

## Sports Wrap

### Tailgait 2010 edition

By Audrey Nelson, Sports Editor

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

On Oct. 30, Skidmore hosted the 2010 Tailgate event to promote Skidmore athletics. Specifically, the tailgate promoted home games from men's and women's crew, volleyball, women's soccer, field hockey and men's soccer.

Additionally, residence halls competed for a \$250 prize for a dorm activity or purchase, determined by the attendance percentage of each dorm. McClellan Hall won in 2008, followed by Kimball Hall in 2009. Kimball took the prize again this year in the tailgate's closest competition yet.

### Women's volleyball

The Thoroughbreds finished 2-2 at the Skidmore College Volleyball Invitational on Tailgate Saturday. On Oct. 29, the team won 3-1 against SUNY Plattsburgh, and 3-1 against Ithaca College but the following day the girls lost 1-3 to SUNY Cortland and 0-3 to SUNY New Paltz.

Senior Meredith Palmer was named to the All-Tournament team on behalf of the Thoroughbreds and will play with student-athletes from New Paltz, Cortland, Ithaca and Union.

Both Mallory Mendelsohn '13 and Carolyn Bottelier '13 recorded double-doubles on Friday, with Mendelsohn making 44 assists and 10 digs in the Plattsburgh game, and in the Ithaca game with Bottelier performing 13 kills and 11 digs.

In the Plattsburgh match, Bottelier had 18 kills, sophomore Samantha Friedman had 25 digs and freshman Corinne Palmer made eight blocks. Friedman also had 27 digs in the Ithaca game, while Mendelsohn had 48 assists and Meredith Palmer had four blocks, 17 kills and a .459 hitting percentage.

The team will travel to St. Lawrence for the Liberty League Tournament on Nov. 5.

### Women's soccer

Skidmore's women's soccer team finished out its regular season with an overtime tie against Nazareth College on Tailgate Saturday at Wachenheim Field. 18 minutes into the first half, Skidmore goalie Meghan Sleezer '12 made her first of six saves in the game, when Nazareth's Meagan Rivera '11 made the first shot on goal.

The Thoroughbreds missed an opportunity to win in the second half when the Golden Flyers' goalie Hillary Simon '11 saved a penalty kick in the 77th minute. In the first overtime period, Skidmore landed what looked like the winning goal until a late offside call negated the early victory.

The Thoroughbreds had 15-6 shot and 5-0 corner advantages, but the game lied in the hands of the goalies. Sleezer's six saves earned her Skidmore's fourth shutout of the season, while Simon made her eighth shutout for Nazareth with five saves.

In the Liberty League semifinals on Nov. 3, Skidmore lost 2-1 to 10th-ranked William Smith College at Cozzens Field. In the first half, the Herons had a 10-0 shot advantage, and William Smith senior BreLynn Nasypany scored the game's first goal in the 12th minute. The Herons finished the first half with a second goal at the 36th minute.

Skidmore made a come back in the second half, putting the score up to 2-1 at the 67th minute with a goal from first-year Christine Bellotti. Kelsey Yam '13 sent a crossing pass assist to Bellotti who shot into the back of the net, scoring her sixth goal of the season.

The Thoroughbreds held the shot advantage in the second half of 8-4, but could not overcome the Heron's first half play.

### **Men's soccer**

The men's team ended their season on Oct. 30 with a loss to Union College of 2-1. The Dutchmen came from behind to take the win and will move onto play Rensselaer in the semifinals.

The Thoroughbreds ended the season at 7-8-4 overall and 1-4-2 in Liberty League play. Tim Lueders-Dumont '12 scored his first goal of the season with a pass from Matt Kelsey '11, heading it into the net at the 39th minute.

At the 66:57 mark Union tied the score with another header from sophomore Sebastian Jansen. Dutchmen player, Marc Zeyak '12 made the game-winning goal at the 79:21 mark, his sixth of the season. Union held the shot advantage throughout the game, finishing with a 15-9 edge.

#1.1749701:3284527029.JPG Men's soccer

Marcus Goldbas '13 in Skidmore's Oct. 30 game against Union.

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News



## **Men's and women's crew at Head of the Fish Regatta**

By Katie Heiss, Contributing Photographer

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

Photos from the Head of the Fish Regatta, Saturday Oct. 30, in Saratoga Springs.

