" of course) while listening to some Janelle Monae. You know, nice and relaxing.

In a couple hours I would head upstairs, throw on some jeans and a button down, brush my teeth and pour myself a nice steaming hot cup of fresh apple cider of course. But it was only 6 p.m., the night was young.

Meanwhile, my five housemates were all upstairs running around like chickens with their heads cut off. Or to be a little less graphic, like the spastic Skidmore squirrels in front of Case looking for acorns.

You think I'm joking, but my routine for getting ready to go out could not be more different than theirs. Not to mention about three hours shorter.

First they have to decide what clothes to wear. They're running back and forth between each other's closets, trying on a hundred different outfits. Also, other girls are coming in and out of their houses, borrowing, bringing, swapping and exchanging clothes.

When we were first deciding rooms there was some drama about what would happen if there was a room without a closet-who would get it. I really don't know why it was an issue, it's not like it matters whether they have separate closets or not.

One thing I've come to understand about girls is that when they live together, all of their closets become one giant department store without any credit cards or registers; all clothes are ripe for the taking.

There was one night when four of my friends, all from different Scribner houses, were each wearing outfits that belonged to just one of my housemates.

After they find clothes, they have to decide what shoes to wear. Yeah, we're back to shoes.

They have to pick out one pair of shoes from the collective 85, and it has to match their outfit. Good luck.



One time they even dressed me. I've never had to deal with so many clothing rules before. They had everything precise, from the color of the jeans to the specific amount of buttons I was supposed to leave open on my shirt.

I had to wear a plain white undershirt, which I had to borrow from the guys next door because the only white shirts I own have designs on them, and they said a colored shirt was not good, at least not with the specific button down shirt I wanted to wear.

I couldn't wear shorts because apparently when going out there is a type of shirt you can wear with jeans, a type you can wear with khakis and a type you can wear with shorts; all are very different, and not interchangeable under any circumstances.

And, they spent a good 10 minutes picking out my shoes. I only have three, remember? It shouldn't be that hard.

Last but not least, they have to "put on their faces". That process takes at least 20 minutes alone. They have to put on mascara, eyeliner and eye shadow. They have to curl their eyelashes, put on lipstick, foundation, concealer and blush. They have to paint their nails and, lastly, do their hair.

And then, finally, when it's all said and done, after they've spent all this time, they change into a completely different outfit.

Now, I can't lie, they look absolutely incredible once they are all dressed and ready. But I live with them, and have seen them when they wake up and when they are at their so called "worst," and honestly, they look just as good.

When you live with another person, you have to deal with his or her routines. People can have ridiculous, annoying, simple or funny ways of getting ready. All you can really do is adapt, and make the most of the differences between routines.

I always know that my Friday and Saturday nights will be extremely entertaining as I watch my housemates try to "sex up a turtleneck". And I must even admit, I once picked out an outfit for one of them.

## Weapons of mass reflections

By Rick Chrisman, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

When was the last time anybody asked what you thought about the war. I mean our two wars. Our two eight-year-old wars.

Leave me alone. I hate to think about it, you might respond. So you should, and so would I. We can't afford to think seriously about it because we would throw up. We see the mortality count (U.S. and non-U.S.). We see the wounded count. And we are now learning more and more about the emotional casualties and family fall-out. Recently, Bob Herbert of the New York Times called these wars a "meat grinder for service members and their families." Naturally we want to avert our eyes, and minds.

To avoid thinking about it, we play happy, eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow (or some day far down the road) we all die. Easy to say if you're not in a war zone. But that's one strategy we have to protect our consciences.

Another way is simply to say that the war policy is beyond our control. Which it is; corporate interests control it (see "Why We Fight," the 2005 award winning documentary by Eugene Jarecki). What's to be done about that? And after Afghanistan, there are other candidates in cue.

But, you know, as well as actually trying to change the situation, there is also such a thing as acting in a way appropriate to the situation; like, SCREAM.

To scream "bloody murder" would be, I believe, the perfectly sane reaction to the ongoing travesty and tragedy. It is only natural to grieve death and destruction; not to do so is unhealthy, inhuman. Whether one supports or opposes the war policy, keening over the maimed and dead is proper, mandatory really.

Is that realistic? There are so many casualties; they cease to have personal meaning for us. Now that's just the problem we must avoid; but we have slipped into it long since. What personal meaning do these casualties have for any American except for the families involved? That is the unfortunate, impious state of affairs about our state of war.

Three or four years into the Iraq War, when I was serving a church in Boston, I would be preparing for Sunday worship and feeling how lame it seemed to enter a beautiful sanctuary and only say the usual prayers ("for peace," "for our national leaders") and not also break out weeping for the exploded bodies and shattered souls strewn across the Mesopotamian sands.

In fact, I daydreamed, we should suspend "worship" entirely and just stage scenes from the Greek tragedies, say, scenes from "Iphigenia" (about a young woman sacrificed for war), or from "Antigone" (another young woman, pleading with the king to bury her rebel brother), or from Ajax (the Athenian general who killed himself upon his return home). Well, it didn't happen.

But my daydreams continued here at Skidmore. Actually, I acted one of them out at the Club Fair last month when I dressed up as Uncle Sam (did I feel silly? Yes.) and handed out questions for students to consider this year: "What are the costs of war?" "Who is carrying the burden of those costs?" "Do you realize what is being done on your behalf?" "Is it time to think about Universal National Service?"

So, too, I could just imagine Skidaiko members setting up their drums in the central quadrangle, interspersed with banners which read (in Japanese characters and in translation): "We are a nation at war," and "Consult your feelings."

Or, again, I can envision one of our students as a mime performer, like the ones you see in Quincy Market or Washington Square, all white and rigid and silent like a statue, in the costume of Mars, the war god.

Or perhaps a group of students might organize a staged reading from Tim O'Brien's "The Things They Carried." Already in the works, the dance department has choreographed Arvo Paart's "Da Pacem," a memorial of the Madrid bombings, to be performed in December.

Wouldn't it be a helpful exercise in emotional honesty, and a hopeful one, for our community to offer up occasional reflections about our wars in some expressive, artistic fashion? Or is that just another daydream? I'm open.

*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.*

## **Sophomore brings development project to campus**

Bicycles Against Poverty joins Benef-Action, promotes resource accessibility

By Mariel Kennedy, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

Waiting on the world to change? Don't write a song about it; be the change you're looking for. This is the ideology behind Skidmore's hottest new initiative, Bicycles Against Poverty.

Started by a student at Bucknell University last year, Bicycles Against Poverty (BAP) is a student led nonprofit organization whose vision is to eradicate poverty in all forms.

All projects are aimed at achieving this goal through sustainable developmental projects, according to the club's mission statement.

The project is slowly but steadily spreading to other colleges and universities across the east coast.

BAP is also in the process of teaming up with elementary schools in order to interest younger generations in world issues and community service.

The main goal of BAP is to use bicycles to encourage community cooperation, and to improve accessibility of important resources. It also seeks to serve as a tool for economic development for low income families.

To do so, bicycles are purchased and delivered to people in low-income areas around the world.

Though focused on Uganda, BAP plans to develop and branch out to other areas. Its official website proclaims, "Thus, wherever poverty is, BAP will be there too."

Every dollar raised goes directly to the purchasing and shipping of these bicycles. Areas aided are then monitored for progress.

The club also promotes other sustainable development projects that involve "understanding obstacles and finding creative solutions to overcome them."

BAP was recently brought to Skidmore by humanitarian and student James Lyness, '13.

I've always been interested in giving up time. I value giving up time more than just giving money and material possessions, he said.



When his friend began BAP at Bucknell, Lyness quickly became involved. After seeing how BAP functioned and the interest it was generating, Lyness took the initiative to try and generate curiosity and awareness at Skidmore.

Lyness hopes students here find interest in what he is working towards and become involved.

BAP at Skidmore is currently collaborating with Benef-Action, the college's award-winning community service club.

Lyness, a member of Benef-Action, went to the club's board meeting to spread the message of BAP.

"If people like to volunteer, you will find them at these meetings," he said. "Almost everyone at meetings volunteer time and hopefully share some of the same values."

Lyness considered himself to be in the right place at the right time with his promotional efforts.

BAP was marketed in front of over 100 people that night, generating excitement and attention.

Though technically not yet a club, BAP has been making a name for itself around campus.

BAP also plans to set up a table in Case Center on parents' weekend.

In addition, BAP is co-sponsoring the environmental studies department's keynote speaker, Jeff Olson.

Olson will lecture on Oct. 4 at 7 p.m. in Gannett Auditorium. The lecture will focus on the bicycle as a solution to important global issues, ranging from climate control to an alternative energy resource.

A BAP table will be set up to sell bags and T-shirts and to generate interest in the club.

Lyness says it is important to co-sponsor Olson as a means for students who attend and are inspired by these lectures to channel their passion.

While the idea is still fresh in their minds, BAP will be right there for people to help out, he said.

To those who are passionate about overlooked human rights violations and important world issues, BAP is a way to combat those issues in a sustainable way, Lyness said.

People throw money at issues to solve problems, but when people take time to think of sustainable approaches, they have long lasting effects. BAP encompasses that. It's a great way to directly help people.

*Bicycles Against Poverty meets on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Spa.*

*Benef-Action meetings are held bi-weekly on Wednesdays at 8:45 p.m. in Ladd 106.*

*For more information on BAP visit <http://www.bicyclesagainstpoverty.org/about.php>*

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BAP:James Lyness '13 (far right) worked with Bicycles Against Poverty in Africa this summer before introducing the club on camous.

Photo courtesy of James Lyness





## Discovering ‘Bomber County’

Professor Daniel Swift’s first book combines poetry and history

By Sarah Barry, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

Professor Daniel Swift has accomplished a feat that many strive for: his first book was recently published.

The book, "Bomber County: The Poetry of a Lost Pilot’s War," is a work partially inspired by Swift’s own history.

“The book arises from the meeting of two curiosities, on a personal level, the fate of my grandfather, and in terms of literary history, the poetry of the Second World War,” Swift said.

Swift’s grandfather was a bomber pilot in World War II and the book began as a journey with Swift’s father to recover some of the family’s past.

Swift started writing the book in 2007 in the summer before he started teaching at Skidmore. He does not feel that the book is solely his own.

“The book is dedicated to my father. It is very much about my journey with him. I do feel that this is something he and I did together rather than something I did alone,” Swift said.

During his book reading on Sept. 29, Swift explained that he and his father traveled together to the air base where his grandfather was stationed.

Swift conducted interviews with several veterans and civilians affected by the war.

He focused on one woman in his lecture who viewed the war as a love story about how she met her husband.

Her account was vastly different from those who were directly fighting.

“If you write a war story only about soldiers, you’re getting something so deeply wrong,” Swift said.

The book responds to the claim that there is little poetry of merit from the second World War when compared to the first World War.

Swift explains that poetry functions as an outlet for mourning in war times.

Poetry as a type of writing does formal things differently than other types of writing, and that's why poems are so often read at funerals. Poem's are often an atheist's replacement for scripture, and are therefore deeply connected to all the work of mourning, and remembering the past Swift said.

Swift incorporates and analyzes poetry from both veterans and poets about World War II.

I think the poetry of World War II has much to teach us about strategic bombing, and that military strategy has surprisingly much in common with creative writing, both are imaginative projects.

Swift expressed a deep gratitude towards the many interviewees who contributed to his knowledge of the war.

I've tried to repay the enormous debt I owe them in writing all of these things, Swift said. He explained that writing the book seemed to make people more willing to talk to him.

Professor Swift is on leave from Skidmore for the year, but he is currently working on several projects.

Upon request, Professor Swift offered some advice to both his own students in the English department and aspiring writers in general at Skidmore.

"There's an old joke about writing: change one letter in the word, and you get 'waiting.' Writing involves a lot of waiting, an unimaginable amount of time and patience."

He continued, "I'm interested in the types of writing that are by definition rushed - journalism, written on deadline, is a useful discipline for all writers - but I'm more interested in the kind of writing that cannot be rushed, that refuses to be hurried. A good piece of writing, like a good painting, rewards a lot of slow looking; it absorbs time and patience, and pays back tenfold all the attention you can give it. So, in terms of advice for writers, you have to be patient, I'm afraid."

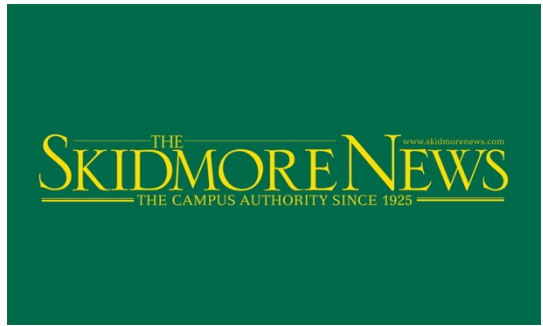
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Daniel Swift

English Dept. professor Daniel Swift.

Deborah Copaken Kogan





## Photos from Oktoberfest Weekend 2010

By Lauren Elsner and Melissa Cohn, Photography Editors  
On Fri, Oct 8, 2010

Arts & Entertainment:

Music #1.1674201:3387076466.jpg

Oktoberfest 2:Janelle Monae performing the Fall Big Show, on Oct. 1.

Skidmore News





## **Skidmore Democrats encourage voter registration for all parties**

By Miles Mattison, Business Manager

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

The Skidmore Democrats are certainly one of the more active clubs on campus, with big plans for this semester to bring various speakers to Skidmore, host film-screenings and hopefully even host a political debate on campus.

The 2010-2011 academic year marks the third year as president of the Skidmore Democrats for Amy Bergstraesser '11, and she is excited about their various contributions to campus life this semester.

For the past three-weeks, the Skidmore Democrats were in the Dining Hall daily registering hundreds of students to vote in the upcoming November elections. This year, they registered people of all party affiliations. As there is no active Republican group on campus this semester, the Skidmore Democrats are sending out a message of bi-partisanship to encourage political activism.

Bergstraesser commented on the past three-weeks registering voters in the Dining Hall, stating, "I had a really good time because we're not just registering Democrats, we're registering Republicans and independents, too. We just want people to become involved and vote."

Bergstraesser wants Skidmore students to realize that as a campus, Skidmore is a powerful electorate group which can and has made a difference in local elections.

During the Obama election year, Jeff Waite ran for City Court Judge and won with the Skidmore vote.

Waite won by a couple hundred votes and we had 300 votes for him, so we actually have made a difference, Bergstraesser said.

Voting at Skidmore is also incredibly simple. "Students can vote right in Case Center, it's super-easy."

On Thursday Oct. 14, the Skidmore Democrats screened "Milk," co-sponsored with Pride Alliance as the first movie in their political movie series for the semester.

The next movie screening will take place on Oct. 21 in Gannett at 7 p.m. and it will be a special event because it includes this year's Key Note speaker, Kelly Nyks.



Nyks co-wrote, produced and directed "Split: A Divided America" in 2008. After the film, he will come out to talk about the importance of the youth vote in today's elections and then hold a question and answer session with the audience.

This event is co-sponsored by the Government Department, English Department and the Film Appreciation Troup.

The documentary is about bipartisanship and explains the reasons behind why the U.S. is becoming even more polarized with Democrats becoming more liberal and Republicans becoming more conservative.

It is becoming really hard for people to identify with one of those two parties because they are becoming so extreme, Bergstraesser said.

The Skidmore Democrats hope the film will get students' emotions moving and inspire them to come out and vote this November.

Other speakers that the Skidmore Democrats are bringing to campus this semester included Family Court Judge Robert Rybak and Congressman Scott Murphy of Saratoga.

Rybak will speak about his positions and stances on local politics and Scott Murphy is coming to the Spa to give a talk, followed by a meet and greet with student voters to get an understanding of what their concerns are. The dates for these two events are to be announced.

Other potential speakers this semester include Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Attorney General Andrew Cuomo, as well as various state senators and local politicians.

The Skidmore Democrats are also trying to facilitate bringing B.K. Keramati and Jim Tedisco to Skidmore for an on-campus debate.

Tedisco is a New York Assemblyman, and Keramati is challenging his position in the upcoming election.

At meetings, the Skidmore Democrats plan and discuss their upcoming events and debate current events pertinent to American politics. Also, there is free food at the Skidmore Democrats' meetings because, as Amy knows, "Skidmore students love free food!"



## Senior Maranda Duval gives recycling a new twist

By Mariel Kennedy, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

Everybody's heard the phrase 'one man's trash is another man's treasure,' and it's really true!

This is the mind set of Maranda Duval '11, the student behind Skidmore's new swap and go program, Freecycling.

Duval is an Environmental Studies major with a broad range of interests, including studio art, music and French.

In addition to being a student, Duval is a Dining Services student supervisor, a member of the Environmental Action Club, an Eco Rep and the music director of the Drastic Measures, Skidmore's charity, co-ed a cappella group.

Duval spent the past year abroad, studying with the International Honors Program "Rethinking Globalization" in Tanzania, India, New Zealand and Mexico, investigating the impacts of western development around the world.

Though she has no definite post-graduation plans as of yet, Duval has a selection of diverse opportunities that vary from working on an organic farm to working toward a master's of fine arts in vocal performance.

Duval's experiences with her major as well as abroad helped shape the idea for Freecycling.

Freecycling may be Skidmore's best-kept secret, though it is slowly becoming known around campus.

Freecycling is what the name suggests: Free Recycling. It's simply the act of exchanging reusable items at no cost, which reduces the volume of waste that ends up in landfills, Duval said.

Duval believes the idea may have spawned from yard sales or local clothes swaps. She first heard of similar programs a few years back while researching low-impact lifestyles.

By following Google links, Duval discovered an online community devoted to Freecycling. The program has thousands of local groups and even more participants on a national scale.

Upon her arrival on campus this semester, Duval began to think of the amount of waste produced on Skidmore's campus each year. She says that number was 671 tons during the 2009-2010 school year- a large difference from our meager recycling rate, which is approximately 19 percent.

It was then that Duval realized no system was available for students to free themselves from items that were in good condition but no longer wanted or needed.

"We recycle plastic, paper, glass and aluminum, so why not clothing, shoes or school supplies?" Duval said.

After speaking to several other students, Duval found that most were generally supportive and excited about bringing such a program to campus. From there, Duval and a friend found a way to put the plan into action.

The Freecycling table can be found in Case Center, just outside of the Game Room and across the hall from the Intercultural Center.

Students can bring clean and reusable items to leave on the table, or take any item they want.

It is completely free of charge, and you do not have to leave something to be able to take something.

Acceptable items include clothing, shoes, jewelry, accessories, school supplies, games, magazines, books and other miscellaneous trinkets that can be re-used, re-cycled and re-loved. Just make sure that everything is clean and functional, Duval said.

## Scribner architects address Senate

By Kat Kullman, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

Tuesday, Oct. 12, the Senate of the Student Government Association met to hear the news from the Scribner Village Replacement Committee, which presented the new plans for the dorms on campus.

The Scribner Village Replacement Committee came to Skidmore at this time last year to gain feedback about the new dorms set to be built on campus.

These dorms are intended to eliminate the need for triples in freshman dorms.

Architects of the Committee, Eugenia Brieva and Paul Vaivoda, presented the final plans for the new buildings.

The biggest criticism we heard from the trustees was to create dorms that appeal to any class, not just to one. So we investigated and decided on townhouses, like Northwoods, all with single bedrooms. The next step was to find where we could find land next to this community, land with no existing buildings on it, Brieva said.

The Committee emphasized the fact that they are doing all they can to appeal to Skidmore students.

The biggest change the Committee is proposing is to utilize the parking lots in Northwoods that are only partially occupied by cars.

Three buildings, with 114 beds, would be created in this space.

Because of the displacement of parking in this area, the Committee is proposing another parking lot for the cars.

The new buildings would also improve some of the issues in Northwoods, such as the poor sound insulation.

Phase two is the demolition of Scribner Village, once we've already created the other beds. We can't destroy one bed until we've built another. We've also put entrances all on the inside, which creates a park-like neighborhood atmosphere, Vaivoda said.



People were wondering if these new townhouses would be isolated, but these fit right into the buildings already built. They're like an extension of campus. We're trying to design something for students, and make it funkier for you, Brieva said.

The Committee also stressed the sustainability of the project. The construction will not clear trees excessively. Additionally, the construction will occur primarily on land that has already been developed, an extremely green option.

All of the apartments will have geothermal heating and cooling and the construction materials will have a high content of recycled substances.

The Committee hopes that the first phase of the project will be finished by September 2012.

It is projected that the whole project will be completed in 2013.

In other news:

The Inter-Hall Board was granted a supplemental budget of \$1,200 for Moorebid Ball due to the increase of students on campus. The supplemental was passed unanimously.

## College looks to prevent tragedies

By Maxx Salat, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

On Sept. 22 Tyler Clementi, an 18-year-old freshman at Rutgers College, committed suicide after his roommate used his camera to record an intimate encounter hosted in Clementi's room and streamed it online to a public audience.

This incident is not the first of its kind.

Clementi's suicide was one of seven in the LGBT community in the past month that gained media attention.

There are 1,100 suicides on college campuses each year.

Jennifer Burden, director of Health Services, sent out an email to students expressing her sorrow and disappointment in regard to Clementi's death and the events leading up to it.

"My hope would be that we wouldn't have that sort of thing [Clementi's suicide] happen here. I would hope that our students would know better and basically that if someone were to transmit something like that over the Internet, hopefully our students would not give that an audience," Burden said.

Burden wants to make students aware that regardless of the circumstance, there is always an alternative to suicide.

The Counseling Department offers four full-time counselors and one part-time psychiatrist available for consultation by appointment, or without one in the case of an emergency.

Students can also go to the Counseling Department to learn how to counsel a peer on their own.

Julia Routbort, director of the Counseling Center, described her feelings on the incident in four words: "Outraged. Sad. Horrified. Angry."

The college wants students to understand that depression amongst teenagers is a real issue and that campus recourses will do everything in their power to diagnose and treat it.

For the past year, Health Services has offered screenings for depression as part of the regular paperwork for any injury or illness. If a student scores past a certain threshold, Health Services will offer to take that student to counseling.

There is someone from Counseling and Health Services on call at all times. "If a student is in crisis, feeling unsafe or feeling that he or she really can't get through the day, we can see students that day," Routbort said.

Students can see Counseling Services for up to eight private therapy sessions a year. Past that, students will be referred to an off-campus professional.

In addition to individual counseling, Counseling Services also offers group therapy and classes with the goal of helping students deal with the stress of their academic and social lives.

Counseling services' cost is included in tuition and confidentiality is always maintained; students' identities will never be revealed without their consent.



## **EDITORIAL: A sophomore house divided**

By the Editorial Board

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

In 2013, sophomores might find themselves with new options for housing come room selection day. Amidst the many improvements juniors and seniors would find in the prospective new Scribner Village, administrators tentatively plan on turning part of the new apartment community into housing exclusively for the sophomore class. But while this idea might excite rising sophomores already tired of dorm living, such a plan would splinter an already-fragile common sophomore experience.

The buildings that could become home to 114 sophomores would stand on the hill overlooking the current Scribner Village. Closer to campus but still offering all the amenities of housing ordinarily reserved for upperclassmen, these apartments seem to perfectly suit the transitional stage of sophomore year. But by serving only a small fraction of the sophomore class, the new apartments would create divisions that would fracture any sense of a common sophomore year experience.

The school has long struggled with creating definitive programming for sophomores. Without the structure of the freshman year experience, the excitement of junior study abroad, and seniors' anticipation of post-graduate life, sophomores can sometimes feel lost as they try to navigate potential majors and changing social groups. The close-knit community of an exclusively sophomore apartment complex could provide a much-needed support network if it extended to the class in its entirety. But in this model, it would only estrange a lucky 114 students from their 600 classmates.

Standardized student living situations promote class unity. The freshman class bonds over common roommate trials and successes, most upperclassmen share the challenges and luxuries of apartment living, and sophomores experience a communal fellowship of returning to life in the dorms. They provide a helping hand to fledgling freshmen, navigate dining hall options with an experienced eye and plan for the more independent living of junior and senior year.

New hillside apartments can still house some sophomores, but they should operate more as an emergency overflow measure to de-triple freshmen rooms, rather than a partial reconfiguration of the sophomore year experience. Just as the college offers some underclassmen the occasional Scribner house in cases of congested dorms, these buildings can act as a secondary living alternative to combat the growing issue of forced triples for overcrowded freshman classes. But they should be just that: a temporary remedy, rather than a new half-hearted model.

The college may be correct in building a more cohesive and focused sophomore class from the ground up, changing students' residential lives to reshape their academic lives. We admire our Residential Life's creativity and engagement in seeking to create a positive experience for all students. But creating arbitrary divisions within the class can only further cripple the college's efforts to forge a distinct and cohesive sophomore year experience.

## **In times of stress, mental health takes priority**

By Adam Cohen, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

As most students have heard, a tragic incident occurred at Rutgers University earlier this fall. Freshman Tyler Clementi committed suicide as a result of a cyberbullying hate crime based on his sexual orientation.

I would like to think that the Skidmore students would never do anything so cruel as to make a fellow student feel the way that Clementi did, but in the wake of this terrible incident and in preparation for midterms, I believe it is appropriate to discuss mental health and wellness, especially on a college campus.

Good mental health can be difficult to maintain in college-constant stress from schoolwork, tests, upcoming midterms, personal drama, relationships, lack of sleep or exercise and tons of other factors can all add up to poor mental health.

Life's not perfect and we all deal with problems on a daily basis, but there is a healthy way to do so which can help keep you in good psychological shape.

Something as simple as getting a good night's sleep, or even a nap, can help you de-stress and feel better.

More complicated solutions, such as making a schedule to keep track of appointments, assignments and due dates can help to alleviate some mental baggage as well.

It may seem like a waste of time to make a serious schedule, but you may not even realize how helpful and relieving it actually is. Setting aside some "me time" each day can help tremendously, as well as including time to exercise a few times a week.

Most of these solutions deal with managing stress; but that's not all there is to mental well-being. Sometimes you won't know or realize what is causing problems.

As corny as it sounds, in most cases, it helps to talk to someone about your problems. It doesn't have to be a professional-it could be a parent, a friend, someone who may be going through the same rough patch you are, a Peer Health Educator such as myself or even a professor. You'd be surprised how many people are open to listening and are willing to give you advice.

That being said, there's nothing better than talking to a professional about your problems. After all, they are professionals.

It can definitely be intimidating, or even downright scary, to go see a professional about issues you may have, but if you can get past that fear, you can get some great advice.

If you think you know someone whose mental health may be in jeopardy, it's important to know how to appropriately help him or her.

It is not your responsibility to help someone in need, but if you feel you are able to help, then do so.

Ask how he or she is doing, and actively listen. If you find that you can give him or her advice, or have had a similar experience, then there's a good chance you can be a great help to someone.

If you find that you may be in over your head, try recommending that the person go to the Counseling Center, or offer to go with him or her if you feel comfortable.

If you feel he or she may not want to go, but that it would significantly help, you do have the option of anonymously recommending the person to go to the Counseling Center.

In some cases, you may want to go to the Counseling Center yourself to talk about a friend with a problem. Remember, everything said in the Counseling Center is strictly confidential.

Mental health is a serious issue, and as part of the Skidmore community, we all have a part in making sure our fellow students are in good mental health.

## A chat with Professor April Bernard

By Jack McDermott, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

April Bernard is an Associate Professor and the director of Creative Writing for Skidmore's English Department. She is also a well-known poet and has published, among other things, four books of poetry, a novel and a screenplay.

Bernard has taught at Barnard, Columbia, Yale, Amherst, Smith and 11 years at Bennington. Her favorite food is broiled chicken.

*Skidmore News: Where are you originally from?*

April Bernard: I was born and grew up in Williamstown, Massachusetts. But I feel like a displaced New Yorker because I moved there right after college and still miss it.

*SN: When did you come to Skidmore and why?*

Bernard: I came to Skidmore last year, because it is a great job and Skidmore has a great English department. Also, I am a single mom, and my son went to live with his father, so I have a little more freedom to move around than before.

*SN: Why did you decide to become a teacher? Have you done anything besides teaching?*

Bernard: Well, I am very much a writer who is lucky to teach. I love teaching and discovered teaching by accident. Unlike most others in the department, I only have a bachelor's degree. Before, I worked as a book and magazine editor for many years. And now I teach to make a living.

*SN: How does it feel to have a Wikipedia page?*

Bernard: Ha, I don't know who wrote it. I didn't. But the only part I liked is that I know a lot of people don't have one.

*SN: What classes are you teaching? What are you working on right now?*

Bernard: Right now, I am teaching Shakespeare Poetics, Intro to Poetry and an Advanced Poetry Workshop. I have taught other classes on Chekov, Film Noir, Lit Noir, which I love, Jane Austen, which I am quite done with and various writing workshops. I also just finished a novel.

*SN: What type of poetry do you write and who are your favorite poets?*

Bernard: Well, I was trained in versification (the theory of phonetic structure of verse), but I have my own forms. And favorite poets? I'll give you the top four: Shakespeare, Hopkins, Wallace Stevens and Bob Dylan.

*SN: I know that in your Shakespeare Poetics class, you require students to memorize and recite poetry. Why do you do this?*

Bernard: Well, I think it is absolutely essential for educated people to memorize poetry. It is how you own it; it takes residence in your mind. It is very much a lost art and I think one of the ways that we can hold on to poetry.

Features #1.1692847:2350536788.jpg

April Bernard: Professor April Bernard is an accomplished author and Bob Dylan enthusiast.

Melissa Cohn/Skidmore News





## Like, you know what I mean?

By Sergio Hernandez, Columnist  
On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

We've all heard it before. We all secretly dislike people using it. We even want to smack them, shake them up a bit and say, "Get it together, girl, you're in college and a hot mess- not the good kind." Why is it that we are so persistent on using "like" after every word? Is it a Skidmore fad? An effect of the location you come from? Why do people keep using like over and over again? I don't dislike "like"; I can't hate a word for being a word.

A word is what we give it to mean, what we ourselves define; in a sense, we are the label makers. I don't hate the people who use "like" but it does lessen my respect for them. Maybe hate is strong but it irritates me to hear someone blasting "like" 20 times as it were his or her only job in life.

In one of my classes, I won't mention what class but I will say it was an English class, some girl, whether she is mildly intelligent or not I don't know, kept saying "like" after every word she said.

For example, and pay careful attention, when the professor asked, "What does everyone think the word in relation to the themes in the story signify?," she answered, "Well, I don't know, but like I like think it was like presenting that like it wasn't like very cordial to like say like that like things weren't like, you know? fantastic." She kept blabbering on and on.

I just kept thinking, "When will this end?...should I ask Skidmore for my money back? Is that dirt under my nails?" Not only was her comment annoying and time consuming, her entire sentence did not make any sense.

Like compares two different subjects, objects, ideas and so on, to help people understand an unknown concept or meaning. Perfect example, "Love is like a rose." Immediately, we get a sense, an understanding, of love's texture and, possibly, smell and we come close to a mutual understanding of the emotion love means.

Maybe I should just ignore everyone who uses "like" after every sentence, and then I'd ignore three-quarters of Skidmore's population.

What can we do? First, check yourself as if you were checking yourself for an STD: Make sure you don't say "like" unless it is to compare two things. If you say, "I like think like that like Skidmore isn't like so like bad," you are saying you're not sure what you are talking about because you are not making a



definite statement about your opinions; it's an incomplete thought. Check that your thoughts are consistent with your mouth.

Like is like a disease; I used it correctly! Yay! You just never know how exactly to cure it because it slowly conflagrates, creeping inside your mind until it gobbles it.

Next time, think about what you say because it does impact how someone thinks about you: if you're someone who says "like" as it were your only goal in life, people most likely look down upon you. Remember, everyone is judging you.

*Sergio Hernandez is a math and English double-major and occassional observer.*

## Grand Old White Party

By Tyler Reny, Columnist  
On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

I was rather excited when the Republican Pledge to America was released. Finally, I would glean some insight into the modern Republican Party. The Party of No was about to become the party of ideas. Their great orange leader, Rep. Boehner, was going to pull us out of this economic mess. And how will he do it? Well, I still don't know.

The pledge doesn't propose any solutions. All I can glean from the text is that the GOP is going to magically reduce the deficit through modest reductions in discretionary spending and tax cuts. The document neglects the elephant in the room, defense or entitlement spending, which together eat up the majority of the budget. Only Rep. Paul Ryan has the political cojones to suggest reductions in these political third rails. Even Boehner refused to offer specifics. He instead clarified that the document is not meant to "get to the potential solutions" but to "make sure Americans understand how big the problem is."

Even scarier than Boehner's ridiculous comments are the photographs. The Pledge is 45 pages long and interspersed with lovely color snapshots of hard working Americans: old white people voicing their opinions in a town hall, old white people in cowboy hats, older white people at business meetings, old white people selling red meat and old white people, well, just being old.

It's official; the Republican Party has managed to, through legislation and poisonous rhetoric, repel most minorities from their party. The Grand Old Party can now safely change its name to the Grand Old White Party.

In the past, the GOP has actually tried to project an image of diversity. Remember when Republican National Committee Chairman Michael Steel offered "fried chicken and potato salad" as incentives to draw more diversity into the GOP? His gaffes make Joe Biden look like the Dalai Lama.

But the country is changing rapidly. Hispanics now constitute about 15 percent of the population and are on track to be about 30 percent by 2050. Their electoral turnout has increased from 8 percent of the total population in 2006 to 10 percent in 2008. The African-American vote has grown as well, thanks to President Barack Obama's candidacy, and always trends heavily democratic.

Our last Amigo in Chief, George Bush, actually fought to capture the growing Hispanic vote and managed to increase the Republican share of Hispanic voters from 21 percent in 2004 to 40 percent by 2006.

Bush's stance was illustrative of past trends. The Republican Party used to be split internally over immigration. Pro-market conservatives, like Bush, supported expansive reform and border hawks, like Tom Tancredo, rallied for harsher restrictions. This may be changing as moderates shift toward the border hawk category.

The few remaining pro-immigration Republicans are embracing Hispanics as their new political punching bag. John McCain cosponsored an immigration bill in 2007 and now says he wouldn't vote for it if it were to be introduced again.

The GOP is in trouble if it continues to turn against minority voters. Hispanics ensured victory for Obama in a few South Western states and offer a key electoral advantage in some closely divided regions. Also, old white people are going to die soon and dead people have historically had very low voter turnout.

The GOP might be smart in the short run. There is evidence from numerous studies published in leading political science journals to suggest that as the Hispanic community grows and spreads throughout the U.S., white resentment, anxiety and fear will grow along with it.

The Republicans have been very successful in the past at harvesting and promoting racial fear in return for electoral gains. Nixon and Bush Sr. did it successfully. Newt Gingrich and Tom Tancredo are trying it now. But Gov. Pete Wilson also tried it in California in 1994 and he and his party got pummeled.

The potential for a backlash exists. Then again, California has a massive minority population and the nation still doesn't. But when it does, the Hispanics will not forget the old white men who demonized them. Neither will the African-Americans, gays nor Muslims.

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



## **Zankel to be dedicated on Saturday**

College celebrates success of "Creative Thought, Bold Promise" fundraiser

By Rebecca Orbach, News Editor

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

The campaign began in 2004 and was framed by the college's strategic plan, which aimed to increase student academic engagement, intercultural and global understanding and responsible citizenship.

The college is expecting more than 2,000 guests on campus this weekend to celebrate the completion of its six-year "Creative Thought Bold Promise" campaign, with a full schedule of events taking place on campus.

In May, the College's fundraising campaign surpassed its \$200 million goal, raising \$216.5 million.

More than 18,000 parents, alumni, friends and Skidmore employees contributed to the campaign.

These contributions more than doubled the total of any of the college's previous fund-raising efforts.

The campaign began in 2004 and was framed by the college's strategic plan, which aimed to increase student academic engagement, intercultural and global understanding and responsible citizenship.

Fundraising was specifically directed toward financial aid, endowment, sustainability initiatives and academic programs.

The new Arthur Zankel Music Center is the largest facility, 54,000 square feet, funded by the campaign.

The building is named after former Skidmore board member and parent Arthur Zankel, whose \$46 million donation is the largest gift in the college's history.

Saturday Oct. 16 there will be an invitation-only concert in Zankel that features pianist Emanuel Ax, who will remain on campus from Thursday to Saturday as this year's McCormack Visiting Artist-Scholar.

Zankel has allowed the Music Department classroom and rehearsal space and has provided the region with 600-seat Helen Filene Ladd Concert Hall.

Though it has only been opened for eight months, Zankel has already hosted dozens of performances and master classes featuring world-class artists of all genres.





This summer, the facility was home to the Skidmore Flute Institute, the Saratoga Harp Colony, the New York School of Orchestral Studies and the New York State Arts Presenters Symposium.

This accomplishment is a tribute to the incredible generosity of the extended Skidmore family and represents a remarkable achievement in its own right. But even more importantly, the campaign has enabled us to invest in the life of the college in ways that have made a material and enduring contribution to the quality of the Skidmore experience for our students, to our continuing value to alumni and to our capacity to enhance our region, President Philip A. Glotzbach said.

Other on-campus events this weekend include the dedication of the Susan Kettering Williamson '59 Sports Center, a continuation of events celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery and the annual "Under the Big Top" show presented by the college's a cappella groups and other student performers.

## **Saratoga Springs prepares for 31st annual CROP Walk**

By MacKenna Lewis, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

The Church World Service and interdenominational religious groups organize more than 16,000 CROP Walks around the nation each year to raise money to eradicate hunger and poverty and to promote peace and justice.

The service gives assistance around the world and was one of the first groups to respond after Hurricane Katrina.

The CROP Walk is one of the Church World Service's largest events, and the group relies on CROP Walks for approximately \$15 million of its \$70 million yearly budget.

The 31st annual Saratoga CROP Walk will take place at 1 p.m. on Sunday Oct. 17.

"The number of people, primarily women and children, who die each day, world-wide, of starvation, lack of access to clean water and diseases that are caused by these conditions, is approximately equal to the population of Saratoga Springs. So the equivalent of our entire city is being wiped out each day by something that is entirely preventable," said Ken Klotz, former mayor of Saratoga and co-organizer of this year's Saratoga CROP Walk.

Each year in Saratoga between 60 and 150 people attend the two-mile walk down North Broadway. This year, about 30 Skidmore students have signed up to attend.

The Church World Service tries to raise money for hunger issues. That includes anything from having to walk hours a day to get water to feed your crops, to just straight out starvation because you don't have the means to grow your own food, said Sarah Minney '13, the Benef-Action liaison for this year's CROP Walk.

A quarter of this year's profits will go to the Saratoga County Economy Opportunity Council, the county's anti-poverty agency. Church World Service will distribute the remaining funds around the world.

Benef-Action's goal for this year's CROP Walk is to raise \$1,000. The organizers hope that each participant will donate \$10 and will also ask 10 friends to donate the same amount.

The best way to look at it is instead of buying three cups of coffee a day, only buy two and donate the money you saved during those two weeks. We do need a lot of money, obviously, but people don't realize that even donating \$5 does a lot, Minney said.

Skidmore's team will meet for the event at 1 p.m. Oct. 17 by the Spirit of Life statue in Congress Park.

To find out more about the event, search "CROP Walk Saratoga Springs, NY" on Facebook, or join Benef-Action's team online at [www.churchworldservice.org](http://www.churchworldservice.org).

*MacKenna Lewis, Contributing Writer*

## Ensemble ACJW challenges classical cliches

By Kara Clark, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

Composers don't wear fire engine red glasses. Nor do they wear skinny jeans. And they definitely don't own iPhones. Or do they? Ensemble ACJW's concert at the Arthur Zankel Music Center on Oct. 8 erased many clichés about classical composition and performance.

The ensemble attracted a lot of attendees, filling the concert hall for the evening. The newly formed group is the brainchild of the Julliard School, Carnegie Hall, the Weill Music Institute and New York City's Department of Education.

The ensemble's goal is to take up residencies in schools and universities, giving its young adult members the opportunity to share their passion and knowledge for classical music.

This could have the potential to be cheesy or forced, but ACJW gives off a different vibe.

They're young, engaging and even current. Composer Timothy "Timo" Andres is a full-fledged hipster from Brooklyn (he owns the red glasses, skinny jeans and iPhone).

This concert marked the premiere of Andres' piece "Trade Winds," and it propelled the concert out of the starting gate, while simultaneously proving Andre's work is just as unconventional as he is in the world of classical music.

The elements that make up Andres' "Trade Winds" are an irregular combination. The piece consists of the typical violin, viola, cello and piano, but there is also a clarinet, a marimba and an odd percussion board made up of a teacup, two gongs and metal objects, which Andres refers to as "The Junk Table."

The string instruments and the clarinet have a sweeping, wind-like quality, anchored in the room by the haunting and sensitive piano, played by Marina Radiushina. The sound seems to rise, not in pitch but in spirit, until an unexpected note is hit.

Overall, the song has an ebb and flow to it, reminiscent of a natural element like wind or water. This isn't just Apollonian music that's academic or intricate to an appreciative, well-trained ear. The piece is accessible while still maintaining an intelligent and atypical quality.

Although the rest of the group was not as vibrantly dressed as Andres, they made up for it in energy and attitude, bringing established classical pieces new life.

During their performance of Brahms' "String Sextet in B-Flat Minor, Op. 18," the musicians' vigor accentuated the first movement, the fast paced yet elegant "Allegro."

They also gave the second movement, the "Andante," a subtle energy unique to the performance. The two final movements of the piece, the "Scherzo" and the "Rondo," were completed with a zesty flavor.

Schubert's "Der Hirt auf dem Felsen" was also performed in an unexpected manner. The ensemble's clarinetist, Paul Won Jin Cho, didn't just remain stationary as he played his instrument, he moved. He bent his knees in a circular motion, matching the phrasing, like a snake charmer.

The guest soprano, Jessica Rivera, provided a theatrical rendition of the song that was surprisingly unforced.

A panel discussion preceded the concert, giving the members of the ensemble a chance to answer questions and subtly flaunt their talent and charisma.

During the panel discussion, many of the ensembles' members revealed that they began their music education at an early age. The group's cellist started experimenting with string instruments around age five.

The panel discussion also gave Andres a chance to provide insight into his piece and the creative process. The young composer explained that his creative approach was atypical in nature. Many writers lay out concrete parts one by one, while Andres has a system similar to stream of consciousness.

Not only that, but aspects of his work will constantly change until completion. The instrumentation for the piece wasn't even final until a week before rehearsal.

The commissioners of the piece wanted to change the woodwind part from flute to clarinet, and Andres explained that's where the name "Trade Winds" comes from.

Ensemble ACJW brought its audience a fresh outlook on Classical music. There could be a place for it in the iTunes Libraries of the young.

Who knows, with ACJW touring schools, a kid or two might want to play the cello instead of the electric guitar.

## Bad Religion, deep stuff

By Eric Shapiro, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

Bad Religion hasn't changed much over the years. The band deals mostly with politics and religion, but not in the simplistic, juvenile way that one might associate with similar groups. No, it's all about the hooks and the lyrics.

Sure, the members have supplemented their meat-and-potatoes punk rock assault with elements of psychedelia, hard rock and heavy metal since their 1982 debut LP "How Could Hell be Any Worse." But stylistic diversity really isn't the point.

The Dissent of Man, which incidentally marks the band's 30th anniversary, is no exception. Aside from having a crisper production than the band's early 1980s albums, the new album doesn't sound all that different than earlier entries in a substantial discography.

It's apparent that frontman Greg Gaffin has progressed greatly as a lyricist. His rants have almost always been intelligent, but his earlier songwriting bore the unmistakable scent of angst.

Now, he's matured in the best possible sense of the term. The music is still just as energetic and youthful as ever, albeit more refined, but the preacher wailing over the frantic power chords clearly knows what he's talking about.

But, I'll admit that sometimes I don't, especially when he tackles metaphysical poetry, like in the first track, "The Day the Earth Stalled:" "Friction, bonds, and gravity, all harmonic motion ceased/Life itself could not maintain from that singularity/Try to withstand a magnetic storm with no one to keep you warm/Waiting for the rest to fall, since the day that the earth stalled."

Deep stuff, of the kind that rewards repeated listening. I've probably heard "The Dissent of Man" 10 times and I'm still pondering what some of the songs mean. That's the sign of great songwriting; if it were too dense, I would have given up a long time ago, yet if it was too direct I would have bristled at the preaching and moved on to something else.

Sure, there are the requisite songs about the dangers of blind faith and organized religion, but they're phrased in a tactful way that respects the listener's intelligence.



Rain fell like judgment/across my windowpane/said it fell like judgment/But it was only rain, goes the chorus of "Only Rain," one of the standout tracks on the album.

Not every song is concerned with such lofty subject matter. Lead single "The Devil in Stitches" tackles the comparatively mundane topic of a dysfunctional relationship, but biblical allusions elevate the subject matter to semi-epic proportions. The tempo is a little bit slower than a typical Bad Religion number; think slightly amped-up power pop.

But again, we're talking about a group whose lyrics take precedence over form, so don't expect anything fancy. Sturdy melodies, occasional harmonies and chord progressions provide a solid foundation for great songwriting.

As long as bands like Bad Religion consistently release music as vital and exciting as this, it's hard to really say that punk rock is dead.

*Eric is a junior who loves rock music in all forms. You may see him around campus in a band T-shirt listening to his iPod and looking unapproachable, but rest assured he is quite friendly and will usually only attack when provoked.*

## Lupe Fiasco fans breath a big sigh of relief

By Jenna Postler, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

The hip-hop community breathed a communal sigh of relief this past Friday, Oct. 8, as news leaked that Lupe Fiasco's third album was finally given a release date. The album, titled "Lasers" is set for release on March 8, 2011.

This announcement comes a mere week before the proposed, "Fiasco Friday," on Oct. 15, where fans of the rapper plan to protest outside the offices of Atlantic Records in N.Y.

Fiasco tweeted a picture of himself and Atlantic Records representative Julie Greenwald, accompanied by the caption "Victory!" on Oct. 7. The picture, which showed Fiasco and Greenwald giving thumbs up in front of an Atlantic logo, gave fans the first clue that the dispute between the artist and his label was finally resolved.

The controversy between the artist and his label began months ago, when Atlantic allegedly tried to cut into the rapper's profits. Fiasco claims that the label pressured him to record songs to which he would have no publishing rights. Atlantic tried to get Fiasco to record, "Nothing on You," which was later given to fellow rapper B.o.B. Because Fiasco himself did not write any of the song, Atlantic would own a large percentage of the record's rights and its earnings.