#1.1749705:3594356159.jpg Head of the Fish

Rachael Bowen-Durante (coxwain) '14, Geneva Kraus '11, Korena Burgio '11, Danielle Vande Voorde '11, Rachel Hutchins '13, Libby Gronquist '11, Jennifer Zacharia '12, and Erin Cauley '13 participated in the women's varsity eights. The Thoroughbreds came in second overall with a time of 13:02.05.

Katie Heiss/Skidmore News





## Field hockey drops Union in Liberty League semifinal

By Audrey Nelson, Sports Editor

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

Undefeated in Liberty League play and ranked No. 7 in the country, Skidmore's field hockey team has earned its spot in the Liberty League championship against the winner of the Hamilton vs. William Smith match on Nov. 3.

This week, the team shut-out both Wheaton and Union to advance to the Liberty League championship for the fourth consecutive year.

On Oct. 30, the Thoroughbreds set a new program record with their 15th consecutive win of the season, beating Wheaton College 7-0 on Clark Field.

Senior Christine Kemp became Skidmore's all-time leading scorer with a nine-point performance. Kemp scored the first goal of the game and made an assist to senior Brittany O'Brien's goal at the 10:52 mark, giving her 181 career points, surpassing Taryn Howard's record-holding career total of 180. Kemp finished the game with 187 total career points.

O'Brien blasted the game's second goal on a penalty corner, scoring her sixth goal of the season. The Thoroughbreds finished the first half with a 2-0 advantage.

Quick into the second half, Kelly Blackhurst '14 made her 18th goal of the season at the 36:39 mark. Less than two minutes later, Kemp deflected junior Annie Rosencrans' pass past the Lion's goalie, tallying the score up to 4-0.

Senior Lauren McCarthy made her fourth goal of the season at the 40:33 mark, while Kemp took the final goals of the game, capping the score off at 7-0 shut-out.

On Nov. 3, the Thoroughbreds beat Union College 3-0, for the third straight year, in the Liberty League semifinals at Thoroughbred Field.

Rosencrans made the first goal early in the game at the 5:40 mark. Blackhurst upped the score to 2-0, her 19th goal of the season, when Kemp sent a pass across the circle at the 17:34 mark.

In the second half, the team capped off the score at 3-0 with Rosencrans' second goal at the 45:11 mark.

The Thoroughbreds held a shot advantage throughout the game of 22-11, and held a 17-8 advantage in penalty corners.

Keeper Liz Catinella '11 made seven saves for her third shutout of the season, and Skidmore's ninth.

Skidmore will host the winner of the Hamilton vs. William Smith match at 1 p.m. on Nov. 6 for the Liberty League championship game.

#1.1749713:3451316171.jpg Field hockey

Lauren McCarthy '10 in the Liberty League semifinal game against Union.

Chris Weigl/Skidmore News



## Moorebid Ball

### What really happened?

By Andrew Cantor, Managing Editor

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

At 1:15 a.m., on Halloween morning, Campus Safety ended Moorebid Ball 45 minutes early, and Saratoga Hospital was treating 11 students for symptoms of alcohol poisoning. The incident has drawn attention in national media outlets such as AOL News and Fox News, and local newspapers including the Saratogian, Glens Falls Post-Star and the Albany Times-Union.

This was the one of worst events we've ever had in terms of safety, said Larry Britt, Associate Director of Campus Safety, who attended the event. During the 2008 and 2009 Moorebid Ball, four students were treated for alcohol poisoning, less than half of the students hospitalized in 2010 for the same event.

Campus Safety called ambulances for intoxicated students at Moorebid Ball in Case Center and in residence halls. At least four ambulances and two fire trucks with paramedics were called on Saturday night.

The students who were transported to the hospital were the only issues [Campus Safety] dealt with, Britt said. "I'd imagine there were countless others who were still unhealthily intoxicated."

Britt described Case Center as "hot and crowded" during the three-hour-long event, and said he witnessed students passed out on couches and vomit in corridors.

Saratoga Springs Police Department Lt. Gregory Veitch, speaking on behalf of the public services used to treat intoxicated students on Saturday night, said "the situation [Moorebid] diverted police resources from downtown. But it wasn't a riot there so it wasn't like other calls weren't being answered."

In this particular instance it doesn't look like we'll charge anyone criminally, Veitch said. "We spoke with administrators and it seems like they'll take care of any disciplinary actions. We support whatever decision they have."