Fiasco also claimed that the label attempted to rope him into a "360 deal." The deal would have entitled Atlantic to 25 percent of all profits earned by the artist, even if they were unrelated to a song or album. In such a deal, Atlantic would have gained profits from anything the artist worked on, including television and endorsements. Fiasco explained all of this in a three-minute speech he delivered at The Second Regional Academic and Cultural Collaborative in Dayton, Ohio this past week.

Fans have eagerly awaited his new album, "Lasers," which has been finished for over two and a half years. Because of financial disputes, Atlantic Records refused to promote the album, or even give it a release date. This past summer, fans created an online petition to protest the delay that Atlantic placed on the release of the album. The online petition has reached 30,000 signatures.

In July, Fiasco expressed delight that fans created the petition and claimed that Atlantic executives love to see fans that actually care. Fan Richard Baker organized the protest, which is still slated to take place, although now, it is set to be a celebratory march and event. The LupEND blog encourages attendees to bring picket signs with the date "March 8" written on them.

This has been a big week for the rapper. In addition to the announcement of the "Lasers" release date he was also featured on Kanye West's popular G.O.O.D. Fridays series. His recent success can be partly attributed to involved fans who put pressure on Atlantic executives.

*Jenna Postler is a sophomore from rural Vermont who know's what's hip (hop).*

## **Volleyball team fights breast cancer with ‘Dig Pink’**

By Audrey Nelson, Sports Editor

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

The Skidmore College volleyball team faced Middlebury College on Oct. 12 dressed in pink.

The game kicked off the team’s participation in Dig Pink, a nationwide event to promote breast cancer awareness. During October’s role as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Side-Out Foundation, a Virginia based organization, annually runs their event, Dig Pink to help raise awareness and funds for breast cancer victims and survivors.

On entering the Sports and Recreation Center Gym, a donations box and several informational brochures greeted spectators and revealed the initiative behind the abundance of pink covering the floor as well as the bleachers.

The team encouraged spectators to wear pink to the game, and did their part by wearing special made pink T-shirts when on the bench.

Many of the 150 attendees also sported pink in support of those affected by breast cancer. Everything from the head coach, assistant coaches and the volleyball itself wore pink in efforts to raise awareness.

In last year’s event, Skidmore raised \$3,350, contributing to the organization’s total earnings of \$420,000 in donations. Over 800 teams participated in Dig Pink last year.

As of Oct. 13 during this year’s event, Skidmore has raised \$1,980. Already reaching 79.2 percent of their goal, the team hopes to raise at least \$2,500. The team will also be collecting donations during both home tournaments: the Skidmore Classic, which will take place Oct. 22-23, and the Skidmore Invitational, scheduled for Oct. 29-30.

Donations are also accepted at Skidmore’s branch of the event’s website at [https://www.side-out.org/application/teams/team\\_page/1841](https://www.side-out.org/application/teams/team_page/1841).

The field hockey team will also be collecting donations for cancer research during their game against Williams College. Field Hockey vs. Cancer, will be held on Oct. 17 at 1 p.m., but the team will be collecting donations throughout the day.

## **Slim Charles: An unconventional history**

By Jesse Shayne, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

Slim Charles, the winner of this fall's Battle of the Bands, has an unconventional history as a group, which contributes to its unique style.

The band consists of Dominic Green '12, Ben Mickelson '12 and Alex Jarvis '12, as well Ken Siu who is a former Skidmore student. The four members come from a wide variety of locations. Green grew up in rural New York, Jarvis in Philadelphia, Mickelson outside of Boston and Siu has lived in many places but spent the majority of his youth in Tokyo.

Their musical backgrounds are almost as varied as their geographic locations. Jarvis started playing the drums at age 12 and was in a band in high school that wrote and recorded original music. He's played many different genres and hip-hop drumming is one of his favorites.

Mickelson learned how to play the guitar at age 10, but wasn't always serious about it in his youth. He played jazz guitar in middle school and high school, and was a member of a cover band in high school as well. He also wrote some original music with his friends during this time. Recently, Mickelson played guitar for a number of musicals and is a member of the classical guitar ensemble at Skidmore.

Green picked up the guitar for the first time in high school. At this time, he jammed a lot with his brother who played the drums and the two of them performed with a few bands together.

I never really played with good people in high school. Granted I wasn't good either, but I felt like there might be someone better to play with and fortunately I found them here, Green said.

Siu, who is a bassist, played with a few bands in Tokyo, including a relatively well established indie punk band. "Ken is way cooler than us musically," Mickelson said.

Although the band members are serious about music, none of them are music majors. Green is a government major, Jarvis is a sociology major, Siu is an art major and Mickelson is an American studies major with minors in business and music.

"In terms of musical training I would credit my No. 1 teacher as Yacub Addy here at Skidmore... I just don't feel a need to make music into an academic endeavour," Jarvis said.



Even without an academic drive motivating their music, the band's members have come a long way in their short time together. Aside from Green and Mickelson, none of the band members knew each other freshman year and only Mickelson played in a band at the time.

"We're not friends who started a band. It kind of went backwards in that respect... but of course we've become really good friends since," Jarvis said.

Green and Jarvis met at an orientation program during their sophomore years. They were both at school a week early training to be peer mentors.

"We were just vibing over similar music interests and listening to music together. Since the Chapel was open at the time and not that many people were on campus we were just like 'Let's go play right now.' We wrote two songs that day," Jarvis said.

Mickelson joined in with them during the second week of school, and they later picked up Siu.

"I didn't know Ken at all. I just randomly walked by and then remembered that he said he played bass. I was like, 'Hey man, you play bass, you want to come jam?'" Green said.

The band began working right away and played a number of gigs last year including Falstaff's, Putnam Den and the Trash Bar in Brooklyn.

Having such varied musical backgrounds sometimes presents a challenge when picking music. "It's all in the interest of making the best possible product. We're looking for the same thing but we have different ways of getting there," Jarvis said.

In fact, the band even has a hard time fitting its music under one genre. "Everyone calls us something different," Mickelson said.

The band members said they hope to record soon. They also said they want to play more shows outside of Saratoga Springs, especially in New York City, which would be convenient with their bassist already living there.

Over the summer Siu decided to take the fall semester off to live in New York City and will transfer to art school in the spring. He's still in the band and will continue to perform with the group, but Slim Charles is looking for a backup bassist for shows when Siu isn't available.

Slim Charles will continue to perform on campus and in Saratoga Springs throughout the academic year, including Oct. 15 at Falstaff's.

## **Ben Folds collaborates with famous English author Nick Hornby**

By Eli Cohen, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

While author Nick Hornby may not be a household name anymore, his books and film adaptations remain a true testament to growing pains, which has united him with renowned musician Ben Folds in a natural partnership that is apparent in Fold's new album "Lonely Avenue."

Lonely Avenue begins with an unusually brief song called "A Working Day." This sub-two minute track starts off as a pump-up song for a salesman. As the song goes on, though, it takes a negative, self-loathing turn that ends with the salesman quitting his job.

"A Working Day" starkly contrasts the hauntingly mesmerizing second track "Picture Window," which tells the tale of a mother who brings her child to the hospital for the last time on New Year's Eve. From the picture window in the hospital room she can see the fireworks exploding over New York City.

The chorus of this beautiful song stays with the listener. "You know what hope is?/Hope is a bastard/Hope is a liar/A cheat and tease," conveys perfectly the bitter anger of a mother losing her child too early. This song is undoubtedly the most complex, best-written song, and has a similar sound to Folds classics such as "Brick" or "The Luckiest."

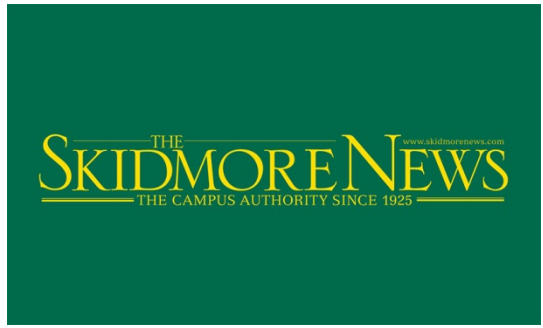
Much of the album follows a similar, piano-ballad sound, although there are several exceptions. Most notably, the only single, "From Above," is a hard-driven song that discusses the notion of people ending up married to the wrong person.

It is clear that the writing is on a higher level than Folds could ever reach, although he is an excellent songwriter. Inspection of the lyrical symbolism and imagery in the song make it clear why it has been so well received.

The only disappointment comes in a song called "Levi Johnston's Blues," which is sung from the point of view of the now-infamous Johnston, the ex-fiance of Bristol Palin. The lyrics and rhyme scheme seem contrived and the song feels forced and uninspired.

Lonely Avenue is a must-have. Those who have not previously enjoyed either Folds or Hornby are likely to change their minds once they hear this album. Folds delivers great musical choreography and Hornby's lyrics are enough to please any poet.





*Eli Cohen is a junior who likes to talk about music.*

## **Cupcake Lab offers more than just pastries**

New café combines comfort food and fresh, top quality ingredients

By Tegan O'Neil, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

Elizabeth and Michael Phillips knew two things for certain before they opened their eatery in March of 2010: they did not like bad coffee or bad service.

This conviction grew out of an informal cross-country survey of coffee, cupcakes and comfort chow as the couple searched for ideas for their own culinary adventure.

After about five years of preparation and countless cups of bad coffee, their dream of opening a café came into fruition and the doors of Isabel's Bistro at The Cupcake Lab were finally opened, located at 517 Broadway Suite 205.

Originally, the establishment was simply named The Cupcake Lab. The name is a play on words inspired by the owners' four Labradors who watch their home while the couple's at work.

"Cupcakes are happy food and labs are happy dogs," co-owner Michael Phillips said, "so the name seemed to fit."

However, as the food offerings became more serious, the husband and wife team realized that a more serious name was needed to match.

"We offer more than just cupcakes," Elizabeth Phillips said.

Isabel's Bistro offers a range of comfort food options including macaroni and cheese, shepherd's pie and pulled pork.

About 20 percent of the menu is vegetarian and there are vegan options as well. The veggie black bean burrito is a favorite of vegetarian patrons.

There are always three homemade soups available, and at least one of them is always vegetarian or vegan.

Bistro menu offerings range from \$4.95 to \$10.95.

While Michael Phillips concentrates on the food aspect of the business, Elizabeth Phillips reigns over the bakery. She grew up loving to bake and her enthusiasm for it is clear.

Everyone says baking is an exact science, she explained, "but all you really need is ambition to experiment and blend ingredients."

And it is the ingredients that make the cupcakes from The Cupcake Lab so scrumptious. Elizabeth Phillips swears by only using top notch ingredients. Her cupcakes are made with Madagascar Bourbon Pure Vanilla Extract, King Arthur flour and Cabot butter.

While most bakers are all about balancing profits, Elizabeth Phillips is all about quality.

"I do things in a more purist way," Elizabeth Phillips said. Her cupcakes are not adorned with tons of sprinkles; there is very minimal decoration.

I want it to be about the cupcakes, she said.

The cookies and cream style is the best selling cupcake, but the red velvet is gaining popularity.

"People will cry if there are no red velvet cupcakes left," she said.

Elizabeth's red velvet cupcake recipe is unique because it is made with high quality cocoa, it is easy on the food coloring and she doesn't overdo the cream cheese in the frosting.

Inspired by the building's history, the Phillips' decided to project old movies on the wall as a throwback to its days as the host of community theater projects.

The venue is spacious and can accommodate many patrons without it getting too loud. Free Wi-Fi is available, making it a great place to study as well.

Isabel's Bistro at the Cupcake lab does not currently accept SkidCard, but is in the process of setting up this service. The Phillips are also attempting to set up open mic nights, as well as a potential bigger gig in November.

*The Cupcake Lab is open Tuesday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

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Cupcake2

The Cupcake Lab offers an open, comfortable setting for studying or socializing, as well as a wide variety of coffee and food.

Melissa Cohn/Skidmore News

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Cupcake

Melissa Cohn/Skidmore News







## Replacing Scribner Village

The \$42 million project in the making

By Katie Vallas, Editorial Editor

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

In 1973, the college built Scribner Village as an experiment to gauge student response to apartment-style on-campus living. Three decades later, the 15 wood-frame apartments still stand. But with the aid of trustee donations and the spur of a rapidly growing student population, members of the college community will soon see the culmination of the college's decades-long advances in on-campus apartment living.

At the helm of the project stands QPK Design, the architecture firm responsible for designing Northwoods Apartments. Contingent on approval by the Board of Trustees and the city of Saratoga Springs, the first phases of the \$42 million Scribner Village Replacement Project could begin to appear by next fall.

Trustee donations made the project possible, with a \$12 million donation from the Sussman family, who also gave aid to the construction of the Murray-Aikens Dining Hall. An additional \$5.5 million donation from an anonymous trustee moved the project forward. "These are what's permitting us to start the project and begin it in a serious way," said Mike West, the college's vice president for Finance and Administration.

With help from a college task force representing the voices of students, faculty and staff, QPK architects created a three-pronged plan that provides short-term solutions to dorm overcrowding and large-scale improvements to on-campus apartment living.

The three phases of their design include additions to Northwoods Apartments, the creation of new slope-side apartments intended as dorm alternatives for sophomores and a complete reconstruction of Scribner Village apartments, with eventual demolition of all of the current structures.

The major comment we received was to build the maximum number of beds that we could while creating accommodations that could result in the best possible living in Scribner, said Eugenia Brieva, one of QPK's leading architects on the project. Brieva and her colleagues intend to tear down the existing structures and replace them with ones built with an eye toward sustainable planning and long-lasting construction, all without leaving any student without housing during the construction period.

To make this possible, two 56-bed slope-side apartment buildings will house more students outside of Scribner Village. "These are four-story buildings, but the lowest levels are kind of buried into the hillside," architect Paul Vaivoda said. "These are two-unit apartments: one accessed from the low side, and one from the campus side."

With a single bedroom on the first floor of each unit and four more above, the five-person apartments would also include a kitchen, living room and dining area. Based on the responses of about 700 students who participated in a 2008-2009 survey, the architects also included in-building laundry facilities and bicycle racks in their plans. These facilities hold a tentative date of completion for fall of 2012.

In an initial design revealed last fall, the architects discussed more large-scale slope-side apartments. But when they brought their designs before the college, administrators raised aesthetic and environmental concerns.

The steep slope apartments weren't going to work. We would have demolished so many trees, said Don Hastings, director of Residential Life. "It would have been scorched earth."

QPK went back to the drawing board, presenting a fresh design on a smaller scale. The new concept led administrators and architects to consider how these apartments might serve as alternative living options for sophomore students seeking a little more self-sufficiency.

These two buildings are really very close to campus and have five-person units, whereas in the rest of the project, we have four-bedroom units, Brieva said. "The idea was to try to complement the sophomore accommodations, in a less-independent living situation than the students who occupy Northwoods and Scribner."

Already, Hastings said his office is considering programming opportunities for these sophomore apartments, with prospective models including a sophomore extension of the First-Year Experience or a return to the pre-FYE structure of "theme houses," based around student commonalities including substance-free housing, multicultural interests or honors designations. Hastings said consideration of an exclusively sophomore apartment complex also raises new logistical concerns surrounding meal plan structures and extensions of the college's alcohol and drug policies.

For the juniors and seniors who will still operate as Scribner Village's primary residents, the QPK architects placed an emphasis on preserving the current apartments' community spirit in the new design. "One of the things that students liked most about the actual Scribner Village is the feeling of social interaction," Brieva said.



For the new plan, the architects disregarded the current units' row organization and instead arranged apartments in a circle, with all entrances feeding out of a central park at the community's center.

In the nature of bringing these buildings closer together, there's an intimacy and more of a connection with your neighbor, Vaivoda said. "We thought it would only reinforce this sense of community."

As they did in Northwoods Apartments, the architects split the four-person apartments through a mix of ground entrances and entryway stairs. But the new Scribner Village apartments, like those they replace, boast larger kitchen, living and dining areas. In an echo of the current apartments' popular back porches, the new design adds outdoor patios for each townhouse. "We want students to take advantage of the space and use it, not just have it as a view," Brieva said.

The architects' work with the college's task force also led them to try to capture what they perceived as the spirit of the Skidmore student in their new Scribner Village designs. "We recognized that the dynamics of the students are of a very active nature," she said. "Part of the idea is to go away from the concept of a box with holes, that's your house."

They took a creative point of view in their planning with the hope that the designs would then better integrate with the college campus as a whole. "You have a lot of things, architecturally, that give character to the buildings you have on campus - funky windows, special roofs," Brieva said. "So what you see here is an attempt to keep those elements harmonious with what you already have."

With the new Scribner Village projected for completion in fall 2013 and the slope-side apartments anticipated for 2012, the college urged the architects to add an additional solution to combat overcrowding pressures in the dorms. They needed something that could stave off on-campus housing trouble for next year, while still being effective in the long-term.

The architects' original plans included construction of a new residence hall with a mix of single and double rooms, as well as four-bedroom suites, to house increased numbers of freshmen and sophomores. But Hastings said such a plan failed to address administrators' concerns about juniors and seniors moving to off-campus housing. "It didn't do what the project wanted it to do," he said. "It took care of the triple issue, but the dynamics of the project were also that we wanted to become more of a residential college."

But even while it awaits confirmation from trustees and Saratoga Springs officials, the project has gathered some donations, but not enough to cover the \$42 million cost of construction. "The rest of the funds for this project will come from other gifts we'll be seeking during this time," West said.

Already, administrators look forward to new campus improvements. "This project was holding us up from other things," West said.

With a solid plan for the reconstruction nearly come to completion, he said he expects the college to soon begin on changes in other aspects of campus, including the library and the new admissions building. "And after that there will be a new science building, probably an addition to Dana," he said. "There's no shortage of the projects we want to do."

Other administrators emphasize the role the Scribner Village reconstruction will play in prospective students' perceptions of the college. "When we complete this project, we'll have housing of such a high caliber that we'll be incredibly competitive as an institution," West said.

These apartments are going to be better than Northwoods, he said. "There are not many campuses where that would be the case."

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Scribner Replacement Rendering 2

Courtesy of Michael West/QPK Design

## FLAT SITE TOWNHOUSES



ENTRY ELEVATION

## Women's soccer wins fifth consecutive game

By Audrey Nelson, Sports Editor

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

Earning its fifth straight win, the women's soccer team made a close, 1-0 non-league victory over Bard College on Oct. 12. The game's one goal came at the 13th minute mark in the first half by Lindsay Schmitt '11.

With a long ball assist from freshman Christine Bellotti, Schmitt scored with a diving header past Bard keeper, Amy Strawbridge. The Thoroughbreds advance to 8-3-2 while the Raptors fall to 6-6.

Skidmore keeper, Gab Lawrence '14 earned the team's third straight shutout with just one save at Tuesday's game. Seeking their 6th straight win, the Thoroughbreds face Union College on Oct. 16 at 1 p.m.

### Field Hockey vs. Cancer

The Skidmore field hockey team will be using their match against Williams College on Oct. 17 to raise awareness of cancer.

The Field Hockey vs. Cancer event will be collecting donations throughout game day to benefit cancer research. The 9th ranked team stands at 10-1-0, and looks for their next win against Babson College on Oct. 15.

### Volleyball

Despite their lead for most of the first match, the Skidmore volleyball team lost 3-0 to Middlebury Tuesday night.

The Panthers came back to win the first match 28-26. In the second set, Middlebury won 25-21 and finished the game in the third set at 25-17.

Skidmore sophomore Samantha Friedman finished with 24 digs, Meredith Palmer '11 made 13 kills and two blocks and Mallory Mendelsohn '13 had 38 assists and two service aces. Sophomore Carolyn Bottelier had 11 kills and seven digs.

The team looks for better luck on Oct. 16 with their matches against Sage College and SUNY Potsdam at Sage.



### **Liberty League recognitions**

The Liberty League recognized eight Skidmore College student athletes for their performances in the past week.

Senior Christine Kemp and freshman Kelly Blackhurst of the field hockey team were named co-offensive performers of the week.

Volleyball's Meredith Palmer '11 won her second performer of the week award, and first year Corinne Palmer was named co-rookie of the week for the third time.

Women's soccer senior Lindsay Schmitt earned co-defensive performer of the week, as did men's soccer first year, Orion Johnson.

Oliver Loutsenko '14 of the men's tennis team was named rookie of the week for the second consecutive week, and women's tennis freshman Melissa Hirsch won co-rookie of the week honors.

### **Men's soccer**

The men's soccer team took a loss of 1-0 on Oct. 13 against SUNY Oneonta.

## **Women's soccer vs. Clarkson and St. Lawrence**

Thoroughbreds in Action

By Chris Weigl, Staff Photographer

On Fri, Oct 15, 2010

Skidmore women's soccer hosted Clarkson University on Saturday, Oct. 9 at Wachenheim Field. The Thoroughbred rolled to a 5-0 win over the Golden Knicks, following up a 1-0 win over St. Lawrence University the day before.

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Soccer

Elena Stansky '12 heads in the game-winning goal against St. Lawrence on Oct. 8, giving Skidmore a 1-0 win.

Chris Weigl/Skidmore News





## Rep. Scott Murphy campaigns at Skidmore

Congressman to students 'You can have an impact'

By Katie Vallas, Editorial Editor

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

On Oct. 19 in front of Case Center approximately 30 members of the college community gathered to listen to Rep. Scott Murphy. Many of the students, dedicated volunteers on his congressional campaign, held up handmade signs to attract the attention of passing classmates.

While Murphy spoke on issues ranging from environmental policies to his fiscal philosophies, his overall message to the students was of his belief in their influence in the local Nov. 2 election. "This is definitely a race where you can have an impact," he said. "I think that won't be true of every other race that comes up, but this is going to be one that's going to be very close."

He reminded the gathered crowd of his narrow margin of victory when he was first elected. "I was elected by 726 votes-the smallest margin of any race in the country," Murphy said. "This is going to be another very close race. We know that."

This year's campaign shows Murphy joined by some of the college's current students and alumni as volunteers, with Michael Cass-Antony '10, Ethan Flum '13 and Emily Owens '11 helping to organize the Oct. 19 event. But Murphy said he believes more help could make the difference in deciding the Nov. 2 results.

One shift of canvassing from a group the size we have here, and 700 people are impacted, which is the entire outcome of the election, he said. "If any of you are interested in learning more about political campaigns, we'd love to have you involved."

He said his work in the last year included supporting initiatives relevant to students, such health care reform. "One of the things that will most directly impact you as you're going through college and getting out is that you're able to stay on your parents' insurance plan until you're 26-years-old," he said.

Students applauded, as they did when he touched on student loan reform, which cut subsidies paid to banks for offering student loans for a projected 10-year savings of \$80 billion. "We took that money and reinvested it in making loans more available, making more Pell grants available, making investments in our community college system and in early childhood education and in also reducing the deficit," Murphy said.



He said such acts' balance of new policies paired with regard for economic security represented his priorities as a congressman. "It's about knowing what you want to do and going about it in a responsible way," Murphy said. "I'm a 'Blue Dog Democrat,' which means I'm concerned about fiscal responsibility."

This stance stems from his history in business, where Murphy said he became used to managing budgets. "I come from a company where, when we ran out of money, we didn't have anywhere to go. We couldn't pay ourselves. We couldn't pay our bills," he said.

He said he has an eye on long-term economic growth in the district, which would tie in with the energy independence bill now stalled out in the Senate. "New York would come out well ahead, because we've already cleaned up our power," he said. "We're really leaders in next-generation energy technologies."

Murphy also spoke more casually with students on their concerns about future environmental policies, with topics ranging from hydrofracking to cap-and-trade systems. He said dialogues like those on Oct. 19 play a key role in how he communicates with his district.

I promised when I was running for office that I would go to every one of the towns that I represent, all 137 of them, every year, and do some kind of public meeting, Murphy said.

In a historically contentious district, Murphy said he does not expect universal approval. "If people looked at the something like 1,300 votes I took this year, I'm pretty sure there's no one who would agree with all of them. And if they did, I don't think they were thinking very hard," he said. "But hopefully, most people agree with most of them. That's the way I try to run things."

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Scott Murphy:

Murphy explains to students why their votes are especially important in the coming election.

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News





## College celebrates 'Bold Promise'

By Maxx Salat & Rebecca Orbach, Staff Writer & News Editor

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

More than 2,000 guests attended the college's Celebration Weekend Oct. 15-17.

The weekend was a tribute to the success of the "Creative Thought Bold Promise" campaign, which exceeded the College's original \$200 million goal, raising \$216.5 million. The funds were provided by some 18,000 donors including families, friends, parents and members of the board of trustees.

It was a very ambitious goal, and we were all very pleased to meet that target and to surpass it. It really shows tremendous support for the Skidmore vision, President Philip Glotzbach said.

The \$46 million donation from Arthur Zankel is the largest single donation in the college's history. "Additionally, we had two gifts of \$15 million, we had another one of \$12 million, a number of gifts in the million-dollar range and thousands of gifts at smaller donations," Glotzbach said.

The celebration of the campaign's success came to fruition in the form of a gala dinner, attended by approximately 500 people, each recognized - individually or by group - for their contributions to "Creative Thought Bold Promise."

Following the dinner was a performance by renowned pianist Emanuel Ax who was a personal friend of Arthur Zankel, trustee and benefactor of the Arthur Zankel Music Center.

The main performance on Saturday night was Emanuel Ax and the small ensemble and then the Skidmore orchestra, which was amazing. All of us felt bad--I don't know if any of the students got in there. We had to do something with major donors and there are only so many seats, but it was a great event, Glotzbach said

In addition to Ax's performance was the formal dedication of the building to its namesake. The dedication featured detailed reflections of the life and devotion of Zankel.

The co-chairwomen of the committee, Sara Lee Schupf '62, Wilma "Billie" Stein Tisch '48 and Susan Kettering Williamson '59 were each honored and continued to make known the dedication of the current alumni committee. Also honored was the Campaign Executive Committee in its entirety.

Kettering Williamson was also honored by the college during a ceremony on Saturday that dedicated the Sports Center to her.

The 10th anniversary of the Tang Teaching Museum was celebrated with a luncheon featuring speeches by primary benefactor Oscar Tang and Professor Emeritus David Porter.

Included in the anniversary celebration was the dedication of the Tang's Illumination Gallery, named in honor of the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund. The Illumination Fund recently supplied the College with a \$1.2 million grant supporting the learning program available in the Museum.

Endowment:News:On campus #1.1723503:3609466911.jpg

Evan Mack:Professor Evan Mack performs in Zankel for Celebration Weekend.

Melissa Cohn/Skidmore News





## Rally against political inactivism

By Talor Dafoe, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

With election season well underway and November 2nd looming, I can't help but notice the inexplicable lack of political activity on campus. Everywhere you look, you see campaign literature being passed out, signs being put up, ads being published- that is, everywhere but Skidmore. We as a campus are disgracefully unenthusiastic about all things government.

Colleges are traditionally political hotspots, acting as vehicles for sophisticated discourse and breeding the most devoted of supporters. We find ourselves a gross exception to this rule, a rather disappointing break in this standard of activism and passion, despite the fact that we are in the middle of one of the most important midterm elections of many of our adult lives.

I'm not trying to rant about the lack of voter turnout; that argument is stale and there are people much more qualified to discuss it than me. No, I'm talking about our campus and our general shortage of meaningful political interest. Enthusiasm couldn't be more sparse.

Even in school elections, contests that couldn't be closer to our personal agendas, interest is pathetic. Few even know when Election Day on campus is, let alone who's running. It's as if political spirit is some sort of obligatory campus job rather than an opportunity.

Here in our state, as the gubernatorial race rages, and district elections are being fought out right under our careless, ignorant noses, we find ourselves struggling to keep up with the rest of the country. We are all too ready to embrace the shelter of the school, purposely putting ourselves in the bubble we so often refer to, ignoring the outside world and the political activism thriving in it.

And don't try to tell me that this race isn't as important as contests of the past, that the campus spent all its energy two years ago on the polemic presidential election. That argument simply has no merit. There is always something at stake, even if it's merely a small battle for governor between candidates that half the country hasn't even heard of. It's important to maintain, through voting- through voice - the same ideals we practice daily. It's crucial that we exercise our ability to think and act politically, if only to ensure its sustenance and livelihood.

We need to contextualize the things we're taught in our government classes; we need to form educated opinions about things other than our philosophy teachers' lectures and the food of the dining hall and, most importantly, we need to care.

I'm not saying we should turn our school into Kent State, circa 1970. And I'm certainly not advocating that we push it to be something it's not. I'm simply suggesting that we start to care: care about that horrible thing we so rarely talk about- the "real world"; care about the people who are leading our school, our district, our state and even our country; and care, frankly about our ability to care, our ability to form opinions and make them heard. That's probably the reason why you're in college anyway.

*Taylor Dafoe is an undecided sophomore from Cheyenne, Wyoming.*



## Hedges asks Americans to give up illusions

By Tegan O'Neil, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

On Oct. 14 approximately 100 students gathered in Gannett Auditorium to listen to Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Christopher Lynn Hedges give a lecture titled "The Empire of Illusion Is Us." The lecture was an installment of the "Theater of War in a House of Peace" program; a series of events, concerts, exhibits, performances and lectures dedicated to contemplating the effects of war.

Hedges worked as a foreign correspondent in Central America, the Middle East, Africa and the Balkans for nearly 20 years. He worked for The Christian Science Monitor, National Public Radio, The Dallas Morning News and The New York Times, where he was a foreign correspondent for 15 years.

His book, "War is a Force That Gives Us Meaning" (2002) was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction. His latest book is titled "The Empire of Illusion: The End of Literacy and the Triumph of Spectacle" (2009).

Hedges began the lecture with a comparison of Michael Jackson and the development of American society. "Jackson reflected our own physical and psychological disintegration, especially with many Americans struggling with overwhelming debt, loss of status and deep personal confusion," Hedges said.

Hedges explained how excessive media coverage of celebrities distracts the U.S. from reality and trains us to chase illusions of unachievable fame and happiness. "Celebrity culture has taught us almost unconsciously to generate interior personal screenplays. We have learned ways of speaking and thinking that grossly disfigure the way we relate to the world and those around us," Hedges said.

Tabloid news stories take center stage, while articles with actual substance are pushed to the sidelines. According to Hedges, we are living in an empire of illusion.

Political candidates are elected in popular votes by citizens, but are ruled by armies of corporate lobbyists in Washington or state capitals, Hedges said.

The government, which is the only institution citizens have to protect their rights, is becoming weaker - a puppet to corporations. "What, for all our faith and hope, has the Obama brand given us?" Hedges asked.

Hedges lamented that the effort to re-inflate the economy has floundered, our involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan continues, the for-profit health care industry has prevented Obama from considering single payer not-for-profit health care for all Americans and the country is amassing trillions of dollars in debt, which can never be repaid.

What is most deplorable, Hedges asserts, is that the cost of the empire of illusion is being placed on those who can least afford it. "The cost of our empire of illusion is not being paid for by corporate titans. It is being paid for on the streets of our inner cities, in former manufacturing towns and in depressed rural enclaves," Hedges said.

Nearly 50 million Americans live in poverty and tens of millions of Americans live in a category called near poverty. "There are whole sections of the country that are beginning to resemble the developing world," Hedges said.

Washington has become our Versailles. "Courtiers in face powder deceive us in the name of journalism. Courtiers in our political parties promise to look out for our interests and then pass bill after bill to further corporate fraud and abuse," Hedges said.

He proposed that Americans need an honest debate about what comes next. "In the face of catastrophe, mass culture insists that if we focus on happiness our lives will be harmonious and complete," Hedges said. He maintained that this sort of response is a cultural retreat into illusion.

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Hedges:Hedges explains his views on living the American illusion.

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News



## **EAC to compost food in Northwoods and Scribner**

By Kat Kullman, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

On Tuesday, Oct. 19, the Senate of the Student Government Association discussed a proposition from the Environmental Action Club regarding a new Green Initiative, a project involving composting on the college's campus.

Everett Hoffman, '11 and Talia Arnow, '13 spoke to Senate about the new initiative from the Subcommittee on Composting that aims to encourage residents in Northwoods apartments to compost their pre-consumed materials (primarily raw foods).

Houses that expressed an interest would be given a pail for composting by the EAC. The house would then be responsible for returning the pail at the end of the semester.

"We're going to try and get everyone in Northwoods who's interested a pail for composting. We'll also have intermediary compost piles that will be emptied weekly or bi-weekly to make it really easy for everybody to do this and keep it cleaner," Arnow said.

To begin the process the Subcommittee plans to go door-to-door in Northwoods Village and talk to the residents about the plan. They believe that personally meeting with and speaking to students will be more effective than sending an e-mail and will help get people excited about the project.

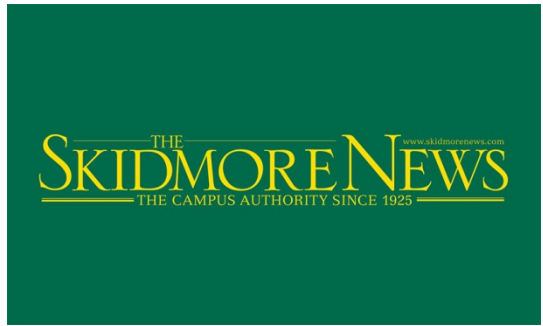
This movement would start in Northwoods, but would hopefully move to Scribner and potentially even Murray-Aikens Dining Hall.

We're hoping people will really latch onto this. We even want to talk to Mike West [chairman of the Subcommittee for IPPC Budget and Finance] so that they can have a compost plan in the new buildings, Arnow said.

She also said the movement will be easily recognizable, with a newly designed logo on all the pails and handouts.

Hoffman emphasized how little effort it takes on the part of students to begin the process. "I actually composted a successful amount last year in Scribner. My personal slogan for this is, "Everybody's composting, what's your excuse?" It'll be super easy, and there's no reason you can't do it," he said.

The project will hopefully begin in the next few weeks.



In other news:

The Accents a cappella group was granted a \$3,000 supplemental budget in order to record a new CD. The supplement was passed unanimously.

## **SaratogaArtsFest gives encore**

Event to benefit citywide arts celebration

By Bob Kimmerle, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

In response to numerous requests for a repeat performance of "Music and Motion," a dance and music performance that premiered to a standing ovation this past June at SaratogaArtsFest 2010, festival organizers will offer an encore presentation Sunday, Oct. 24, at 5 p.m. in the Arthur Zankel Music Center at Skidmore College.

The encore will feature two selections from the original performance: "Addio (String Quartet #6)" and a dance and music piece titled "Swan Song." The music of both pieces was written by renowned composer Richard Danielpour and will be performed by the acclaimed Hyperion String Quartet.

The choreography for "Swan Song" was created by Skidmore dance professor Debra Fernandez, who collaborated closely with Danielpour on all aspects of the production.

The performance last June was artistically exquisite and received an enormously positive response from the audience, said Marie Glotzbach, president of SaratogaArtsFest board of directors. "After numerous requests to restage this performance, we decided to offer excerpts as an encore this fall."

As with the original performance, the event will take place in Zankel Music Center's Helen Filene Ladd Concert Hall. The hall itself is an important element of "Swan Song." In choreographing the work, Fernandez was inspired by the possibilities provided by the three-story glass wall behind the stage, and she used it to incorporate "life beyond the stage" as a central theme.

Mary Ellen O'Loughlin, executive director of SaratogaArtsFest, noted, "We are fortunate to have such stellar talent participating in this event. This is a great opportunity to experience a world-class performance, and a wonderful example of the type of collaborative art that this festival strives to make possible."

Danielpour, a Grammy Award winner, is one of the most influential and sought-after composers of his generation. Fernandez, who has taught dance at Skidmore since 1991, has choreographed a wide range of works for dance, theater and opera. The Hyperion String Quartet, now based in Saratoga Springs, has been described by the journal "Classical Voice of North Carolina" as "a single, living breathing organism, playing as one instrument, bringing grand and glorious life to the music."

The one-hour performance will be followed by a reception offering an opportunity to meet the artists.

General admission is \$25, with a \$10 discount for those who have a 2010 SaratogaArtsFest ARTSPASS or ARTSPASS wallet card. There will be a "student rush" beginning at 4:45 p.m. on the day of the event, during which anyone with a student I.D. card can purchase a ticket for \$5.

To purchase tickets in advance, visit [www.SaratogaArtsFest.org](http://www.SaratogaArtsFest.org) or call 518-580-8010. After Friday, Oct. 22, at 5 p.m., tickets can be purchased only at Zankel Music Center between 4 and 5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct.24.:

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The Hyperion String Quartet will play at the 'Music and Motion' performance.

Photo Courtesy of Bob Kimmerle





## Indie-rocker goes electronic

By Eli Cohen, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

Sufjan Stevens, the Detroit-native Indie artist best known for his ambitious 50 state project, has, it seems, once again taken himself in a new direction with his latest album "The Age of Adz," (pronounced "Odds"), which was released by Asthmatic Kitty Records on Oct. 12.

Already the album has proven its worth, landing a solid eighth place on the Billboard Top 100 albums. An artist known for his instrumentation as well as his elaborate orchestration, on his latest album Stevens added a new weapon to his arsenal--it appears he is a terrific electronic composer as well.

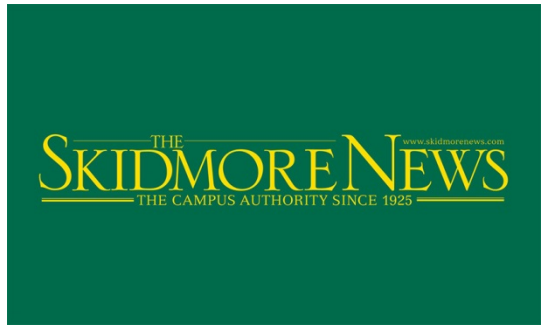
The album's opening track, "Futile Devices," is a relatively short track comprised of very simple, straightforward lines. The track has a similar sound to earlier Stevens work, such as his hit song "Chicago" off the album "IllinoISE," the record that catapulted Stevens into the indie spotlight.

The Age of Adz quickly transforms into a very new sound for Stevens with the second track "Too Much," which starts off sounding much like a generic electronica song. But Stevens' instrumentation takes over, working in conjunction with the computer-synthesized sounds that open the track.

From there, the album oscillates back and forth between typical Stevens lilting ballads and heavily electronic experimentation, culminating in the 25-minute epic "Impossible Soul," a song unlike any tracks on previous Stevens albums. "Impossible soul" is heavily layered with choirs, Stevens' vocals and electronic beats.

The album is not without its downsides, as no album truly can be. The track "Get Real Get Right" has an overbearing and immovable repetition that makes it difficult to listen to all the way through. Also, the second to last track "I Want to Be Well" wallows in sickening self-pity, where Stevens laments the fact that (in his mind) people do not take him seriously. "Did I go at it wrong/Did I go intentionally to destroy me," Stevens asks.

As mentioned before, Stevens' previous claim to fame was his impressive goal to release a different album for every state. However, at 35-years-old with only three state-oriented records under his belt, this goal is becoming less and less likely. With the release of "The Age of Adz," music-lovers everywhere are beginning to agree that the idea was probably more of a media-grabbing ploy than a serious possibility, which is not necessarily a bad thing.



This new hit album is a refreshing new sound in a time when music has begun to come more and more from a certain mold. "The Age of Adz" is definitely positive overall, and will not displease fans of any genre.

*Eli Cohen is a junior who likes to talk about music.*

## **Jewel Thief' bristles with dichotomies**

By Hugh O'Kelly, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

When asked to propose an idea for a new exhibition, Jessica Stockholder decided to tell a story. Based on her colorful tale of the same name, "The Jewel Thief," a collaborative show currently on view at the Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery, bristles with dichotomies and visual contradictions.

Sharp divisions between organic and geometric forms, color and black-and-white and ideas about how we view art dominate the room. Surprisingly, for an exhibit dedicated solely to abstract art, many of the show's messages read as effortlessly as a piece of children's literature.

The Jewel Thief concerns itself more with the holistic staging of art than with simply displaying them -- an atypical, but ultimately successful curatorial decision. The show as a whole is one large masterpiece; individual art objects are merely components of a greater picture, spilling out past the confines of a single room.

Conceptually unique, this show mixes a variety of media and showcases works by artists from Cary Smith to Andy Warhol. Works range from highly textured -- incorporating broken porcelain, rough fibers, jagged foils, and dripping encaustic -- to flat and minimalistic. Sculpture -- including macramé lighting units and amorphous rubber and Styrofoam statues -- is juxtaposed with painting, industrial design pieces, carpeting and even text art.

The exhibit showcases ready-mades alongside woven textiles, and unpainted plywood boards next to noisy abstract expressionist painting. Really, the only thing that's missing is the kitchen sink.

And true-to-life pieces. "The Jewel Thief" is an exclusively abstract exhibition, with the exception of a series of moderately naturalistic diamond sculptures, placed high atop an oversized block in the center of the gallery.

Yes, it sounds chaotic, even rampageous. But "The Jewel Thief" is really a harmonious spectacle. Through abstraction comes order; a series of ascending blocks sits center stage in the gallery's main room, which visually directs the eye of the gallery-goer from one end of the exhibit to the other. Acting like a staircase fit for a giant, the cubes also follow the abnormal architecture of the Tang. Stockholder and Berry have used the physicality of the museum to their advantage. And it is these subtleties that make the show a success.

But perhaps the most successful aspect of "The Jewel Thief" is the role of the curators. Ian Berry, the associate director of curatorial affairs at the Tang, and Stockholder, a practicing artist, make a fierce combination. Their collaborative efforts have produced a show that blurs the line between conventional exhibit and installation art.

On top of co-designing the show, Stockholder has produced a rather massive piece of interactive sculpture -- composed of unfinished plywood and recycled playground equipment -- fittingly titled "The Jewel Thief." The rest of the show looks like an extension of Stockholder's installation; paintings and lighting fixtures almost branch off of Stockholder's geometric play set.

Displaying painting as a sculptural component sounds like risky business, but Berry and Stockholder make it work in "The Jewel Thief" without compromising the integrity of individual pieces.

There are also no placards on the walls of the gallery, which is an ingenious curatorial decision. The absence of nameplates adds to the idea of individual art objects working in conjunction to create one large installation. Labels would call attention to individual pieces and artists -- some better known than others--and detract from the holistic nature of the exhibition.

But this absence also speaks to another theme of the show: how we encounter art. A name next to a work of art automatically inspires assumptions and evaluative decisions. "This is a Warhol. It is good art."

Really, we have no basis for this assumption. By removing names from the show, Berry and Stockholder solve this problem of subconscious-- or even conscious --evaluation that almost every gallery-goer surely has.

The Jewel Thief also explores how we interact with art in a more blatant way. Directly outside of the main gallery, viewers can sit on stadium bleachers and gaze directly at a small set of paintings. The contrast between the experience in the main room and in the bleachers is stark.

Sitting on cold and rickety metal seats and staring aimlessly at abstract paintings is torturous. Yet reentering the main gallery afterward is like seeing the sun after a rainstorm.

A wonderful tension throughout the show speaks to the idea of looking but not touching. Because pieces aren't labeled or displayed like highly valuable artifacts, nothing looks off limits. In fact, some of the pieces are meant to be touched -- namely Stockholder's installation, which patrons can freely climb on.

But other pieces, like Elena Herzog's Romancing the Rock, a massive cube covered in thread, paint and staples, are off limits. Of course, the Tang is a gallery. It's common knowledge that most things should be left alone, even if there isn't a visible sign barking at us to "keep our hands off." But let's face it, there's a hell of a lot of glitter in this show. And children and birds are not the only creatures attracted by shiny things.

The decadence of "The Jewel Thief" leaves viewers feeling like magpies. But we should leave the exhibition not feeling taunted by the glimmering objects, but with a different perspective on how to look at art.

The Jewel Thief will be on display through Feb. 2011.:

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'The Jewel Thief' exhibit at the Tang displays a wide variety of abstract art.

Maddie Pelz/Skidmore News



## **Pegasus' a thought provoking student production**

By Megan Teehan, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

The play "Pegasus," written by Sam Kahler '11 and directed by Illana Saltzman '11, had its three show run from Oct. 13-15, and left some audience members scratching their heads in confusion.

Included in the cast were Richard Bastuck '13 as the Priest/Cruise Ship Director, Nicole Dancel '13 as the alchemist/nurse, Megan Hennessey '14 as Rhododendron/Vitner and Beth Svenningsen '13 as the midwife/doctor.

The plot is centered on the characters of Lance, Peg and Arlo, played by Xavier Richard '12, Torey Bonnington '11 and Mike Axelrod '11 respectively. These main characters form the basis of the play through their struggles with reality.

Lance battles with the uncertainty of his relationship with Peg because he feels more ready to settle down than she does. Peg bears the burden of her secret pregnancy and the uncertainty of her feelings. Arlo fails to come to terms with the fact that his prime years are over and in his frail state he is incapable of doing the things he always dreamed of, such as taking a cruise around the world.

The internal conflicts that all the characters feel and suppress for the sake of the others come to surface in their subconscious. We witness the characters grappling with these issues in a dream state with the help of fictional characters like the Priest and Rhododendron, who appear to all three of the characters.

The acting was excellent and the three protagonists were heartrending in the raw honesty of their portrayals. The set was minimal, but conducive to the unusual structure of the play and the subdued lighting perfectly complemented the surreal feeling of the play.

Simply describing the plot points of the play does an injustice to the heart of the show itself. This isn't a play to be defined or to "get." "Pegasus" is an exploration of characters' psyches and the abstract idea of what is really "real."

The play leaves us unsure of the characters' futures although we've learned their innermost fears and desires. In this way, "Pegasus" stays true to something playwright Sam Kahler wrote in the playbill notes. "Pegasus is still evolving, yet to be defined. Maybe we aren't looking for answers. Only more questions," Kahler said.



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Pegasus: Xavier Richards '12, left and Mike Axelro '11 perform in 'Pegasus'

Courtesy of Grace Troxell



## **Group option makes therapy accessible**

Counseling Center suggests group therapy as an alternative to individual counseling

By Sarah Barry, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

The college Counseling Center has offered the option of group therapy for years, but an increase in advertising this semester has brought the group option into the spotlight.

Andrew Demaree, associate director of the Counseling Center, says that many students can benefit from participation in group therapy.

It's a different type of dialogue when meeting in a focused group. There are lots of students who don't choose to come into private sessions who really might benefit from speaking with other students with [the same] concerns Demaree said.

There are three group therapy options at Skidmore; two groups focus on specific issues and the third is an interpersonal group.

The interpersonal group focuses on how people relate to each other, Demaree said.

The interpersonal group consists of students with a variety of concerns who are interested in a group discussion and feedback from peers. The three groups are led by two counselors and meet throughout the semester.

There's a lot going on in a given session, so it can be helpful to have another person paying attention to what's going on, Demaree said.