Those students who were transported from campus in response to intoxication will have meetings with college administrators to determine the appropriate response to each situation, said Rochelle Calhoun, dean of Student Affairs. "Our responses will be guided by our Alcohol and Other Drugs policy and informed by the particular circumstances of each case."



Britt said rumors were circulating among the administration that some students were getting sick after drinking the caffeinated high-alcohol malt beverage Four Loko, and Campus Safety officers found empty Four Loko cans in the residence halls. Four Loko received national press in October after nine students at Central Washington University were hospitalized after drinking the beverage.

Near the campus, only the Getty convenience store on the corner of Clinton and Church St., and the Stewart's Shop by Route 50 and Route 9 sell Four Loko. Price Chopper and Stewart's Shop in downtown Saratoga Springs, along with Eddy's Beverage Inc. on Excelsior Ave. do not carry Four Loko, but sell similar, caffeinated high-alcohol malt drinks, such as Joose.

Four Loko sells much more than beer now, said Narinder Chopra, an employee at the Getty store.

While the 12 percent alcohol Four Loko is popular and more alcoholic than 4 to 5 percent alcohol beer, much higher percentage hard alcohol was involved, according to Campus Safety. Administrators and students believed that not one particular drink, rather the college drinking culture, is to blame for the widespread intoxication on Saturday night.

I could say, 'Hey, it was Four Loko,' but it's more like pick your poison, said Daniel Goodman '12, also known as DJ Ramses, who DJ'd Moorebid Ball. "Clearly it wasn't one drink...People get drunk because that's Moorebid"

The failure of Saturday night was largely attributable to individual irresponsibility, Calhoun said. "We are reviewing logistical issues to address how we might better ensure a safe environment."

Of course we have our code of conduct and of course we have our penalties and all of that going forward, but how do we change the culture? said Vice-President for Academic Affairs Susan Kress, who is serving as acting-president with President Philip Glotzbach on sabbatical as of Nov. 1.

How do we say to people, 'Take care of your body, take care of your mind, be alive and awake and alert to what's happening. Don't you want to know what's going on? This is your life that's passing before you,' she said.

The student culture seems to tolerate and even celebrate horribly excessive consumption of alcohol and the wide variety of negative consequences that go along with that, said Jen Burden, Director of Health Promotions.

From 2 to 6 p.m., Friday, Nov. 12, Burden is holding a "Red Watch Band" training, which will teach students CPR and how to handle alcohol emergencies. Students may register for the event on the Health Promotions website.



Moorebid Ball is an alcohol-free event. Drinking occurred before the event, most likely in the residences. Britt, Calhoun and Burden all said 'pregaming,' or the act of drinking before an event, was a main reason for the high number of intoxicated students.

Ali Drucker '11, SGA vice president for Residential Affairs, was in charge of organizing Moorebid Ball with the Inner-Hall Board, which consists of residence hall presidents and vice presidents. She said that more resident and unit assistants in the residence halls are needed in future years to prevent drinking before the Moorebid Ball.

Moorebid Ball will not be cancelled in 2011, rather administrators will work on ways to improve safety around the event.

Drucker spent the past six weeks and around 24 hours of her own time organizing the event with the IHB, and was regretful the event ended early because of the unsafe environment.

I'm upset with how it ended, Drucker said. "1,000 people showed up and about 1 percent ended up in the hospital...Their decisions impacted everyone else."

I'm proud of the work that the IHB did, she said. "We're going to work hard at ensuring a safer Junior Ring."

Goodman said that while his DJ set was successful, he saved his best material for the final hour between 1 and 2 a.m. Drucker, under the direction of Britt, told Goodman to stop playing at 1 a.m.

I started off playing the music everyone wanted to hear, like the top 40's, Goodman said. "I saved my favorite, the more 'dancy' house stuff' for the end...I put a lot of work into it and they never got to hear it."

*Additional reporting by Katie Vallas and Gabe Weintraub*

#1.1749717:34627747.JPG Moorebid 1

It was estimated that close to 1000 students were present in Case Center at a time.

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News

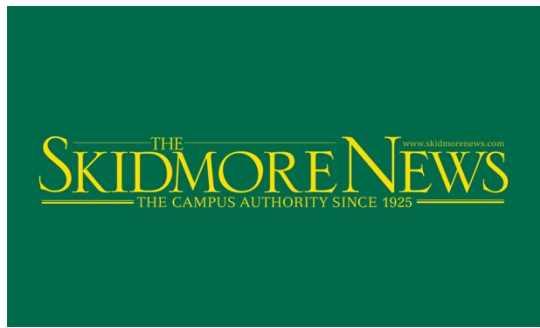
#1.1749718:1845981419.jpg Campo

Director of Campus Safety Dennis Conway (left) and Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun address the issue of campus safety at an open forum.

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore







## Editorial

### Know our limits

By the Editorial Board

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

In the wake of this year's chaotic Moorebid Ball, members of the campus and local community have spent some time trying to assign blame for a situation that spun out of control. The campus and the press condemn causes as varied as a binge drinking culture to an overenrolled freshman class, and as ridiculous as Four Loko or as unfair as the overburdened Campus Safety officers.

But the unalterable and uncomfortable truth is that responsibility should fall to us, the college's student body, for failing to do what our roles as community-members and adults demand.

When we do not regulate ourselves, the college must do it for us. Through the coming weeks, event organizers and staff will evaluate how they police these events. They might come up with new initiatives to address how best to help dangerously inebriated students, and will probably change the procedure for searching bags and controlling student re-entry to events.

The college's resources and the nature of the campus's traditionally rowdy events guarantee these changes will be applied inconsistently and with only limited effectiveness. They encourage students to change locations, but not to change their behavior.

In a more effective move, administrators might embark on strategies intended to prevent, rather than control, dangerous student behavior. By participating in workshops and panels leading up to events associated with a heavy-drinking culture, students can recognize the signs of alcohol poisoning and know the resources available to help.

Implementing a mandatory drinking-related lecture for all entering first-years will encourage more widespread consciousness of how best to respond in situations like that at this fall's Moorebid. After four years, every member of the campus community could have a foundational understanding that can only help prevent a situation from escalating to a critical point.

Students trained in dealing with dangerous alcohol-related situations can alleviate the pressure placed on Campus Safety at these events. Interested Peer Health educators and residential advisors could attend events as paid staff, able to recognize and approach students in circumstances where Campus Safety officers might be ineffective. With uncertain punitive consequences involved in seeking assistance



from Campus Safety, students might more comfortably seek help from trained peers with the specific goal of ensuring students' wellbeing.

These changes might prevent a recurrence of what happened at Moorebid Ball: the frightening number of ambulances called, the many more students who drank to dangerous excess and a general tumult that reached a point beyond what the college's staff could control.

But when students face these new policies and harsher controls, we need to remember that we do not have the right to complain. We lost that right on Oct. 30, when the event was cut short because staff realized that members of the college's student body were not going to be able to exercise the kind of basic self-control that students, as adults, should.

We have a responsibility to ourselves as individuals to see when we cross that line between what is acceptable and what is not. In moments where we see real physical risk, we have a responsibility to the college to help each other like the community we claim to be.

In the coming weeks, as the committees and task forces meet to discuss new policies to curb student drinking at events, we should feel embarrassed that the college needs to enact policies because of our failure to act in a responsible manner.



## When it comes to hook ups, take rumors with a grain of salt

What would C. do?

By C., Columnist

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

There's something so unnerving about hooking up with someone and then having an awkward interaction, or having them just totally ignoring you.

If you forget a name, don't worry about it. Flash a friendly smile to acknowledge the person and move on...if you even remember who they are. If they ignore you, take that as a sign that they probably don't remember, or may think you don't. They also might think they did something stupid or were sloppy.

If you don't care that's great, move on. But if you find yourself stressing in your head send a closed mouth smile. It's friendly enough, but not overwhelming.

If you woke up Sunday morning wanting to scrape the embarrassment off your tongue, just know that life will go on.

*Dear C.,*

*I've been hooking up with a guy for most of the semester, but only on his time. Whenever I want to, he has an excuse for why he can't. He seems like a nice guy, and from what I know from mutual friends, he usually treats girls really well. I want to believe that it's just a coincidence, but it's become a pattern. Should I talk to him about it? How can I bring up my concern without sounding too girlfriend-y?*

*-Always on Time*

Dear Always on Time,

You'd be surprised at how many people are in your position and how many people want to be. It's always nice for a guy to call whenever he's thinking of you, but I totally understand the difficulty of it not being reciprocated.