The two counselors begin the conversations, but hope that students will take some control over the discussions as the session goes on. "We are active at the beginning, but ideally we play less and less of a role. We want to focus on what's important to them at the current moment," Demaree said.

The focus groups are formed at the beginning of each semester.

This semester the two focus groups center on loss and eating disorders.

We are willing to run just about any group that students can think of or that they think they could make use of, Demaree said.



In the past, the Center has attempted to run a transition group for seniors, but they haven't seen a lot of participation in that focus area.

The Counseling Center draws ideas from different departments on campus when deciding which groups to form for the semester.

We approach Residential Life and Student Affairs, and often administration approaches us with ideas for programs that might be useful to students, Demaree said.

The center also has a good relationship with practices within Saratoga who also provide ideas for group therapy.

According to Demaree, the group option provides different benefits than one-on-one counseling. "There is a different level of support you get from peers than from a counselor. You know there's someone who is struggling with a similar issue, who knows what's going on with you even if you don't sit with them at lunch," Demaree said.

The focused groups connect people with similar struggles and experiences.

The groups make it easier to talk about things that people see as separating them from the rest of the population, Demaree explained.

The two focused groups also provide a different level of support for students than the interpersonal group.

Many students worry about asking for help through the Counseling Center because of privacy issues, but Demaree says the fear is unwarranted.

In 11 years I've never had a problem with confidentiality. People respect the confidentiality involved, but we still address the issue early in the first meeting, Demaree said.

The Counseling Center seeks to remove any stigma that is attached to counseling in general.

The number of participants varies each year, but generally Counseling Services sees approximately 450 students each year, in a combination of group and private settings.

Letting students know how many students participate each year helps reduce any stigma, Demaree said.

Demaree explains that this number has risen in the past few years, but this is not an area of concern for the campus.



I don't see it as an increase in mental health issues on campus. I think the number says that people recognize where they struggle and know there is a good resource for them on campus.

The Counseling Center is also interested in making the process of asking for help accessible for everyone.

It should feel as easy as possible. Students are always welcome to see one of the other folks here after the first meeting, Demaree said.

There is no certain level of distress necessary to participate and there's nothing to lose from trying it once.

*The Counseling Center is open Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.*

*Appointments should be made ahead of time if possible, though emergencies will be accommodated.*

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Counseling Center: Staff Psychologist Amy Mitchell specializes in working with students with anxiety and eating disorders.

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News



## When girls pick the programming, Rory Gilmore always wins

By Jack McDermott, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

The great thing about this semester is that I finally don't have to live in the dorms. Sorry freshmen.

That's right, I am all the way down in Scribner Village, which is basically on a separate planet from the main Skidmore campus.

Now, other than the fact that you have to cook your own meals and you have a living room, it really doesn't feel that different.

There is one thing I have noticed though: when you live in a house, you tend to watch more television than when you live in a dorm room. At least I do.

The problem is, when you live with five girls, the choices of television shows and movies do not always line up with what you want.

There are three categories of television shows that my housemates like to watch: trashy TV, food/home TV and Gilmore Girls.

Yes, Gilmore Girls gets its own category.

For the first few weeks of school, Gilmore Girls (and Friends, which I have no objection to) were literally on every hour of the day.

I would wake up, come downstairs and eat breakfast while Lorelei and Emily Gilmore argued in the background.

And I would do the dishes while Lorelei thought "WWTBFCD (What Would the Barefoot Contessa Do)?" I would be writing the first installment of this column for the paper while Rory was in the newsroom at Yale.

Oh sheesh, the fact that I know all of these references says something. And it is not good.

When Gilmore Girls isn't on though, it is a toss up between Pretty Little Liars, one of the Kardashians (I'm still trying to figure out how many of them there are), Four Weddings and Toddlers and Tiaras --the worst of them all.

And there is absolutely no changing the channel once Say Yes to the Dress comes on. I made that mistake once.

Then we have the Food Network and HGTV. I actually sort of enjoy those two stations. I mean, who doesn't love watching delicious food being cooked or watching houses get demolished and remodeled?

But, nevertheless, I am pretty sure that our TV has been preset to channel 42, which is the Food Network.

Without fail, every single time I turn on the TV, it is on channel 42.

For movies, it's a whole different story. The other night I really wanted to go out to a party or do something exciting and fun, but my housemates were dead-set on sitting around watching Pocahontas, a classic Disney movie, but not really something I would pick to watch on my own.

Apparently, in order to properly watch Pocahontas, you have to do two things: talk about who is hotter, John Smith or Kokoum, and sing with all your might.

At one point, one of my guy friends from next door texted me saying "Sorry," because he could hear them singing through the adjoining wall.

The worst, however, is when the Mary Kate and Ashley movies come on. All 85 of them.

I'm a little outnumbered, but when you compromise to deal with Gossip Girl, you can usually sneak in some action movies here and there to amp up the testosterone level.



## Campus 'Fight Club' mediates disputes

By Mariel Kennedy, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

Though the first rule of Brad Pitt's fight club is to never discuss it, Skidmore's "Fight Club: Conflict Resolution Group" is all about conversation.

Nick Hara '11 and Tara DeGeorge '11 are co-chairs of Conflict Resolution Group, known casually as Fight Club. Though technically a new club, the group has been in the making for almost 30 years.

There have been several attempts to start a mediation program on campus. This small, financially-unsupported mediation-training program was opened as a part of Residential Life after the suspension of the Law and Society minor which required a mediation training course with advisor David Karp.

The collapse of the Law and Society minor killed the program's funding, Hara said.

However, the administration recognized the importance of having such a program available to students.

The faculty firmly believes that the club and its mission will significantly improve campus life.

The program is directly referred to in Skidmore's Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan is a 10-year administrative project that seeks to "strengthen student engagement and academic achievement, intercultural and global understanding, informed and responsible citizenship and [the school's] independence and resources."

Identified as an important campus issue, the group received full backing and a Presidential Discretionary Fund to help with training.

The program broke away from Residential Life in Spring 2010. This is the first full semester of the club operating in its current form.

Hara, a trained mediator, describes conflict resolution as more than just a place to talk about your feelings.

One of the purposes of the club is to embrace the reality of conflict. "Be ready for a fight," Hara warns.

A core aspect is that no one is trained in real life for conflict, Hara explains.

Club member Leanne Dwyer '13 adds, "We are trained to hold things in, to be polite." Thus, many common ways of dealing with conflict are not beneficial.

Hara says that with mediation most conflicts can be resolved with all parties being happy. "You can come out not just satisfied or okay, but happy."

The main challenge is often communication. "People come in and don't even know why they are arguing," Hara said.

The goal is to peacefully resolve conflicts on campus and make it so that people don't feel the need to hate each other or never talk, Hara said.

Fight Club offers a nonjudgmental ear for all parties involved. The club officials aim to help students see the facts of their situations in a new light.

To keep communication flowing and equal, mediators do not offer advice or opinions, but serve strictly as middle men.

Students are offered conflict coaching in a one-on-one setting where they can simply come in and vent, or mediation where both parties sit down to determine a resolution.

It levels the playing field. All parties are voluntarily there and have equal say, Hara said.

The mediation can end at any time, and everything said is completely confidential as long as it does not involve harm to one's self or others.

*Any questions about Fight Club can be sent to [mediate@skidmore.edu](mailto:mediate@skidmore.edu).*

*Club meetings are Wednesdays and Thursdays at 8 p.m in the library.*

#1.

Fight Club: From left to right, Nick Hara '11, Tara DeGeorge '11, Natalie Petrillo-Alvarez '11 and Leanne Dwyer '13 are trained campus mediators.

Mariel Kennedy/Skidmore News





## **Bridging the gap in a long distance relationship**

By C., Columnist

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

Have you ever experienced every humiliating feeling combined on a Sunday afternoon? That feeling of utter regret, or uncertainty about the weekend's events, unsure of whether you'll receive judgmental looks and snickers as you walk by a crowd?

The best way to cure that Sunday slump and dread of the upcoming week is the knowledge that you are not alone.

We, as college students, are expected to make mistakes.

I can help you figure out pressing questions like: How do I converse with my crush? What do I wear on the first date? How do I tell him he has a uni-brow?

You have questions, and I have answers (or, at least helpful suggestions).

I am a nonbiased, nonjudgmental third party (because I love parties). My aim is to advise, not to direct.

The real question is what will you do?

Email me at [SkidWWCD@gmail.com](mailto:SkidWWCD@gmail.com) with questions. Privacy is guaranteed and respected.

You can simply call me C.

Dear C.,

I'm in a long distance relationship. Usually we are really good at keeping in touch, until a few days ago when I felt like I was making all the effort. We hadn't really spoken to each other for a few days, and when I finally got to talk to him he said he'd been partying with his friends. Well, I'm pissed. He should value the effort needed to make this relationship work and let me know what he's up to, right?

-Going the Distance and Getting Resistance

Dear Going the Distance,

First of all, kudos for attempting a long distance relationship. Second, you are right for feeling short-handed by the effort he puts forth. However, you need to respect his guy time like he hopefully respects your girl time.

While talking about Cindy Lou Who's boy troubles I'm sure you can't help but flash to an image of your one and only, while still keeping track of Lou Who's boo. Boys, however, don't usually multitask in this way.

Even if he isn't thinking of you while he's hanging out with his friends, it doesn't mean he doesn't think about you. If he hasn't spoken to you in a few days or seems distant, he might have something else going on and you should ask him why he's been distracted.

Does he call, text or seem interested when you talk about your day? If yes, he's putting in effort, it's just different than how you show yours.

He's a guy, not a mind reader. If this situation upsets you, tell him in a calm, casual manner that you love hearing he's having a good time. Or seize the silence and enjoy the anticipation of conversing with him.

An emotional tug of war is not a good game to play while in a long distance relationship, so make sure not to act on impulse. Step back, gain empathy and maybe send a naughty text!

*-Hearts and Stars, C.*

## Adding sass to sugar cookies

By Katie Lane, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

My dear new readers, there are three things you should know about me before we get started:

1. I like to bake.
2. I like to have adventures.
3. I always, always have room for dessert.

About a year and a half ago, these three facets of my personality collided, resulting in an explosion of butter, sugar, flour and the birth of my blog, "A Sprinkle In Time."

Now, I'm no expert, just a girl who likes to share good eats with her family and friends.

It has certainly been a journey over the past year-- my computer keyboard has seen its fair share of dough, batter and chocolate splatters, and my family is always complaining that I will make them all fat - -but it has been fun and delicious.

First, I'd like to introduce you to my best friend in the cookie world. I present you with the snickerdoodle.

Not too adventurous, I know. But they are simple to make and pretty universally loved.

These little guys are just a bit more exciting than your average sugar cookie, but not too extravagant or flashy.

Snickerdoodles have a little crunch, and a little chew, a little sugar and-- a little more sugar.

Friends, this right here is my go-to recipe, the one I always turn to for that last minute baking request.

The bake sale, the group meeting, the family gathering, the snickerdoodle can do it all.

One tip for you smart cookies who decide to try these out: don't skip the cream of tartar.

As we get to know each other a little better, you will learn that I am the queen of lazy substitutions when I don't have an ingredient on hand.

However, cream of tartar seems to be the key secret ingredient for an excellent snickerdoodle, so pop over to the Chopper and invest in some.

I hope you are ready to set off on a new chapter of baking adventures with me.

It may not always be pretty, and it might get a little messy, but I promise you it will always be yummy.

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 1 large egg
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 1/2 cups all purpose flour
- 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

Directions:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a mixing bowl, beat the butter on medium speed for 30 seconds or by hand with a fork.

Add the 1 cup sugar, baking soda and cream of tartar. Beat until combined, scraping sides of bowl occasionally.

Beat in the egg and vanilla until well blended. Mix in flour until ingredients come together in a ball.

Cover and chill for 1 hour. (Eco-friendly tip: instead of using plastic wrap, try putting your dough in tupperware or covering it with another bowl!)

Combine the 3 tablespoons sugar and 1 teaspoon cinnamon. Shape the dough into 1 inch balls and roll in cinnamon sugar mixture to coat.

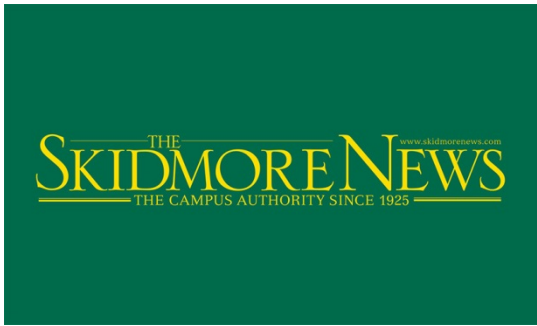
Place balls of dough 2 inches apart on an ungreased cookie sheet. Bake for 10 to 11 minutes or until edges are just barely golden.

Transfer cookies to a wire rack to cool. I dare you to eat less than 10 in one sitting (oops)!

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Snickerdoodles are a versatile cookie, perfect for any occasion.





Katie Lane/Skidmore News



## Face the music ... and dance

By Rick Chrisman, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

A student leaving a lecture last week was heard to say, "Well, that was sure depressing." Another student who came to my office said about the same lecture, "Well, that was sure depressing." A staff member down the hall from me said, "That talk was sure depressing."

They were reacting to a speaker who basically told us that Americans consume so much cotton candy from our culture and cram our heads every day with so much of it that we are not exactly in the best position to cope with today's monster challenges. As a result, ecological destruction, rampant poverty and corporate plunder prevail.

Chris Hedges, a Pulitzer Prize winning war correspondent and now senior fellow at the Nation Institute, did not molly-coddle the audience last Thursday evening in Gannett: we've been snookered, he argued, and, what's worse, we let ourselves in for it--financial interests define our politics and that's that.

I agree, you could sure say that was depressing. Now, Hedges never presents himself as a cheerleader for political activism. Rather, he is a message-bearer and he does not, will not, varnish his message. But he never said there was nothing we could do about it.

For instance, he offered his list of recent presidents, both Republican and Democratic, who have led us down corporate America's garden path-- Reagan, Clinton (big-time), Bush II (of course), and, yes, Barack Obama (way big-time). At the very same time, Americans have indulged in so many distractions that "We, the People" have not been tending to our civic business. Now we are really up against it. Hedges did what he came to do --puncture our illusions. Ouch!

Without our illusions, we feel vulnerable, even overwhelmed. It is the main price of admission to adulthood: being deprived of our illusions necessarily costs some temporary distress. Seeing things for what they really are sets us back a little at first. We may feel low, until we finally reach way inside ourselves and make the necessary adjustment to circumstances beyond our control. Learning this is a spiritual adjustment -- but then just see what happens.

Thomas Hardy, the 19th century English poet and novelist (my senior project in college, which I have never forgotten) wrote: "If a way to the better there be, it requires a full look at the worst." I often think of other people who have been confronted by circumstances beyond their control.

For example, think about prisoners wrongfully convicted who, like you, face conditions not of their own creation. Do you know about Ruben "Hurricane" Carter, the boxer who was convicted of a triple murder in Patterson, NJ, in 1967? He was given three consecutive life sentences. He maintained his innocence throughout his incarceration in the New Jersey State Prison until he was acquitted on appeals nearly 20 years later. But during this time, he insisted on behaving like an innocent man while in prison-- he wouldn't wear the prison uniform (despite periods in solitary confinement to make him conform), he slept when others were awake, he stayed up all night when others were asleep, he didn't partake in pornography, he refused contraband comforts.

Carter radically re-arranged his immediate environment so that he could take the necessary action for the acquittal he deserved and possibly might never get. He had no illusions about what he was up against. He committed himself to an uniquely courageous way of coping with, and finally triumphing over, the evil circumstances put uninvited on his back. This is what I mean by a spiritual adjustment.

What a remarkable model for us who are facing up to some pretty sobering facts but which are not nearly as confining or hopeless as Carter's who was a black man facing white justice. Knowing from this story what we can do spiritually, we can more than afford to give up our illusions and fashion new dreams of our future.

While you are in college, you are not expected to lay hands directly on any of the problems Chris Hedges described. But neither will anyone want you to insulate yourselves from the knowledge of them. Your role for now is a good one: as students you are acquiring indispensable knowledge. Just be advised that all this knowledge is for action one day, and all action is for the sake of people.

Once you see yourself as "We the People," you will be of service and of good use, believe me.

*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

### Make Midterms consistent

By the Editorial Board,  
On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

We attend a young college, one that has reached an impasse in determining what kind of institution it will become. This indecision is evident in various contradictions embedded in so many pieces of campus life. One of the symptoms of these academic growing pains is the mid-semester study day, intended to correspond to a midterm schedule that, as the college calendar stands now, does not exist.

While scheduled as a "study day," the cancellation of classes on Oct. 22 provides academic relief for only a few students. Without a set week for midterms adhered to by the majority of professors, students face papers and exams set on an individual class basis, rather than an institution-wide structure. Ask three students when midterm week might be and you will receive three different answers.

This lack of structure reflects administrators' frequent discussions of education as a fluid and lifelong endeavor, with students following individual interests for passion's sake, rather than for the purposes of evaluation. But as the college's academics stand now, testing exists, and it plays a critical role in students' post-graduate success. The college's ideologies come into conflict with its pragmatic academic schedule, for a result that ends up satisfying neither goal.

Fixtures intended to support the more traditional midterm and final structures, like Friday's study day, become arbitrary, serving only those students whose academic demands happen to align accordingly. For the rest of the student body, the cancelled classes act only as a frustrating reminder of the time that could have provided a significant benefit in their completion of papers and exams.

These midterm assignments play a role comparable to those at the end of the semester, which are served by a much more structured finals week. Look around the campus in mid-December, and you will see a different Skidmore. By noon, students fill the library; parties turn low-key or nonexistent; the college tells student workers to take a few days off.

This contrasts greatly with the more unfocused atmosphere in mid-October. Burgess Cafémight see a few more students anxious for their morning coffee, but the campus does not see the same intense academic focus as during finals. The difference does not lie in the academic demands placed on students in these two points in the semester: it lies in how the college imposes these demands.

Soliciting professors' suggestions on how to best schedule a midterm week would allow the college to reserve study days accordingly. By strongly recommending that professors plan their syllabi with that set midterm week in mind, the college can create a study day that fulfills its titular purpose. The college should also consider which day of the week would be used most productively, as Friday is not the most conducive day for studying.

To determine what kind of institution Skidmore will become, administrators should look to the small frustrations faced by students as indicators of where they can begin to make those formative decisions. The resolution to these seemingly insignificant contradictions will play a guiding role in how the college goes forward in finding its identity in higher education.

## Celebration Weekend 2010

100 years of the arts at Skidmore

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

Photos from Celebration Weekend 2010.

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Celebration Weekend 2

The Ballet and Modern dance class give a pre-performance during Celebration Weekend.

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News



## **Delineating the Responsible Citizenship Internship Award and looking ahead**

By Julia Leef, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

The purpose of college is to help students prepare for their futures through the divulgence of valuable learning experiences concentrated in a particular area of interest. Many students not only commit themselves to learning during the school year, but also spend their summers doing internships that give them experience and knowledge outside of the college.

Unfortunately, like all things in life, internships cost money, or at least don't pay anything, and so students often find themselves turning down a great opportunity due to financial difficulties. The Student Government Association had that problem in mind when they established the Responsible Citizen Internship Award fund as a way to help students afford unpaid internships.

The RCIA was first proposed by last year's SGA president, Raina Bretan '10, after students voiced their desire for more internship opportunities at several student town hall meetings. "Essentially," Bretan said, "students hated having to sacrifice a worthy internship for a paid retail job." After SGA discovered a significant budget surplus, Bretan suggested using that money to help resolve the issue. "In Senate, I brought up the potential for creating a fund to compensate students for their unpaid internships," she said. "It went over really well--the rest is RCIA history."

The idea moved along quickly, turning into a formal proposal in less than a month. SGA decided to allot \$75,000 per-year for the next five years, allowing 30 students to receive \$2,500 each.

Other key financial questions that needed to be considered were how much of the surplus funds would be co-invested with the college's funds, how to handle the surplus itself and how to spend it. Jim Welsh '10, last year's vice president of Financial Affairs for SGA, was heavily involved in answering those questions and meeting with administrators from different areas of the college, including Vice President for Finance and Administration Mike West.

Once it was determined that the co-investment option was the best course of action from a student perspective, Welsh said, "Raina and I asked Mike West to draw up a formal agreement between the college and SGA which could be voted on by the SGA Senate." The proposal for the RCIA and how to fund it passed, according to Welsh, "enthusiastically and overwhelmingly."



Applications came pouring in as soon as the program began, so much so that the numbers became potentially overwhelming. Almost 150 students applied, each with an outstanding application and an exciting potential internship, but with only 30 scholarships to go around.

So how did SGA decide who most deserved the money?

It was one of the most difficult things I've ever had to sort through, said Associate Government Professor Bob Turner, who was a member of the RCIA selection committee along with Raina and Welsh.

There were applications for programs in places as far away as Tanzania and Indonesia, organizations like the Mote Marine Laboratory and the Outward Bound Center for Peace Building, with jobs that ranged from immigration reform in Washington, caring for sea turtles in Florida and working in museums. "We tried to ensure a broad array of careers were represented," Turner said. In order to fairly select the winners, the SGA selection committee developed a rubric that would help them determine which students deserved the awards. Using this rubric, they graded the application essays submitted by students that explained how the internship would benefit their education, what they would get out of the experience and what their responsibilities would be. Still, the number of great applications exceeded the available funds.

As a partial solution, the program received supplemental finances from the President's Discretionary Fund, which provided \$25,000 and allowed the committee to award scholarships to 10 more deserving students.

Geneva Kraus, now a senior, was one of the recipients and had nothing but praise for the program. She was offered an archaeology internship at Klamath National Forest, but was concerned about the financial losses she would suffer in this exciting, but unpaid internship.

One of my friends back at Skidmore . . . suggested I apply for the RCIA grant, she said, a decision that would have a huge impact on her life. "It was truly a life-changing experience because now I know the job opportunities that are out there for archaeologists and exactly what they entail," Kraus said. "Even better, I know I am capable of succeeding if I ever find myself in one of those positions." The RCIA allowed her to travel across the country without worrying about expenses that could not be accounted for with an unpaid internship.

Katherine Rasche, now a junior, also received the RCIA, and used the money to intern at the Portsmouth Museum of Fine Art in New Hampshire. After the internship she and the other recipients provided feedback about their internships to the RCIA board, as well as evidence that they were making the most of their opportunity.

Rasche said that her internship gave her the experience that she could not have had at Skidmore. "The art classes I take here are amazing," she said, "but I've only ever had experience in the studio, so this internship award gave me the opportunity to pursue an aspect of my major that I don't think I would have been able to at Skidmore."

Assistant Director of Leadership Activities Barbara Schallehn, corresponded during the summer with the award recipients and their supervisors in order to make sure that students received their awards and used them to carry out their responsibilities.

The RCIA has done much to help students along the paths to their future careers, leading to jobs, senior theses, subsequent course work and graduate school. But what lies ahead for the RCIA?

The current program is in place to continue for the next five years after which, according to Welsh, the SGA Senate must review it before it can be renewed. But the people behind the RCIA have high hopes for its future. Turner expressed his wish that the program would cause increased interest in high impact education experiences, and would lead the college to be more deliberate in building upon a student's academic career, possibly taking what is now an individual matter and bringing it onto a systematic level.

Turner said that the goal of the program is "to demonstrate the transformative education potential of these internships and to make it a priority for the college," which would then allow students to follow their interests more intimately and at a younger age. Turner has also asked the department chairs to talk with the recipients about sharing their experience with other majors, something that could benefit those who did not apply or receive the award.

Welsh hopes that the RCIA will prompt students to look into summer internship opportunities that they may not have considered without the possibility of financial backup, and also hopes for additional funding that will expand upon the number of students who will be able to pursue their interests outside of Skidmore.

One of Raina and my goals with starting this program was to jumpstart the college's efforts and to improve the transition period for students between college and life after college, Welsh said. "I would love to see the program expand to be able to accommodate all of the many qualified applications this program has received and will continue to receive moving forward."

## A modest proposal

By Anonymous

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

Dear Editors,

The over-crowding of freshmen into triples has caused rampant problems on campus. It has become unsafe to walk in Northwoods for fear of being trampled by eager freshmen stampeding to find private space for knoodling. Cases of hypothermia have reached alarming rates as freshmen continue to sit on the green well into the frigid nights to avoid their cramped rooms.

Many students have noticed that, in a recent expansion of the new Game Room, the administration has built a human-sized checkers board outside the Arthur Zankel Music Center. To ensure its functionality even in rainy or snowy weather, a large tent has been erected above it. Such brilliance, such forethought!

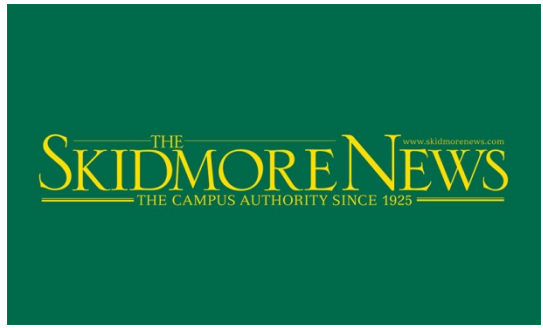
In the spirit of "Creative Thought," I have devised the following modest proposal. In an effort to bring freshmen out of their over-crowded triples, they should be used as human checkers pieces in this facility.

When one is "jumped," they would be quickly and (relatively) painlessly executed. Their remains would be added to the compost piles in Northwoods this compost would be used to fertilize the Skidmore garden, and we as an institution could more fully realize our goal of sustainability.

Those who were "king-ed" would actually carry their peers on their backs. This would provide us with more able-bodied prospects for our sports programs.

President Glotzbach could spend his sabbatical reigning over these games, ordering freshmen around with despotic privilege. He could challenge (and invariably defeat) visiting presidents from Williams, Hobart and Union Colleges. In this way, he would take full advantage of his year off by helping bolster Skidmore's reputation of excellence.

Need I even mention that there would no longer exist the need to stuff freshmen into triples? De-tripling and "Dingles" (now standing for "death-single," rather than the antiquated "double-single") would become the norm.



This is the way of Skidmore's future, and I applaud the administration for taking the important first step of creating this giant checkers board.

Sincerely,

Anonymous

## Field hockey jumps to No. 9

By Audrey Nelson, Sports Editor  
On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

Skidmore College's field hockey team reached their highest ranking of the season from 9th to 7th in the most recent Kookaburra NFHCA Division III National Coaches Poll.

The women have won 11 straight games with a Liberty League standing at 5-0. The Thoroughbreds just won two home games against Babson and Williams, putting the team's standings at 12-1.

The victories stand at 4-0 against the Beavers on Oct. 15, and 5-2 against the Ephs on Oct. 17.

Facing their final Liberty League competitors this weekend, the women plan to advance their rankings in away games against St. Lawrence on Oct. 23 and Hamilton on Oct. 24.

### Men's soccer

In their fifth overtime game of the season, the men's soccer team tied Cazenovia College 2-2 on Oct. 19, putting the Thoroughbreds at 7-6-3. Cazenovia's Jason Luce landed a 15-yard shot, setting the score at 1-0 in the early minutes of the first half.

At the 26-minute mark, Skidmore's Doug Yeates '11 scored his third goal of the season, tying the game up until the second half.

Again, the Wildcats made an early goal at the beginning of the half, which was negated by Junior Mark Jensen's tie-maker at 72:29, with assist by Tim Leuders-Dumont '12.

The Thoroughbreds dominated the overtime portion of the non-league game, fruitlessly outshooting the Wildcats 4-1 in the extra periods. The men come back to Liberty League action at Wachenheim Field at 3 p.m. on Oct. 23 against Vassar.

### Liberty League recognitions

This week, 11 Skidmore student-athletes received Liberty League recognition for successful performances.

Senior Christine Kemp of the field hockey team earned offensive performer of the week, while teammate Liz Catinella '11 picked up defensive performer of the week. Field hockey first-year, Kelly Blackhurst was named co-rookie of the week.

Two members of the women's soccer team were recognized this week. Junior Catherine Kapustynski picked up co-defensive performer of the week, and goalie Gab Lawrence '14 earned rookie of the week honors.

The women's team has won six straight games and will travel to Vassar on Oct. 23 to continue their streak.

Women's tennis player, Nataly Mendoza '13 was named co-performer of the week, and first-year teammate Molly Nolan picked up co-rookie of the week honors.

In men's tennis, senior Spencer Cheng earned co-performer of the week while Jimmy Sherpa '14 was named rookie of the week after the two finished fifth in a doubles match at the 2010 USTA/ITA National Small College Championships.

Senior Meredith Palmer of the volleyball team earned co-performer of the week honors for the third consecutive week.

Her teammate and sister, Corinne Palmer '14 was named rookie of the week for the fourth time this season.

#### **Presentations from MLB Players Association official**

Senior executive with Major League Baseball Players Association, and Skidmore College graduate class of 1977, Rick Shapiro will give two presentations at the college on Oct. 25.

## Sports Center named for longest-serving trustee

By Audrey Nelson, Sports Editor

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

Over Celebration Weekend, Skidmore's Sports Center went under a transformation. On Saturday, Oct. 16, the College named its sports center in honor of trustee Susan Kettering Williamson '59, L.H.D. '98.

Williamson is Skidmore's longest serving trustee of nearly four decades, joining the board in 1971. Co-chairwoman of the successful "Creative Thought Bold Promise" capital campaign, she offered to increase her donation by \$1 million if at least 10,000 donors contributed a gift of any size. In fact, the campaign received 11,215 contributions.

Athletics Director Gail Cummings-Danson, President Philip Glotzbach and President Emeritus David Porter honored her philanthropy and service to the College. Cummings-Danson described Williamson as a "trail blazer," and the Williamson Center as a "place for all things movement."

The center, built in 1982 and expanded in 1994, provides gymnasiums, training rooms, swimming and diving facilities, courts and support facilities for the varsity athletics teams, intramural sports and Skidmore members who benefit from the fitness and recreation facilities.

The center also houses classrooms, faculty offices and research space for the College's Health and Exercise Science Department.

Noting the dedication of the sports center as a natural choice, President Philip Glotzbach praised Williamson as a trustee who "has long championed the importance of educating students to live a full life, one that addresses the needs of the mind, the spirit and the body."

At the end of the ceremony, President Glotzbach invited Williamson and her family to witness the unveiling of the plaque at the podium, placed appropriately in front of the new Williamson Sports Center.

President Emeritus David Porter spoke of the extent of Williamson's benevolent contributions to the College. Sharing anecdotes of time spent with the Williamson family during his presidency, Porter recalled the Williamson donation, which at the time was the largest in the College's history.





Thanking Williamson and the value of her "quiet strength, judgment and balance" to the College's board of trustees, Porter spoke of the Kettering scholarships, funded by the Kettering Fund and the Kettering family.

Not only have her contributions benefitted students, but Williamson's part in funding the David H. Porter Chair has also helped professors who have held it.

Referencing the recently completed Creative Thought Bold Promise campaign, Porter called Williamson, alongside co-chairwomen Wilma "Billie" Stein Tisch '48 and Sara Lee Lubin Schupf '62, one of the "three Graces" of the campaign. "Lucy Scribner would be so ticked to have three powerful, wonderful women heading the campaign," he said.

The center has already installed its new entrance, while the plaque will be installed in the sport center's lobby.

## Exploring a classic

### Theater department examines 'Death of a Salesman'

By Jessica Strasser, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 22, 2010

The Skidmore College department of theater will present an exploration of Arthur Miller's "Death of a Salesman" from Oct. 22-24 as well as Oct. 28-31. Directed by Phil Soltenoff, a former Skidmore faculty member, this current production aims to show a new take on an American classic.

Death of a Salesman is the story of Willy Loman, an aging salesman losing hope in the American dream he cherished for so long. Willy, his wife Linda and sons Biff and Happy are slowly torn apart by a series of tragedies. The Lomans experience several heartbreaks and personal devastations that test the strength of the family.

Miller's tragedy has been cited as a classic and has become one of the most widely read and performed plays in American theatrical history.

Death of a Salesman is often portrayed in a realistic manner, with accurate sets and costumes for the 1940s time period. Skidmore's current exploration, however, aims to bring a new perspective to the piece. The entire production is centered on a TV production of "Death of a Salesman" filmed in 1966. Through the use of monitors and sound, the actors will attempt to perform this film live.

Mimicry of actions, camera angles and sound are used to create as full a replication as possible. By utilizing and mixing this technology with classic acting style, this production explores the power and ability of the actor.

In addition, the juxtaposition of modern day technology with a video of a show from the past, 1966, examines the influence that the past exerts on future decisions. The past and present occur simultaneously, creating a unique theatrical experience.

Chairman of the Department of Theater, Lary Opitz, was thrilled when Soltenoff proposed the idea of performing this reinterpretation. Opitz emphasized the timeliness of the production with a highly-reviewed revival starring Christopher Lloyd as Willy.

A trip to see Lloyd in Vermont allowed students to experience a more traditional take on the play.

Death of Salesman is assistant directed by Colleen Hughes '11. It stars Varak Barovian '14 as Bernard, Zazie Beetz '13 as The Woman, Anthony Bentrovato '11 as Willy Loman, Paul-Emile Cendron '13 as Hap, Sara Jane Munford '11 as Linda Loman, Jeremy Ohringer '13 as Charlie, Giancarlo Osaben '11 as Ben/Stanley, Andrew Rousso '13 as Biff, Alison Schaufler '14 as Letta/Jenny, Dan Shure '14 as Howard and Grace Troxell '13 as Miss Forsythe.

The scene designer is Garret Wilson, the costume designer is Jenna Glendye '11 and the lighting designer is David Yergan. Danielle Rodino '11 is the stage manager.

All shows begin at 8 p.m., except for Sunday matinees, which begin at 2 p.m.. Those hoping to see the show should contact the Skidmore Theater Box Office at [boxoffice@skidmore.edu](mailto:boxoffice@skidmore.edu).

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Salesman:Anthony Bentrovato '11, Jeremy Ohringer '13 and Daniel Shure '14 perform in an exploration of "Death of a Salesman."📷

Photo courtesy of Matt Cohen



## **SGA responds to student call for meetign with Campus Safety**

By Kat Kullman, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

Tuesday, Oct. 26, the Senate of the Student Government Association discussed the upcoming meeting with Campus Safety and talked to the Asian Cultural Awareness club about bringing the hip-hop group, Far East Movement, to the college.

At 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 2, Senate will have an open discussion with Campus Safety, during which the officers will respond to any questions or concerns raised by the students.

While Senate is always open for any student to attend, this meeting will be held in a larger venue and all students are encouraged to attend discussion.

“We’re hoping to get a really big turnout for this. We’ve been hearing a lot about Campus Safety, from confusion over parking spaces to unpleasant interactions. We want this talk to be really productive,” Alex Stark, SGA president, said.

Senate also heard from two members of ACA who proposed their idea to bring the all Asian-American hip-hop group, Far East Movement, to the college for Spring Fling.

“We want to bring this group to Skidmore because they’re really good Asian-American role models. We’d like to have them do a concert, as well as a question and answer session during the weekend,” said Allan Wu ‘11, member of ACA.

The ACA has approached many of Skidmore’s clubs and departments and so far has 16 interested in helping to bring the group to campus. ACA has raised about half the money needed, but would require a supplement and a loan from SGA.

The ACA is still in talks with the hip-hop group and is currently fundraising. SGA showed support and urged the group to return once it had more concrete details.

## Students pedal for poverty

James Lyness organizes 30-mile ride to benefit Uganda

By Julia Leef, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

At 11:45 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 23, 16 Skidmore students and eight volunteers from Saratoga Healthy Transportation Network (SHTN) participated in a 30-mile bike ride from Case Center to the banks of the Hudson River in Schuylerville and back to raise money to buy bicycles for people in northern Uganda

The event, Pedal to the River, was organized by James Lyness '13, Skidmore representative of the BAP (Bicycles Against Poverty) program.

James came up with the idea for Pedal to the River during a personal bike trip to Schuylerville, when he realized that it would be an ideal distance for a group bike ride that would pass one of New York's more prominent landmarks.

"I've been in touch with several members of Saratoga Healthy Transportation Network through email and meetings and they expressed interest in the event, so I went ahead with it," Lyness said.

Lyness spoke to the beauty of the landscape on the designated route, which provided views of the Green Mountains in Vermont, as well as the Adirondacks. "I'm sure it was a great experience for the freshmen and even some of the sophomores to get out and see parts of the area they'd never seen before," Lyness said.

Gabby Stern '13, a participant in the event, said that she enjoyed the ride and was happy to support Lyness, praising his efforts to promote BAP at Skidmore.

"I attended the event because I'm interested in social justice issues and I'm happy to support a cause that is meaningful and proactive. Also, I love to bike ride and didn't want to miss the opportunity to take a beautiful ride to the Hudson on a sunny Saturday," Stern said.

Pedal to the River was an overall success and Lyness is in the process of planning a concert featuring Bailiwick in November. The concert will take place in the Spa and Ugandan food will be provided by BAP members.

The donations from this concert will bring Skidmore's BAP even closer to reaching its goal of \$10,000 for the year. These funds will be held at Bucknell University until they are used to purchase more bicycles.

BAP strives to provide bikes for people in Uganda so they can have better access to the market, farms, water and basic services such as health care. According to the organization's website, using bicycle loan agreements will also encourage "responsible money management, community cooperation and creative usage of the bicycle towards economic ends."

Thus far, 300 bicycles have been distributed between 2009 and 2010, which, through community sharing, has impacted more than 1,000 people. BAP has made great strides through its fundraising, a third of which goes to the Gulu Walk Foundation, a program created to benefit and aid Ugandan children who have been impacted by war.

*For more information, visit BAP's website at: [www.bicyclesagainstpoverty.org](http://www.bicyclesagainstpoverty.org)*

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Pedal:Skidmore students and SHTN prepare for a 30-mile ride to Schuylerville.

Phoebe Pundyk/Skidmore News







## Assay the state of critical writing

By Jack Ferguson, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

Now that I am a senior I feel there is one statement about my college career I can fully stand behind: I hate, hate writing academic essays. And with the much-touted rise in plagiarism, it seems that you do too. But why else do we attend college if not to grow in knowledge and learn how to better express it? I will proceed with the assumption that if you pay roughly \$50,000 a year, you hope to leave with a functional education and adept expression.

The college academic essay is not difficult to write--rather, it is absurd. Almost nowhere does one find so narrow a concept desired in so little space from such a paucity of information. If you're like me, you approach a paper either in begrudging acceptance of the high school topic-sentence-and-four-supporting-points format, or in willful rebellion against it. How did this come about?

I know that I came here not feeling skilled at writing essays in the least. But even supposing that the student body had perfected the clunky unreadable high school essay format: should colleges ask for and support the perpetuation of this rigid template of expression? At a school with a motto such as ours, at least, one would expect not. Further, is this any way for a liberal arts school to help its students engage the world--through tired, desiccated regurgitation?

It seems that the college system is a place where teachers and methods of pedagogy are allowed a wide range of expression. Perhaps for the first time in their academic careers students are exposed to information in accordance with their teacher's--and not the school's--methods. Given that each of us learns differently (the most cited example being that of group-learners v. isolates) the variety here allows for greater individualization, the student choosing his or her professors and classes as best suits his or her mind's proclivities. Why then do we stick to a method of composition designed for ubiquitous utility instead of individual expression?

One could hardly argue that de Montaigne, Didion, Orwell, Sontag, Eliot or any of the great essayists caught even a whiff of the format we hammer away at here. And many of us have never come upon an essay of their ilk nor been taught it in class.

I am of the opinion that before any paper may be assigned the professor should hand out a published essay and hold a discussion on it, pore over its contents, dissect its twists and buttressing evidence. And

not just in low-level intro courses, but every time. Why pretend that a student who is unread in the best forms of writing will be able to fashion anything like a readable piece of work?

There is an old saying about how all undergraduate writing is, as a whole, almost hilariously unreadable. This is the central injustice at stake here. To spend time and money and walk out with nothing to show, never reaching a point when I feel my skills have been honed feels to me like being the victim of some cruel (and expensive) deception, in which I myself am complicit.

Once we accept dreadful composition as one of college's necessary evils, we master the art of bluffing it. I have heard my peers talk at epic lengths of BSing one's way through a paper. You're familiar with it, I'm sure. It involves taking one thing and pretending it's another--a somehow distinctly different and better thing. The worst part is that feeling that the teacher is rolling his or her eyes but accepting it. BSing doesn't feel like lying so much as lumping together rude thoughts in a hasty and careless manner. It's expressing the words and not the point. It's learning how to ignore the point altogether.

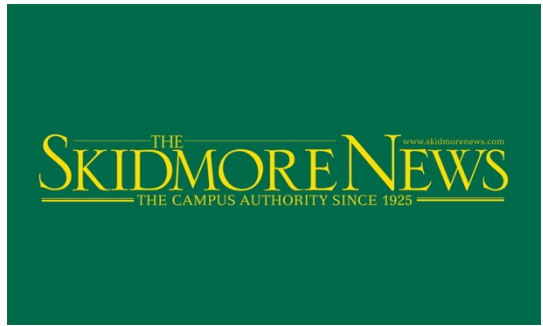
Before I proceed, chest-pounding and hollering, a caveat: students very often choose to go home and watch videos or have a beer or chat online or kiss their boyfriends when they could (and probably should) be staying in the library for another hour or two. If you want to have some fun, bring a tuba to the third floor of the library late next Saturday night. Pause, and listen for the reproach that will never arrive. Do we really lack so much work ethic? Do we really desire to squander this unique opportunity?

I would argue that the rise in plagiarism results not from student laziness or lack of knowledge, but from not knowing how to fashion one's knowledge into a coherent, manageable form. I believe that no student wants to potentially mar his or her name or take the unnecessary risk of getting caught. But the task of forming out of nothing a piece of coherent knowledge presents a daunting, nearly insurmountable task. Why else do we always resort to the first form of writing we were taught, though it be a repulsive process?

This is not in any way a defense of plagiarism, often the product of duplicity, haste or rank inattention; this is sympathy for the struggle of those without recourse to a nonbrain-deadening format. The professor might argue: suck it up, bang the thing out. But try it for four years. In fact, try it for two with the immediate prospect of two more years of this drudge, and pretend that the feeling welling up inside isn't that of fear and revulsion.

Try attempting, as we do, to marry the money and debts we face at every new matriculation with the growing knowledge that we will leave here with nothing for which to feel proud.

Try having only this format to use, and then you tell me why the library is deserted on a Saturday night.



*Jack Ferguson is senior History and English double major from Philadelphia, Penn.*

## Halloween and hooking up: how to avoid awkward interactions

By C., Columnist

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

The preparation and aftermath of Halloween can be nerve wracking. The costumes, festivities and hook ups can leave you feeling like more of a trick than a treat. Here is some advice to keep embarrassing moments to a minimum:

1. Wear a costume you feel comfortable in. Don't wear something that will unravel or expose any of your goodies. Be comfortable and confident.
2. Eat a huge meal and stay hydrated...with water. No one likes interacting with someone who has cottonmouth.
3. If you plan to have a night of costumed, responsible fun you won't need to worry about the possibility of praying to the porcelain god.

Halloween is an exceptional excuse to act like a fool, but please refrain on the ghoul.

Dear C.,

I'm a freshman and I had a raging crush on this one guy all through high school. He's one of my best friends and over the summer we had a fling. He's now in NYC and I miss him a ton. I kind of want to go down to the city to see him, but we haven't seen each other since the summer, and I'm not sure where we stand. I don't want to make things awkward. What do you think?

-New York State of Mind

Dear NY State of Mind,

First of all you have to think about what this fling consisted of; were you guys doing the deed or just making kissy face here and there? Then consider his personality: is he a player or a more sensitive kind of guy?

The player type is more likely to have multiple flings with girls and only contact you late at night. The sensitive type is more likely to spend time with you without hooking up.

Whatever type he is, text him if you haven't already just to check up on him. Ask how he likes school, maybe throw in an inside joke; make it light and friendly, but not flirty. Bringing out the big guns right away might overwhelm him.

See how he responds. If it's positive, tell him you were thinking of going to the city with some friends, but make sure to actually find some friends to join you and be sure to clue them in on the situation.

Keep it simple and casual so he won't be overwhelmed by the idea. It will also, hopefully, calm your nerves if you know it's a casual thing.

Also, if he is one of your best friends, I wouldn't be too worried about him being awkward. Yes, I know it's easier said than done, but a little mystery is what makes relationships exciting.

-Hearts and Stars, C.

*I am a nonbiased, nonjudgmental third party (because I love parties). My aim is to advise, not to direct. The real question is what will you do?*

*Email me at [SkidWWCD@gmail.com](mailto:SkidWWCD@gmail.com) with questions. Privacy is guaranteed. Advice can remain unpublished upon request.*

## Ghost Walk tour details Saratoga hauntings

By Brian Connor, Op-Ed Editor

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

Saratoga Springs is well known as an attraction for racing and ballet enthusiasts. But, according to Haunted History Ghost Walks tour guide Gloria Ottavio, the city plays host to other, less visible crowds.

Saratoga tends to invite ghosts, Ottavio explained to a group of 30 gathered in the Arts Center. "People think ghosts are the spirits of people who have passed on," Ottavio said. "This is a historical parapsychologist ghost walk."

Ottavio, a retired teacher from Rochester, has led ghost tours through the streets of Saratoga on Monday and Wednesday nights from July through October 31st. The tours are based on the research and writing of parapsychologist Mason Winfield, who has authored several books on hauntings and paranormal activity in the region.

According to Ottavio, Saratoga attracts ghosts for the same reason it first attracted visitors some 300 years ago. "Because of the fault line, Saratoga is geographically conducive to supernatural phenomenon," Ottavio said.

She explained that cultures and peoples all over the world tend to build temples and other religious sites on fault lines because of increased electromagnetic activity.

Wherever you have buildings that look like churches, it tends to invite paranormal activity, said Ottavio, before leading the crowd out into the cold shadowy streets of Saratoga and through Congress Park.

The first stop was in front of the "Spirit of Life," a statue of Hygieia, the Greco-Roman goddess of health, commissioned by Katrina Trask and created by Daniel Chester French, the sculptor of the Lincoln Memorial.

Here Ottavio recounted the fateful history of the Trask family, whose estate, Yaddo, is said to be named for the Trask children's attempts to pronounce the word shadow as they watched mysterious shapes glide throughout the estate's supposedly haunted grounds.

Though the Trasks all met a grisly end, Spencer dying in a railway accident and Katrina and the children succumbing to diphtheria, Ottavio assured the crowd that the site is not necessarily haunted.

Though I've heard [the statue] waves her right hand; I haven't seen it, Ottavio said.