First ask yourself, "Do I have self-control?" If yes, then next time he contacts you, make an excuse. Play his game. You don't always have to be available and this can be a good litmus test.

If he responds with hostility, stand your ground. Be cool and don't get testy.

Then it's up to you if you would like to contact him a week or two later, or you can really test him and see how long it takes him to make the next move. I know it's easy to trust mutual friends but some guys will act differently when they're trying to charm a girl. Listen to the opinions of mutual friends but take it with a grain of salt.

Most importantly, try and remain as detached as possible. I would refrain from being too up front in this case. Unless you want to treat the situation like a bad hip-hop duet and have public drama about it, just play it cool. Try to show him you have some power too. Don't always be on time-make him sweat.

-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.*

## Reliving childhood with waffles

A sprinkle in time

By Katie Lane, Columnist

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

Are you allowed to get homesick when you are a 21-year-old senior in college? Because these waffles really make me miss my dad.

I would give anything to be seven years old again, watching Tom & Jerry in my PJs on a cold Saturday morning in the fall while my tall, lanky dad, still in his bathrobe and armed with a whisk, cooked up stacks of steaming waffles.

He used the same pancake and waffle mix throughout my entire childhood -- from a local place called New Hope Mills. We always used to argue over syrup: I wanted the sticky sweet fake-o Log Cabin stuff, and he insisted on, you know, high-quality real syrup from upstate New York. Let's just say breakfast was always a big hit at the Lane house sleepovers.

Unfortunately, my dad didn't make me these waffles, although it was a cold October Saturday morning and I did watch cartoons. I made them from scratch, which I had never done before.

Don't let the whipped egg whites scare you away. The easiest way to separate an egg is to gently crack it in half and transfer the yolk back and forth, letting the white part siphon off into a bowl.

Then use an electric hand mixer to whip those egg whites until they become stiff and fluffy. It's totally worth it!

I did use some frozen blueberries that my dad gave me at the end of the summer, which were a pain to clean out of the waffle maker (Oops, I don't think I ever did finish that...sorry housemates).

I have to say though, these were some seriously good waffles--fluffy and light. I hate dry waffles, and these were moist and perfectly sweet.

If I could make one change, I would have used buttermilk instead of regular milk, but I didn't have any on hand. Although I don't think buttermilk changes the consistency too much, it gives them a nice tangy taste that would have been great with the berries.



Oh, and I think my dad would be proud: I bought some local REAL maple syrup from the Saratoga Farmer's Market and heated it up in a glass measuring cup just like he always did. Thanks for teaching me how to do breakfast right!

*Katie Lane is a senior, amateur baker and blogger. If you try this recipe please let her know at*

*[www.asprinkleintime.wordpress.com](http://www.asprinkleintime.wordpress.com)*

### Blueberry Waffles

Makes 10-12 waffles

#### Ingredients:

- 1 3/4 cups unbleached, all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 1/2 tablespoons sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 3/4 cups milk
- 2 beaten egg yolks

Set waffle iron to heat. Mix together flour, baking powder, sugar and salt in a large bowl. Add in milk, egg yolks, oil and vanilla and stir until just combined. Batter will be lumpy--don't over mix. Stir in blueberries gently. Fold in whipped egg whites until incorporated (batter will still be very lumpy).

Cook in waffle iron according to maker's instructions. Enjoy with maple syrup (I'll let you choose what kind) and enjoy on a Saturday morning with people you love!

Adapted from [www.averagebetty.com](http://www.averagebetty.com)

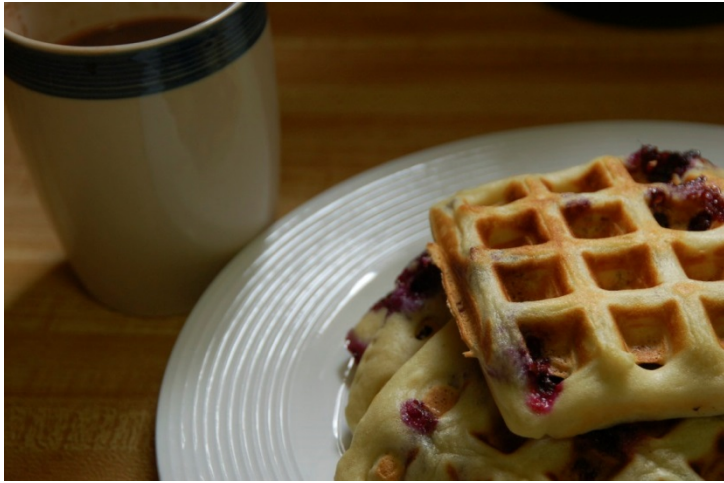
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Katie Lane/Skidmore News