The tour then moved along to the Canfield Casino. Founded in 1870 by bare-knuckled boxer, state senator and congressman John Morrisey, Ottavio described the building as one of the main haunts of Saratoga.

According to Ottavio, Morrisey, nicknamed Old Smoke because of an unfortunate flesh searing sustained during a bout of pugilism, is said to still inhabit the building.

This is most likely a residual haunting, or a haunting of a place, and an intellectual haunting, in which the apparitions interact with people, Ottavio said.

Ottavio welcomed the crowd to take photographs of the casino in order to capture paranormal activity. "People have taken pictures in the park and found a lot of orb activity, so if you take any pictures and things show up, let me know."

The next stop was the Carousel in Congress Park. "This is not haunted, but I like showing it to people anyway," Ottavio said. She then gave a brief history of the amusing relic before moving on.

Next the tour stopped in front of 75 Spring St., West Hall, a former Skidmore College dormitory. Ottavio recounted the experiences of Kathy and Laury, two students who in 1966 came back from the dining hall to find a woman with dark brown hair standing in their room. The woman vanished shortly thereafter.

The two women then bought a Ouija board, the board game and séance tool being very popular at that time. The Ouija board yielded the words, "I was killed in this room, strangled. He dragged me into a closet and bricked up the wall."

According to Ottavio, in 1969, Laury wrote a paper, the research for which brought her to an unsolved murder case in the police department files. Laury did some more sleuthing and eventually a body was recovered from the walls of the dormitory.

Gloria remarked that the finding of a body is unsubstantiated. She did not say whether or not Laury owned a Great Dane or a VW bus.

The next stop was the Savage House, at 108 Circular St. Built in 1843, the house served as a boarding house, a hotel and, in recent years, a private residence.

Ottavio remarked that the Corinthian columns that adorn the building are reminiscent of sacred architecture, and might thereby contribute to paranormal activity within.

People have a fascination with ghosts, because there is a lot of ambiguity about the dead, and what happens to one's soul when they die, Hunter Prichard '12 said. "Ghosts are almost able to cheat death by staying on the physical plane, without being alive."

Prichard, however, remained skeptical. "I personally don't really believe in them, it's just a money-making scheme more than anything. It's just like me having a goblin hunting tour in my house, charging people \$20 to go goblin hunting."

The Saratoga Ghost Walk is sponsored by Haunter History Ghost Walks. Walks take place on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights through October.

Call (716) 655-6663 for details.

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Ghost tour: hauntings

Formerly Skidmore's West Hall, 75 Spring St. was the sight of a potential haunting.

Melissa Cohn/Skidmore News



## Carbon victory, Senate failure

By Tyler Reny, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

Common logic would dictate that the Deep Water Horizon oil spill, the worst in U.S. history, would have offered politicians, environmentalists and the public the impetus to pass climate change legislation. In reality, the spill, in addition to poor political decisions by Barack Obama and Harry Reid, nailed the coffin shut on the most serious Senate effort to control U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.

The New Yorker recently published an article with an amazingly detailed description of the political maneuvering and missteps that led to the tragic death of the "Cap and Trade" bill drafted by liberal, centrist and conservative senators: Kerry, Lieberman and Graham. The "Cap and Trade" proposal would have placed overall caps on emissions while offering flexible options for polluters to comply. The author of the article, Ryan Lizza, investigated exactly why the bill failed.

Before the tragic oil spill, a perfect storm of factors had steadily chipped away at the legislation. Republicans were already jumping ship. McCain, who had offered Lieberman his vote, had pulled out. He was facing a rare primary challenge from the ultra-conservative J.D. Hayworth in Arizona and he would have to moderate his views to appease the party's base. Throughout the spring, the conservative talking heads had won the framing war by branding the Cap and Trade bill as a "Cap-and-Tax." Trying to justify a new tax to reduce levels of carbon dioxide is a tough sell to voters.

The triumvirate's key political strategy to win back some republican and moderate democratic support for the Cap and Trade legislation was to offer expanded offshore oil drilling in return for a vote. After the "drill, baby drill" demonstrations at GOP conventions, it was clear that the republican base supported the expansion.

But that is where Obama screwed up. On March 31, without conversing with the senators, he announced that the administration was opening up large tracts of U.S. waters to oil drilling. The bargaining chip was off the table. The senators now had nothing to offer to conservatives and moderate democrats for their support. Graham's other possible strategy, offering new large loans to build new nuclear plants in return for votes, had already been destroyed when Obama's budget proposal was released with \$54.5 billion for that exact purpose. Obama handed the opposition exactly what they wanted without asking for anything in return.

Then on April 15, the White House drove Graham away from the bargaining table. Somebody in the Obama administration had told a Fox News reporter that the White House was not going to support Graham's proposal in the bill to raise gas taxes to pay for the Cap and Trade bill. This was a blatant lie. Graham had never proposed such a raise. The news quickly spread around the airwaves and Graham's phones rang off the hook with angry calls. The tea-party conservatives were livid that one of their own would propose an increase in taxes. Graham felt the pressure from his home state, lost his temper and walked out on the talks for good.

To make things worst, the Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid stunned his colleagues when he announced that the Senate would tackle immigration reform before climate change. Immigration was rising to the forefront of the debate in his home state of Nevada and, facing a tough reelection campaign, Reid felt he needed to mollify his home state voters. But it was all a political ploy. The Cap and Trade bill was almost ready for public release and Reid should have thrown all of his support behind it. The Senate Majority leader revealed that he wasn't at all serious about the legislation.

The fate of Cap and Trade was sealed on Earth Day, ironically, when the Deep Water Horizon rig sank to the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico and 62,000 barrels of oil a day began mixing with the warm ocean waters. The bill, which would have drastically expanded such drilling, was drowning under media coverage of dead sea birds and oil slicks the size of Rhode Island. With such a disaster on their hands, no senators would ever have supported it. Seven months of negotiations were destroyed. The bill was tossed.

Republicans are poised to take back the House in November and greatly diminish the democratic majority in the Senate. The GOP's "Pledge to America" specifically mentions its opposition to any future Cap-and-Trade bill and the future Speaker of the House John Boehner is unlikely to support any type of climate change legislation.

So, we sit back and watch as dysfunctional Washington continues its partisan sniping and carbon continues to spew into the atmosphere. Perhaps when we reach the peak in global oil production (by conservative estimates in the next 20 or 30 years) and prices begin to spike will our government finally get its act together. In the meantime, however, I suggest looking into purchasing land in Greenland. By the time we retire and the ice recedes, its coasts might offer prime beachfront real estate.

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

## Compost: Turning our waste into a resource

By Maranda Duval, Guest Columnist

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

Skidmore's commitment to environmental initiatives is evident all over campus. There are low-flow toilets, sinks and showers in the dorms. There is geothermal energy to meet the heating and cooling needs of the three newest buildings. There are even local options in the dining hall, including fresh produce from the organic student garden. Yet one very basic component of a sustainable campus is distinctly lacking: compost.

What exactly is compost? It's the end-result of decomposed organic materials such as plant matter and animal waste. Think apple cores, cucumber peelings, egg shells, coffee grinds, animal manure and grass clippings that have all been converted into a nutrient-rich, soil-like substance. Compost can be used as soil conditioner, fertilizer and even as a natural pesticide.

The environmental benefits of composting are widespread. By returning vital nutrients to the soil, it reduces the need for chemical pesticides and fertilizers (which can disrupt natural nutrient cycles). By diverting plant and animal wastes from landfills, it reduces the habitat destruction associated with building new landfills. And finally, by providing an aerobic environment for decomposition, it reduces greenhouse gas emissions, specifically methane, which is produced when organic waste decomposes in anaerobic conditions.

It sounds good, but is composting a feasible task for Skidmore? Last year, two environmental studies majors, William Coffey and Nadine Dodge, wrote their senior capstone project on that exact question. Their final report, entitled "Composting at Skidmore College: Turning our Waste into a Resource," found that composting at Skidmore is not only feasible, but would reap numerous benefits for the college.

The report found that Skidmore currently produces approximately 4,521 cubic yards of organic waste every year in the form of food waste from the dining hall, lawn-maintenance byproducts and horse manure from Skidmore's stables. Dealing with this high volume of organic waste is not only a financial burden on the college, but it also presents an environmental challenge at an institution where "responsible citizenship" is written into the mission statement.

According to the study, if Skidmore captured and converted its organic wastes into compost rather than disposing of them, the institution could produce 2,260 cubic yards of finished compost per year. The finished compost could be used in the organic student garden and in campus flowerbeds and





landscaping. In fact, it is likely that the college could replace all mulch and compost currently used on campus, which would save the college thousands of dollars per year.

It is estimated that only 500 of the 2,260 cubic yards of compost generated each year would be used on campus. The surplus compost (1,760 cubic yards) could be sold in the community at a profit estimated at more than \$25,000 per year.

There is an abundance of support for composting at Skidmore, including students, faculty and staff members. Dan Rodecker, the director of Facilities Services, thinks that with the right management, the composting system could be "as successful as the student garden" (which produced over 1,000 pounds of food in its first year of production). Karen Kellogg, associate professor in the Environmental Studies program, believes that "composting at Skidmore is a low hanging piece of fruit financially [and] environmentally."

The paybacks of composting are clear, from reducing greenhouse gas emissions, to generating potential profits, to attracting prospective students and serving as a living laboratory for classes. Composting just makes sense. So what's stopping us? Adequate land? Capital investment? Widespread awareness and support? Kellogg said, "A compost system at Skidmore is going to involve lots of different entities on campus...Everyone needs to be on board."

To represent the student interest in composting at Skidmore, the student Environmental Action Club has developed a subcommittee specifically devoted to composting on campus. If you want to get involved, come to the EAC meetings on Mondays at 9 p.m. in Ladd Hall. If you don't have time for the meetings, send an email to [tarnow@skidmore.edu](mailto:tarnow@skidmore.edu) expressing your support. As Kellogg puts it, "This is going to take commitment on everyone's part."



## Editorial

### Hail to the chief

By the Editorial Board

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

We attend President Philip A. Glotzbach's Skidmore and cannot envision any other. As he departs the college for the next six months, we take a moment to reflect on the changes he effected as our president in the last seven years.

In a shift as similarly dramatic as when students saw a new campus in 1962, the Skidmore of today is different from the one graduates attended just a few years before. Members of the college community live and learn in buildings constructed and renovated through President Glotzbach's efforts, made possible by his record \$216 million fundraising efforts. From the First Year Experience to Creative Thought Matters, students and professors work in a college structured by his initiatives that we cannot imagine living without.

Through his tireless dedication, the college's standing among higher education institutions has improved. For many students, the choice to attend Skidmore sprang from changes that occurred in the seven years since Glotzbach first became the president of the college. In the constant evolution of the college's image across the country, his time as our president has showed an increased perception of Skidmore as a serious academic environment.

Students will have new options available to them after graduation because of Glotzbach's work these last seven years. In a hiring environment fraught with challenges and uncertainties, his efforts to shape the college's reputation became more valuable than ever. We know that post-graduate life will be made easier because we attend a school that prepares us for and recommends us to a broader range of career opportunities.

But his work is not done. Just as today's students cannot imagine a Skidmore without the programs and initiatives they benefit from every day, we hope that the classes of 2015 and beyond will enjoy more expansive facilities for the sciences, a solid foundation of programming for sophomore year and a more diverse student body. These future students should be able to devote themselves to a broader range of academic disciplines and to explore these departments with greater ease.

But even as he forges ahead with new and exciting changes to the college, Glotzbach should revisit some of his previous misguided policies. As students have said again and again, by making residence halls universally "substance-free," Glotzbach and his fellow administrators assured that no residence halls on



campus would be truly substance-free. With his creation of a new task force to study this problem, we hope that the president and his fellow administrators might come to new conclusions about how best to change flawed policies regulating student drinking.

As he has engaged with students through speeches and conversations through the last few years, Glotzbach has treated us as respectful equals. He reminds us of the lives we will be embarking on after graduation even as he shows genuine interest in the day-to-day concerns of our time at the college. We hope that when he returns from his sabbatical next May, he will continue to move forward with the rapid and widespread improvements characteristic of his years as our college's president.



## Satirical parodies: 'The Horse's Tale'

By Julia Leef, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

At Skidmore, there are many opportunities to become involved in writing and distributing news on campus whether through a club or organization or through your own personal efforts. The latest expression of this creative freedom is the release of a new periodical entitled "The Horse's Tale."

The Horse's Tale is a one page copy of "Skidmore's Most Professional Periodical" that reports events concerning the college infused with satirical twists. The first issue, released on Oct. 7, contains two "excerpts" from stories that presumably would be continued in the rest of the paper if there were more to read than just the front cover.

The first story is an "interview" with President Glotzbach concerning an upcoming book of his. The "interview" describes the book as a fantasy novel about wizards in space.

The second fictitious report describes continued taxicab rides specifically for intoxicated girls, complimentary of Ralph's Cab.

The last bit of text lists several more articles that would be found in the nonexistent additional pages.

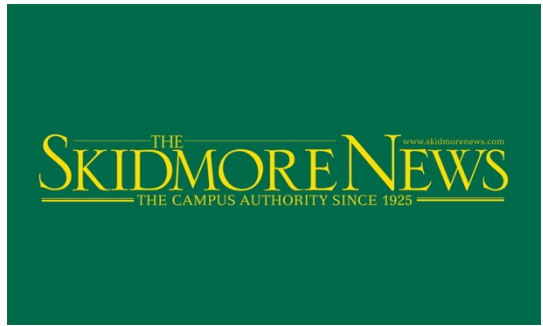
According to the anonymous editor-in-chief of "The Horse's Tale," creating this periodical stemmed from a desire to bring comedy onto the Skidmore campus, as well as to provide an entertaining alternative to the regular college newspaper.

The stories are based on real Skidmore happenings integrated with a humorous point of view... It's just like Jon Stewart, but irrelevant, the editor said.

Although there has only been one issue so far, "The Horse's Tale" plans to continue to release new satirical reports about once or twice a month. The editor said he or she hopes these newsletters will continue to bring humor into college life that is rife with stress and academic strain, cheering students and allowing them to relax and laugh over these delightful stories.

The thinking is that no one likes to read... It's something to pick up, chuckle at, tell your friends about and then forget until the next one, the editor said.

A quick look at [skidmoreunofficial.com](http://skidmoreunofficial.com) revealed that "The Horse's Tale" was received warmly by students, and may continue to be as future issues are released.



The Horse's Tale can be found in various locations on campus, including Case Center.

Arts & Entertainment #1.1736678:1578588261.jpg

Horse:An anonymous student began the satirical periodical "The Horse's Tale."<sup>2</sup>

Melissa Cohn/Skidmore News



NOV 10th 7 2010

## The Horse's Tale

Skidmore's Most Professional Periodical



**RALPH'S CAB STILL DRIVES DRUNK GIRLS FOR FREE**

In response to the introduction of free cab rides to campus from Skidmore, the cab driver says that Ralph's Cab has been on the block with certain conditions. Ralph is offering a free ride to all proper Skidmore identification.

"I just want to do my job" said driver Ralph Young. "The drivers aren't like an average taxi driver. They're like an average Skidmore student."

Continued on page 11

**GLOTZBACH REVEALS DETAILS OF SABBATICAL**

Skidmore College professor Philip A. Glotzbach has revealed details concerning the book he intends to write during his sabbatical this fall.

"I've already started on a novel about a scientist who goes to space to build a space station," said Glotzbach. "The novel is about a scientist who's been in space for half a century. The scientist has to deal with a lot of things, like the fact that he's been in space for half a century and he's got to deal with the fact that he's been in space for half a century."

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## Oles goes beyond the classroom

Professor discusses influence of social work practice

By Mariel Kennedy, Staff Writer

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

Pat Oles has been a professor, social worker, assistant dean of Faculty and dean of Student Affairs on campus. He is currently teaching the First Year seminar Purple Nation, which he describes as "playful romp through 20th century political struggles," Study of Social Policy and Introduction to Social Work.

Besides teaching and social work, Oles enjoys pizza, the Grateful Dead and the Lord of the Rings trilogy. His favorite Beatle is Paul.

Skidmore News: Where are you originally from and where did you go to school?

Pat Oles: I spent most of my childhood in South Hadley, Massachusetts. It's a small college town. I studied at Syracuse University, and I'm hoping we'll return as national champs in basketball this year.

SN: How long have you been a professor at Skidmore?

OLES: I came here in 1985. I know I look remarkably young for being here for so long.

SN: Did you hold any other teaching positions before coming to Skidmore?

OLES: I was the director of a small, nonprofit agency in town, and several faculty members were on the board of directors. I started teaching here part-time and found that I really liked it; it felt good. When a position opened I applied and was hired. The Skidmore position was my first teaching job.

SN: What is it about social work that interests you and prompted you to become a social worker?

OLES: I always planned on going to law school because I love politics. The summer after my junior year, I worked with emotionally disturbed kids. I loved the job, and it turned all my plans upside-down.

I worked with children as a family therapist and then as a clinical social worker. What I love about social work is that it captures both of my interests: politics and social policy as well as working with kids and families. This is what still holds me in the profession.

SN: Can you speak a little about your experiences as a social worker?



OLES: First, I worked mainly with latency age (five- and six-year-old) kids with Attention Deficit Disorder and learning disabilities.

This was a great place to start because the kids were a great age with which to work.

This age group is very behavioral in character. Also when you're young as a clinician, the age difference is great enough to be authoritative.

Next, I worked with adolescent delinquents. This was very challenging and interesting work because I dealt with older teen males who were in trouble with the law. Also, in general it is tough working with teens from urban environments. Along with clinical issues, they have a discouraging setting which creates a social issue.

Finally, I worked with female teens that were sexually abused and on the streets. This area was the most challenging in a way, but I learned most from them; mostly because it wasn't until I was in this position that I realized what shmucks men were. It helped me to greatly understand the gender relations in us all.

SN: How has being a social worker affected you as a teacher?

OLES: In teaching, there is always the idea of what is being taught and to whom. Social work is a relationship-based profession and so is teaching.

I'm interested in who I am teaching, their goals, what they want from the class and their different learning styles.

Social work values clients' self-determination and rights. One struggle in teaching the current generation is determining who is responsible for how well the students do in the class.



## Be patient with your desserts

By Katie Lane, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

Sometimes I get bored with the names of baked goods. Chocolate chip cookies. Vanilla cake. Apple pie- you get the point. C'mon fellow bakers, let's get creative here!

I wanted to rename this week's recipe something awesome. My housemate Elaine and I were staring (drooling) down at the pan of uncut gooey goodness and, for lack of creativity, decided to put the responsibility on Betsy, one of our other housemates. I declared that the first words out of her mouth upon tasting one of the bars would be the official title of these bars.

See, I imagined Betsy exclaiming, "How delightful!" or gushing, "Ohmygosh, YUM!" Nope. Betsy doesn't exclaim or gush. I should have known better. Elaine and I danced around giggling impatiently while Betsy (completely unaware of our plans, yet highly suspicious of our behavior) sampled a bite.

"What the heck are in these?" she demanded.

Well, a deal's a deal. I bring you WHATTHEHECKAREINTHESE Bars, also known in a previous life as Peanut Butter Oatmeal Dream Bars.

Okay, so maybe I don't have a future in bringing creative and refreshing new names to the baking world. Man, this brings back bitter memories of losing that Name-The-Mystery-Color Crayola crayon contest when I was seven...

Betsy, let me tell you just what exactly is in these: oats, peanut butter, sweetened condensed milk and lots and lots of butter, all topped with a healthy dose of oh-so-sweet milk chocolate chips and chopped up Reeses.

I guess the original title got it right...these are pretty dreamy.

Let's get real for a moment though. One problem I had with these bars was all that chocolate goodness on top. Yes, I did just use chocolate and problem in the same sentence.

Although I pulled the pan out of the oven marveling over the glistening chocolate, when I popped them in the freezer to speed up the cooling process, all the topping hardened and just fell off when I tried to cut it.

My advice? Be patient (unlike me) and let them cool nice and slow as nature intended. Otherwise, just sprinkle them on under that top layer of crumble so the chocolate-y goodness is trapped forever!

You can call these what ever you want; what's in a name anyway? Let's EAT!

*If you try this recipe, please let me know at [www.asprinkleintime.wordpress.com](http://www.asprinkleintime.wordpress.com)*

WHATTHEHECKAREINTHESE Bars

Ingredients:

- 1 cup melted butter
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 1/4 cups rolled oats (not instant oatmeal)
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon salt

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease a 9" x 13" pan.

In a medium mixing bowl, stir together melted butter, sugar, soda, oatmeal, flour and salt until crumbly. Set aside about 1 cup or a little more.

Press the rest of the crust into prepared pan. Bake crust for 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, stir together the peanut butter and sweetened condensed milk.

Once crust has baked, evenly pour and spread peanut butter filling over the baked crust. Be gentle so you don't pull up the warm crust while you spread the filling.

Evenly sprinkle the reserved crumbs on top of the peanut butter and sweetened condensed milk mixture. Bake at 350° for about 15 minutes.

Remove from oven and sprinkle the chopped candy bars and chocolate chips evenly over the top.

Return to oven to bake for another 5-10 minutes or until topping is light golden brown and candy bars/chips are melting.

Allow to cool slowly but completely to make cutting and serving easier.

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Whattheheck:WHATTHEHECKAREINTHESE Bars

Katie Lane/Skidmore News



## **Four Loko energy drink drives doctors, campuses crazy**

By Adam Cohen, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

A recent New York Times article has confirmed what many of us already suspected: the alcoholic energy drink Four Loko is terrible for you.

That appetizing, iced tea look alike in a can is actually being described as liquid cocaine by some. While that may sound like overkill, doctors do say that it is a dangerous drink that often leads to blackouts and sickness.

Four Loko is produced by Phusion Products LLC. of Chicago, Illinois. It comes in nine flavors, is sold in 47 states and has gained popularity quickly with college and high school students over the past year.

In fact, this month 32 college students were hospitalized due to consumption of alcohol, and at least nine of these incidents involved Four Loko. At least one college has banned Four Loko on-campus after numerous hospitalizations.

Four Loko comes in 23.5 ounce cans full of malt liquor and fabricated energy. The "four" in its name comes from its four main ingredients: caffeine, taurine, guarana and alcohol. Sounds tasty.

But seriously, this drink sounds toxic. And coincidentally this beverage can also be a cause of toxic drinking, which means consuming so much alcohol that the drinker passes out. While this seems unlikely, as the drink contains only 12 percent alcohol, it is the other ingredients that are the silent problem.

The caffeine in Four Loko --which amounts to about as much as a cup of coffee--is a stimulant which counters the effects of alcohol as a depressant. This means that the normal depressant effects of alcohol, which often make the drinker tired and less interested in continuing to drink, are counteracted by the caffeine stimulant, which keeps the drinker awake and prone to drinking more without feeling the effects. As a result, it is easier to overdose and become a victim of toxic drinking.

Students on any college campus tend to be concerned with saving money, and the \$3-4 price tag on a can of Four Loko can be very appealing.

Between The Hunt last weekend and the upcoming Moorebid Ball this weekend, there has been and will certainly be a good amount of students enjoying alcoholic beverages, and Four Lokos will likely make an appearance.

A ban of the drink on-campus may be overkill but I would like to offer a warning against Four Loko.

In fact, I do not recommended drinking Four Loko, consuming large amounts, drinking quickly or mixing any other caffeinated beverages with alcohol.