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Katie Lane/Skidmore News





## **FAN says feminist thought is not just for women**

By Alex Brehm, Staff Writer

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

For Sarah Elwell '11 and Eliza Straim '11, feminism is a verb.

Elwell and Straim are co-presidents of the Feminist Action Network.

For me, feminism is something you do, says Elwell. "You do it through the actions you promote and the discussions you have."

When I was in high school, my friends would call me a feminist, and I'd always say, 'I'm not a feminist, but...' Elwell said. But then she stopped avoiding feminism. "It's a social responsibility-it's a human right," Straim said.

Though the group is not officially affiliated with the National Organization for Women (NOW), it embraces the same goals.

FAN's charter defines the group's purpose as encouraging "the awareness of, interest in and action towards the social, political and intellectual concerns of feminism."

There was a NOW chapter at my high school, Straim said. "I worked on the South Dakota abortion campaign in 2004." The South Dakota campaign protested proposed legislation to make abortions illegal. "We're fighting for something," Straim said.

Feminist issues can be downplayed on a predominantly female campus like Skidmore. "Women forget when we're in this female-dominated environment," Elwell said. "We think that everything's been accomplished."

FAN holds many events to promote discussion of basic equality between men and women.

In the fall we hold a bake sale, and baked goods cost 80 cents for women and a dollar for men, Elwell said. "Guys are always really surprised, but that's how much women make compared to men.

In America overall it's about 77 cents for women to a dollar for men. In New York it's a little better; it's about 82 cents.

We really like to get discussions going with the bake sale. So if you can give us a really good argument, or you tell us that you disagree with women getting paid less, then we'll let you buy it for 80 cents, Elwell said.

FAN promotes heavily throughout the year. Annual campus events include a night of bingo and sex toy sale and a "This is What a Feminist Looks Like" button giveaway every spring semester.

At 9 p.m. on Saturday Nov. 6, FAN will put on Empowerment Extravaganza, a joint performance featuring the student groups Pulse, Rithmos, Lift Every Voice, the Sonneteers and the Breakbeats.

The performances will feature the theme of women's empowerment with each group offering its own interpretation of feminism.

March is National Women's History month, but the FAN starts its month two weeks early. Elwell said, "We put on the Vagina Monologues mid-February every year. It features female actresses, stories about women's issues and the proceeds go to a cause supporting women's rights."

For the past two years, a national campaign with UNICEF has sent 10 percent of proceeds from all Vagina Monologues productions to prevent rape in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The other 90 percent goes to the Saratoga Domestic Violence Center. The performance and the donations are part of V-Day, an annual movement started by Monologues writer Eve Ensler, to rally for women's equality and promote new social causes.

Though based around female activism, FAN is not just for women.

We'd really like men and women to come find out about the group, Elwell said. "Feminism is about equality for everyone. It's an all-accepting term."

We have open calls now for directors for the Vagina Monologues, and men can direct. In fact, I'd be really interested to see what would happen, Elwell said.

## True Life: Girls are as messy as guys

The token dude

By Jack McDermott, Columnist

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

Let's talk bathrooms. When living with girls, it is just natural that you are going to end up sharing a bathroom with them.

Now when I lived in the dorms, all of my suitemates were guys and the bathroom was just an awkward, shared space. We never left anything on the counter or in the shower, but instead kept them in our rooms.

When it did come time to shower we would carry our 2-in-1 shampoo and conditioner and our unscented bar of soap with us. It's just a thing guys do.

Now I'm in a house and share a bathroom with two of my housemates. Let me tell you, it is overflowing with things. There are shampoos and conditioners, body oils, body scrubs, lotions and products I don't even know the purpose of.

One time, I ran out of soap, but I was already in the shower when I realized it. So I had to use some of my housemate's body wash. That was an experience. Never had I ever washed myself with jojoba butter before.

What is that? It looked like pink ribbon swirls of pudding. I also smelled like floral passion for the rest of the day, whatever that means.

Next time you go to the grocery store--or wherever you buy your shampoos and soaps--look at some of the names and "flavors" that they have.

One of my housemates just bought new deodorant. It took her half an hour to decide on a scent, but she ended up settling for "soft cashmere", which, like the other 500 scents to choose from, just smells like baby powder.

Girls also really like to use hygiene products that smell like fruit. It takes some getting used to. Eucalyptus-cleansing concentrate is also popular, as are cucumber yogurt and tea tree oil.

Both bathrooms in my house, filled with all of their different products, are also just messy.

There are little bobby pins, tweezers and makeup caps everywhere. The counter never seems to stay dry, and there is hair.

Yes, long dark (sometimes ginger) strands of hair on the sink and in the shower drain. I do contribute to the mess in some ways, but I have short hair, so there is no way they can blame that on me.

I also try to steer clear of the bathroom trashcan so as to avoid the tampons and other various things I don't want to see.

Don't worry, we clean our bathrooms a lot, but somehow they never can stay clean, especially on the weekends when hours are spent in the bathroom to get ready.

Now messy bathrooms lead us to the last topic of the day: the actual toilet.

When living with five girls, do not leave the seat up. Don't do it. Just don't. Also, contrary to many urban myths, girls fart and poop just as much as the next guy.

We have some pumpkin spice Febreze in our bathroom that you are supposed to spray when it smells. Don't think I don't notice when the doors are shut, the Febreze has been sprayed and I haven't been in the bathroom all day.

When you live with other people, you just have to learn to accept and deal with things like hair on the sink and the fact that they insist on having a cover for their toothbrush.

I can be just as messy as they are, but I also think it is extremely entertaining to read all of the different hygiene product names while I'm showering.

One thing I must admit, I believe that we have one of the best decorated and matching bathrooms in all of Scribner Village.



## **An exercise in transcendence**

### **Daydreams**

By Rick Chrisman, Columnist

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

I'm late! I'm late! I'm late for a very important date! These words were the White Rabbit's complaint before disappearing down the rabbit hole. Mostly, that is our own complaint every day, all day.

However, it wouldn't be so bad if we were headed for Wonderland just like the White Rabbit (and Alice behind him). Ah, to fall into the land of imagination, absurdity and free play of the mind! But we are not. Here we are in the land of measured time, insufficient time, and time the tyrant, where there are just not enough days in the minute.

Suppose we find a rabbit hole of our own. And just how would we go about finding that? All kinds of rabbit holes are about - look around.

Fortunately, we live in an age of fitness and exercise, athletics and intramurals, that give us unlimited access to endorphins. With their aid we can effect, at practically no cost and with no side-effects, a legal and safe departure from planetary limits-- and return unharmed. For me, it's basketball, or was until recently.

When I could still play full-court pick-up games, I had instant entry into the fifth dimension where bodies are fluid, motion is balletic and time stands still. Others say so, too--marathon and treadmill runners, swimmers, squash players, cyclists, skiers, to mention a few of the high energy options. But it does take intentionality, or you never find the rabbit hole.

And, fortunately, we have the arts. Whether we participate on the creating end or on the consuming end, the arts give us access to another timeless realm, the realm of beauty. When we give ourselves to the process of creation, to the exploration of a medium and its craft, we are admitted to that same fifth dimension where time stands still.

Or, at the other end, when we concentrate on the performance, the lines, the orchestration, the dancers' movements, we likewise gain entry into a timeless world. But it does take intentionality, or you never find the rabbit hole.

Yes, and fortunately, we have religion, too. Say what? Now, haven't we dismissed religion from all courts of serious consideration in this modern age, certainly at least here at Skidmore, the seventh most "secular" campus in the U.S., according to the Princeton Review?

If we have dismissed it, there are plenty of good reasons we can appeal to: the irrationalities of religion, its lethal competitiveness, its rigidity, the sexual abuse and corruption and more lethal competitiveness. All true. However, that's only part of the story, the "outside" that appears in headlines and history books.

Yet there's much more to religion than meets the unaccustomed eye, there's an "inside" to religion, which opens the way to a timeless world, a way not so much imposed by religion as something actually sought by believers as the entrance to that rabbit hole I've been talking about.