Four Loko is dangerous, but so is any irresponsible consumption of alcohol. Do embarrassing photo booth pictures from last year's Moorebid ring a bell? How about hook-ups with misidentified, costumed persons? Right.

Stay classy Skidmore, and have a safe and fun weekend.

*Adam Cohen is a junior Peer Health Educator who knows more about your body than you do.*

## **MLBPA executive lectures on business of sports**

By Lauren Sager, Newsroom Manager

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

On Oct. 25 Skidmore graduate Rick Shapiro '77 came to the college to speak to students, faculty and community members about his career in the Major League Baseball Players Association (MLBPA). At 4 p.m., he led a discussion on sports business, career entry and paths and labor-management relations in Emerson Auditorium.

At 7 p.m. in Gannet Auditorium, Shapiro held a lecture titled, "Power and Influence in the Context of Business and Sports." The management and business department, the athletic department and career services sponsored Shapiro's visit.

In the first part of the lecture, Shapiro briefly explained the purpose of the MLBPA, as a "labor union under federal labor laws." According to Shapiro, it is not only the most powerful union in sports, but also the most powerful union in the U.S.

The union was founded in 1965 when the average salary of a professional baseball player was about \$6,000. While star players don't necessarily need representation, there are many players who do, especially those who make minimum salaries on split contracts between the major and minor leagues.

The remainder of the lecture was dedicated to questions from the audience. During the question period, Shapiro spoke about his experience of watching sports now that he is in the industry.

He said, "Watching baseball was simple growing up. I rooted for the Mets, and it didn't matter who was on the Mets. I rooted for the uniform. Now I watch baseball differently because I know many of the players and cannot help but root for them. Watching a game can easily turn into a work situation."

Then he explained why he believes that approximately 800 professional baseball players should make more than their average \$3 million per year: baseball players can be traded at any time and move to a new city within 48 hours, it takes them longer to achieve free agency than it does for a professional athlete in any other sport and they can be sent down to the Minor league at any point in the season.

Shapiro also spent a portion of the lecture reminiscing his time at Skidmore. When he began his career at Skidmore in 1973, he was one of the few male students and asked the administration to put up a rim and backboard for him and his friends.

He lived on the seventh floor of Jonsson Tower and was a government major. At the time, he had no intentions of entering the sports industry and only took one business class in his time at Skidmore.

Shapiro has been with MLBPA for close to a year, where he holds the senior executive position. Before joining the association, he represented professional baseball and hockey players as a long-time arbitration consultant. Shapiro holds a degree from Brooklyn Law School and has served as an attorney for many players and player agents in hockey, baseball and other sports.



## Sports wrap

### Field hockey wins 3 consecutive games

By Audrey Nelson, Sports Editor

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

Advancing to No. 1 in Liberty League standings, the field hockey team won all three of its games this week, against St. Lawrence, Hamilton and Hartwick College.

The No. 7 Thoroughbreds won their 2nd straight Liberty League regular-season game against Hamilton College on Oct. 24. Skidmore dominated the first half with a 17-1 shot advantage, but the Continentals made a come back, taking 17 shots in the final 35 minutes.

Junior Annie Rosencrans made her 14th goal of the season in the 6th minute, starting off the Thoroughbreds early with a 1-0 lead. Sophomore Ceilidh MacNeill scored her 4th goal of the season on a close range shot at the 20:41 mark, putting the team at a 2-0 halftime advantage.

The Continentals' Nikki Haskins put the score at 2-1 with 22:38 remaining, but didn't keep up the momentum, resulting in Hamilton's first loss since Sept. 14.

The team's 7-0 win against Hartwick College on Oct. 27 set the Thoroughbreds at 15-1 for the season, while the Hawks fell to 4-12. Senior Christine Kemp scored four goals and had one assist adding to her now 178 career points, only three points away from holding a new record. The team has won 14 straight games, tying a program record from 1999.

Kemp landed the first goal of the game in the 9th minute, followed by a goal at the 15:25 mark from Katie Potter '11, with assist from senior Claire Superak.

The Thoroughbreds finished the half at 3-0 with a second goal from Kemp. 22 seconds into the second half, Brittany O'Brien '11 deflected a pass past the Hawk's goalie, her fifth goal of the season. After the team's 5th and 6th goals from Kemp, junior Lauren Tobias landed the team's last goal at the 61:01 mark, making the final score 7-0. The women will host Wheaton College at 1 p.m. Oct. 30, to wrap up their regular season.

### Men's soccer at CROP Walk

On Oct. 17, members of the men's soccer team volunteered at the 31st annual CROP Walk in downtown Saratoga Springs. Coordinated by the Church World Service, CROP Walks serve to raise awareness about



world hunger and poverty. With over 16,000 walks across the nation annually, the total amount of money raised exceeds \$15 million.

The walk in Saratoga Springs began in Congress Park and extended up Broadway and along several side streets until finishing again in the park. The team volunteered as crossing guards, halting traffic when necessary and ensuring the safety of the walkers throughout.

The men's team would like to thank those who participated in and organized the event and look forward to volunteering in the coming years.

### **Women's soccer**

After a scoreless first half, the women's soccer team scored three goals in the second half of its game against Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute on Oct. 24, finishing the game with a 3-0 win. The Thoroughbreds improve to 10-4-2 while the Engineers fall to 4-9-2.

Junior Gabi Palacio landed the first goal in the 48th minute, and knocked in the second goal at the 60:55 mark after a deflection off the Engineers' goalkeeper. The shutout was achieved after sophomore Ali Evans' goal in the 84th minute, ending the game at 3-0. The Thoroughbreds will host Nazareth College at noon on Oct. 30.

### **Liberty League honors**

The Liberty League honored five Skidmore College student-athletes this week for their performance in the past week.

After earning its second consecutive Liberty League regular season title, the field hockey team received three honors.

Junior Annie Rosencrans picked up co-offensive performer of the week, senior Liz Catinella was named defensive performer of the week, and first year teammate Kelly Blackhurst earned co-rookie of the week honors.

Both senior Meredith Palmer and Corinne Palmer '14 of the volleyball team earned weekly honors for the third straight week in a row. Meredith was named performer of the week for the 4th week in a row, while her sister Corinne picked up co-rookie of the week for the 5th time of the season.

The volleyball team will host the Skidmore Invitational on Oct. 29 and 30 at the Williamson Sports Center.

## Balancing music and text

Albany Symphony Orchestra plays Zankel

By Samantha Hoffmann, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

On Oct. 22 the Albany Symphony Orchestra and actors from the Capital Repertory Theatre treated the college's Arthur Zankel Music Hall to a wonderfully animated performance.

The main event of the night was the playing of Felix Mendelssohn's incidental music to Shakespeare's play, "A Midsummer Night's Dream." An additional treat to open the concert was the world premiere of three melodramas, also based on scenes from "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

The orchestra's performance of all four works left very little to be desired. The precision and emotion shown by each individual player culminated in an enveloping quality felt throughout the entire hall. Pairing the music with the talented acting of the Capital Repertory Theatre players and the humorous use of explanatory charts and sarcastic commentary made the whole performance entertaining and enjoyable.

Being treated to three new compositions allowed the audience to feel like Goldilocks, sampling melodramas rather than porridge. The first composition put too much emphasis on the music, the last put too little emphasis on the music and the middle composition balanced the music and text "just right."

Melodramas are comprised of music and spoken text, which is an unusual element for composers to work with. Each approach showed a different way of balancing music and text.

Lukas Olejnik's "That Fire Which Burned the Carthage Queen" put great emphasis on the musical passages, which made the intervals between each line of spoken text almost too long. Consequently, it was difficult to follow the storyline since by the time one line was said one had easily forgotten the previous one.

Shen Yiwen's composition, "How Happy Some O'er Other Some Can Be!" showed a more symbiotic relationship between music and text. The equal balance allowed the listener to appreciate both elements as well as notice how they worked in conjunction. Shen put ironic twists on excerpts from Mendelssohn's incidental music to emphasize the text's themes.



Right after the actress playing Helena spoke of her foiled marriage plans with Demetrius, the orchestra played a distorted version of the famed Wedding March, taking the jubilant first few chords and twisting them into hectic unhappiness.

Benjamin Pesetsky's "Pyramus and Thisbe: Burlesque for Orchestra" took full advantage of the comical, disastrous elements of the play within a play. In this melodrama, there was more emphasis on the actors and the text, while the music took a back seat. Even though the acting was entertaining and the audience clearly enjoyed the use of gimmicks, such as hats and cross-dressing, it seemed as though something was lost by the music having such a small role.

Playing a work as famous as Mendelssohn's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" can be very nerve-wracking since most people attending such a performance have their own idea of how the piece should sound before they enter the hall. If the Albany Symphony Orchestra members were nervous however, they never showed it.

The precision and accuracy with which the incredibly fast passages were played, the flawless intonation of the exposed opening chords and everything in between showed only confidence and extreme preparation on the part of each orchestral member. This performance of Mendelssohn's famed piece showed why it is still held in such high regard over 160 years after it was written.

For all of their impressive professional playing, the ensemble's evident sense of humor was a clincher when it came to gaining the audience's high praises. Its format of interspersing scene excerpts and filling in narrative gaps with explanations and commentary was innovative.

The Albany Symphony Orchestra succeeded in keeping the audience interested in both Shakespeare's playful story and Mendelssohn's captivating music so much so that the performers received a standing ovation and spattering of "Bravo!"s at the end of the two and a half hour concert.

Arts & Entertainment:Music #1.1736685:1157770704.jpg

ASO:The Albany Symphony Orchestra played Mendelssohn's incidental music to "A Midsummer Night's Dream" on Oct. 22.

Photo courtesy of Jim Sector



## Soundgarden goes underappreciated

By Eric Shapiro, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

Soundgarden is more than a footnote in rock history and the handful of widely known Soundgarden songs hardly constitute an accurate representation of the band's sound.

These days, Soundgarden is best known for the hit singles off its 1994 release "Superunknown." "Blackhole Sun," perhaps the band's most famous song, was brought to the attention of post-Generation Xers by Rock Band. "Fell on Black Days," "Outshined" and "Jesus Christ Pose" have also achieved varying degrees of popularity and remain mainstays of rock radio. Front man Chris Cornell went on to form Audioslave with Rage Against the Machine guitarist Tom Morello and even co-wrote the theme song to the 2006 James Bond film "Casino Royale."

However, next to Nirvana and Pearl Jam, Soundgarden is considerably less well known. Ironic, considering it was supposed to be the band that catapulted grunge into the mainstream.

Greatest hits album "Telpehantasm" provides some much-needed context. The first two tracks "Hunted Down" and "Hands All Over," taken from debut EP "Screaming Life" and LP "Louder Than Love" respectively, showcase Soundgarden's earlier sound, essentially a heavier, dirtier, Melvinized version of the cock rock that saturated the radio decades before.

On the former track in particular, Cornell is a dead ringer for Robert Plant. Soundgarden and its peers in the Pacific Northwest underground music scene shunned the sexism and over-the-top excesses of classic rock.

However, if you strip away the fuzz from the band's guitars, the band isn't all that different from a musical standpoint, especially early on. "Outshined" and "Rusty Cage," both from "Badmotorfinger," constitute a major leap forward, incorporating a wider range of influences from funk to psychedelia and concentrating more on hooks. Johnny Cash even brought out the unlikely country song buried in "Rusty Cage."

Then there are the requisite tracks off Soundgarden's most commercially successful (and perhaps best) LP, "Superunknown." Lesser-known tracks "My Wave" and "Spoonman" hold up just as well as the aforementioned ballads "Black Hole Sun" and "Fell on Black Days." Hell, the same can be said for nearly every song on "Superunknown."

Still, it is the latter two classics that elevate Soundgarden beyond the reductive label of grunge and into the ranks of truly exceptional rock musicians.

With the exception of Nirvana, none of the bands that comprised the early 90s alternative rock "movement" tackled depression and hopelessness better. That's more than a minor accomplishment in a mainstream rock environment that until recently, even at its most starkly emotional, proved reluctant to delve into the darker side of human nature.

In the shadow of its masterpiece, follow-up LP "Down on the Upside" is easy to dismiss as a lackluster swan song. Nevertheless, songs like "Burden in my Hand," "Pretty Noose" and "Ty Cobb" are hardly indicative of complacency. The deft combination of acoustic and electric guitars weathered by a rougher production than on "Superunknown," achieve a distinctive and memorable character.

Soundgarden will probably always be the least known of the big four grunge bands despite its greater role in pioneering the grunge sound and opening the door for its underground contemporaries to cross over into the mainstream. "Telephantasm" serves as a worthy summation of the band's legacy and a reminder that the sub-genre didn't start and end with Pearl Jam and Nirvana.

*Eric is a junior who loves rock music in all forms. You may see him around campus in a band T-shirt listening to his iPod and looking unapproachable, but rest assured he is quite friendly and will usually only attack when provoked.*



## Threading 200 years of local history

By Audrey Nelson, Sports Editor

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

Unlike any other form of art, fashion recreates its consumer into a work of art as well. The Saratoga Springs History Museum's exhibit, "200 Years of Fashion in Saratoga Springs" presents this idea elegantly.

Upon entering the second floor of the once high stakes casino, one finds three mannequins, ranging from the 1790s to the 1990s, standing stagnant and elevated against a wall, introducing an ordinary museum experience where viewers admire from a distance.

But the next room immerses the viewer in the scene of a fine boutique where mannequins mingle with museumgoers. Each couture outfit belonged to a prominent woman of Saratoga Springs society, as the town has remained a social base of the rich and famous for over two centuries, allowing viewers to imagine how these women might have lived.

A 5-foot-3 inch mannequin, dressed in a purple two-piece wool day dress c.1889, admires a display of jewelry and hairpieces including ribbons made from the hair of President Ulysses Grant's family. To wear such pieces "were a way of remembering past loved ones," explains an inscription. A shelf above the boutique-like jewelry display plays host to three hats from the late nineteenth century, sitting atop mannequin heads.

Further on, in a jazz-filled room, a grandiose wardrobe displays a vintage bustier and folded blouses. A circular rack holds clothes on hangers, tempting viewers to browse through them, though a sign reads, "Please do not touch the artifacts." Cramped between these latter displays, a mannequin wears Lucy Scribner's 1904 beige, embroidered wool coat.

The chronologically haphazard display prompts viewers to compare women's evolving role from the Victorian era to the roaring twenties and to times as recent as 2008.

Unfortunately, to fully understand the museum's intent, one must buy the exhibit guide, which explains that the "job" of the Victorian woman in Saratoga Springs was to, "elevate the family's social status by making connections throughout the course of the day." Pages later, the guide explains that during the 1920s Saratoga Springs, "was leaving Victorian influence behind and new, liberating styles of clothing were being worn by women."

Though lacking in historical background, the detail in displaying this exhibit is exquisite. The artifacts, furniture, hanging art and mannequins are almost as delicate and exciting as the fashion itself.

Before a three-paneled mirror, a graceful Victorian figure admires her red, embellished, brocade and velvet day dress, her umbrella placed neatly in a vase to her right. Miss Katherine Batcheller lies on a feminine couch next to a tabletop flapper, epitomizing the *mélange* of decades throughout the exhibit. The scene is enhanced by period furniture and paintings in accord with each of the outfits.

In one of curator Michael Levinson's vignettes, multiple mannequins represent the private dressing room of Katrina Trask, poet and wife of Spencer Trask, who together founded the artist retreat Yaddo. Her often kimono inspired robes -- beaded, braided, embroidered and laced--dating between 1910 and 1915, wait as the mannequins glance around the room, deciding which outfits to wear today.

In the hallway, less than a dozen mannequins line the walls. An Issey Miyake pleated orange tunic, paired with Emilio Pucci psychedelic leggings greets you with fashions worn by Mollie Wilmot, Palm Beach socialite and philanthropist who vacationed in Saratoga Springs during the horse racing season. Across the hall is Michele Riggi who wore a glamorous red Cymbeline Paris designer gown for the Saratoga Performing Art Center's 2008 Summer Gala, "West Side Story."

A Balenciaga cocktail dress stands next to a Jacques Fath wool suit, which contrasts two Dior dresses missing the designer's famous "New Look" of padded hips, narrow shoulders and calf length skirt.

Finally, up one last flight of stairs rests a divine, 1896 olive green gown, belonging to Miss Katherine Batcheller. Embroidered with pearls and sewn with thread made of gold, the gown was worth just \$5000 at its purchase. The mannequin wears a black and white spotted fur shawl while lying peacefully on a settee, a stained glass window behind her, and period artifacts surrounding her.

Museumgoers enter an elite social gathering, and become part of an impossible bevy of style, status and history. Rather than merely admire, one integrates seamlessly into a fraudulent, mum scene as though walking by Monet's gracious women in "Femmes au Jardin."

Though exhilarating to live among couture and to let the imagination dictate the actions of the mannequins, eeriness coats the exhibit. Maybe artifacts such as the Grant family's hair ribbons, or the century old children's shoe or even the strips of white paper that emulate the mannequins' hair overshadow the outfits. Perhaps this realistic immersion into the 19th century is unsettling.

Yet the presentation of this exhibit is like no other. One could find more expensive, rare or fabulous outfits at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, but could not as easily immerse oneself in the times of the outfits' debuts. To be in the town where these fashions were worn, and to know of the women who

wore them creates a closer and more striking bond to the clothes. Artifacts always have the potential to shock an audience. The Saratoga Springs History Museum amplifies this potential by placing the audience in a fictional social gathering while keeping them at arm's length.

The exhibit will be open until March 1, 2011.

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Fashion: The mannequins in this exhibit display the clothing of high society Saratoga women from the past 200 years.

Photo courtesy of James Parillo



## Head of the Fish a part of Saratoga's history

By Gabe Weintraub, Editor-in-Chief

On Fri, Oct 29, 2010

Racing has a long history in Saratoga Springs. Most only associate the town with horseracing, but the city's past is also deeply linked to the history of competitive rowing in the U.S.

This weekend, Saratoga Rowing Association plays host to the Head of the Fish Regatta, the second largest regatta in the country, by volume of boats entered. The 2.3-mile course along Fish Creek will be flooded with almost 1,600 individual entries representing 167 clubs, hailing from 12 states and three countries.

The regatta was first held in 1986, making it relatively young compared to other major regattas in the country --the Aberdeen Dad Vail Regatta has been contested in Philadelphia since 1953. Nonetheless, rowing runs deep in Saratoga Spring's history, and is even intertwined with the city's more famous pastime: horseracing.

Rowing is one of the oldest organized intercollegiate sports and Saratoga Lake has been the site for top regattas since the late 19th century. In July 1874, the Rowing Association of American Colleges hosted the University Race for the Championship at Saratoga. The three-mile, nine boat race was the first intercollegiate athletic championship of any sport in the U.S.

All of the major Ivies had boathouses in Saratoga, said Chris Chase, the founder of Saratoga Rowing Association and regatta director for the Head of the Fish.

At the time there was also some connection with the horseracing community, with the track underwriting crew activities, according to Chase. Horseracing brought with it a culture of gambling, however, and the Ivies eventually chose to leave for reasons of integrity.

According to Chase, the sport had lost its following in Saratoga by the late 1960s. The Saratoga rowing community lay relatively dormant until 1986 when a group of oarsmen, led by local architect Tom Frost, held the first Head of the Fish Regatta as a fundraiser to help buy a racing shell for their new club.

One of the underlying factors was that they took a lot of tension out of the regatta, Chase said. "The original rule was if you protested [a judge's ruling] then you got kicked out. They didn't want uptight people there. They just wanted to row and race and have some fun."

That first iteration of the regatta drew only about 30 boats and a few hundred people, according to Chase. When he took over the race from Frost in 1999, there were around 650 entrants. This year he expects close to 1,600 entrants and nearly 9,000 attendees.

The nature of the race has changed slightly to accommodate its popularity. "We're way too big today to not have rules followed," Chase said. "We do take the competition more seriously since some of the best teams from the east coast and Canada are here, so we're more strict than we used to be."

Early years were more of a Woodstock affair, Chase said. "People would come and row and have a few beers. There are people who have come here every year since '86. The race has come a long way and in some ways the carnival affair is gone. We're parking 85 trailers and hosting eight-to-nine thousand people. Keeping everyone safe is a big deal."

The regatta still retains some of the quirk and novelty from its early years, however. "We have the most unique trophies of any race," Chase said, "They're all actual fish heads." Every year Frost gathers fish heads from around the waterway, embalms them and mounts them on plaques. Frost also decorates the trophies. "He makes them really unique to each event," Chase said. A trophy for a boat of older, master rowers might feature a pair of bifocals, for instance. "He [Frost] is still doing it," Chase said. "It's incredible what he does. They're works of art. People come here just to win a fish head. That's easier said than done. Some of these events have 50 boats." Frost, it is worth noting, is not a fisherman and collects the fish as donations.

Part of the draw comes from the course itself. Fish Creek is rarely disruptively choppy. Saratoga Rowing Association hosts four regattas for junior level crews every year; more than 60 major events since Chase took over as direction. "In that time, I think I've lost two, maybe three days of racing due to weather," he said.

That consistency is enticing to teams looking to fill their fall schedules. "You only get a certain number of weekends in which to race during the fall," Chase said. September is too early because teams need the time to train and get back on the water. That leaves October before winter when weather starts to play a factor. "You narrow it down to like four good racing weekends," Chase said. With big-name events like the Head of the Charles in Cambridge, Mass. holding long-standing claims to specific weekends already, the options get even slimmer. "That's how you choose how to end your season," said Chase, "that's a big deal."

For many of the novice rowers in attendance, the Head of the Fish will be the first and only chance to compete this fall. "Rowing takes a long time to learn," Chase said. "A lot of teams promise their freshmen that this will be their first and only race. Getting here and getting on the water is a big deal."

It's not like baseball or basketball where you play a lot of games." Chase also said that the Head of the Fish is particularly appealing because of its distance. "It's long enough to make it respectable," he said, "but short enough to make it possible to do multiple races."

That will be the case for Skidmore novice crews, who will get to make their racing debuts on their familiar home river. In fact, the course for the Head of the Fish begins at Stafford Bridge--directly in front the Skidmore Boathouse. The course runs to the mouth of Saratoga Lake, with the finish line near the former location of the Route 9P Bridge. The bridge, which has historically been a landmark for coxswains to steer by, was closed and dismantled in September. It will be replaced during the winter.

Although Skidmore will be competing, fall season head races are lower priority than spring sprints, and Head Coach Jim Tucci says he prefers to treat the races as glorified training sessions, adding a competitive change of pace to what would otherwise be a monotonous fall season.

The Head of the Fish also serves as a de facto reunion for Skidmore rowing alumni. The open and masters categories afford graduates the opportunity to row together again.

This year the two-day event will see collegiate, open and masters boats race on Saturday, and then juniors and high school boats on Sunday. Saratoga Springs High School has an extremely well respected program. According to Chase, the area has one of the highest concentrations of junior rowers in the country, with more than 1,000 participants between Saratoga Springs and Albany. Additionally, he anticipates that after this fall, SRA will have trained more than 100 rowers who have received scholarships at Division I colleges.

Local masters programs, for post-collegiate rowers, are also a highly regarded. This August, masters boats from SRA, Skidmore Community Rowing and the relatively new Queensbury Rowing Center earned more than 15 medals at the 2010 USRowing Masters National Championships on the Cooper River in Camden, New Jersey.

It's pretty amazing that two of the best adult teams in the country are here, separated by just a two-mile stretch of water, Chase said.