People do voluntarily observe the rituals and practices of their religion because of the efficacy in bringing peace, sanity and wholeness to their lives. And for some people, that inner peace prompts them also to fight for peace at large through work for social justice.

Sure, many so-called "believers" practice their religion because it's an obligation, or because it is a means to an end, they think, a way of getting into "heaven." Hopefully, it dawns on religious people that eternity isn't later at all, it's now.

And they know they have discovered the Eternal One when they feel free, when they feel for others, when they act creatively, when they can laugh at the absurdity of the world and when their minds play imaginatively amidst life's demands and they hardly ever hear the ticking of the clock.

But it does take intentionality, or you never will find that rabbit hole. It takes the same application of a runner or of an artist for the result to happen. The original (religious) word for this was "Sabbath," a dedicated place and time apart (could be anywhere, anytime), when Wonderland is within reach.

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

## Check ourselves before we wreck ourselves

Campus banter

By Taylor Dafoe, Columnist

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

Moorebid Ball, the biggest campus event of the year, was anything but a success. It was a disgusting display of decadence, an eye-opening example of student excess and a taste of the darker side of college life that we pretended not to endorse. The only thing the college succeeded in this weekend was humiliating itself.

There's been a lot of talk this week about how the college will react to the Moorebid horrors, and about how students will act in the wake of such a publicized event. It's not that those considerations are fruitless; they're not. They're just the wrong discussions.

It's not something we like to admit (in fact it's a common joke, really), but the truth is that our campus has something of a problem. It's not a new issue, and we're certainly not alone in this boat, but it's nonetheless a real problem, and an embarrassing one at that. Ironically, now that we're finally starting to talk about it, the rest of the country is doing the same.

Moorebid is just the latest (and most pronounced) in a long string of related issues. There have been so many, in fact, that the concern is now much bigger than hangovers and Health Services visits - we're harming the school's image; we're destroying our campus; and, most importantly, we're hurting students.

Whether we like to talk about it or not, our campus fosters an all-consuming culture of drink first, think later. It's a dangerous weekend scene that's starting to ruin our reputation, limit campus events and, frankly, produce hospital bills.

Skidmore students are far too willing to binge-drink themselves into blackout, to kill the weekend wasted and dumb, than to, God forbid, do something productive and sober.

And don't think this is a small problem that can be pinpointed or pushed off on a few students who take one-too-many shots every weekend. I don't even think any individual can be held responsible for the Moorebid debacle. The campus nightlife just generally involves getting hammered and throwing up on the Case walkway. What did we expect to happen on the most notorious night of the year?

There's talk about discontinuing Moorebid in the future, and it's appalling to hear just how many people (students included) think it's a good idea. However, that's not really getting to the heart of the problem. Really this goes beyond campus officials and the makers of Four Loko--it starts with the students. And, surprise surprise, that's where the solution begins, too.

The student body, both past and present, is solely responsible for its thriving party life and weekend scene. And before we have another repeat of Moorebid, before we really start to shorten the leash on campus events, we need to change. We're headed down a hazardous path, and doing so stupidly and drunk as hell. It's not that we need to give up partying altogether; we just need to curb our habits. So trade in your beer for a brain once in a while.

*Taylor Dafoe is an undecided sophomore from Cheyenne, Wyo.*

## Murphy courted student vote

Congressman unseated despite high-profile Clinton endorsement

By Katie Vallas, Editorial Editor

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

Republican candidate Chris Gibson won the Nov. 2 local midterm election after weeks of Democratic incumbent Scott Murphy's, D-Glens Falls, efforts to raise student support for his own candidacy, which culminated in a Nov. 1 rally that included specific appeals to student voters.

Former President Bill Clinton and U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand endorsed now - unseated Murphy at the rally, which gathered together about 1,200 members of the local community at the Hall of Springs at the Spa State Park. While Clinton praised Murphy's stance on issues ranging from health care to economic reform, he also spoke directly to the students gathered in the crowd when describing policies that affect students' ability to afford a college education.

Clinton said new college loan policies backed by Murphy will profoundly affect students' ability to stay in college during tough economy times. "From now on, every single solitary man and woman in the United States of America who needs a student loan will be able to pay that loan back," Clinton said. "No one will ever have to drop out of college again."

He said a lack of awareness of these changes provides the chief obstacle in encouraging young voter turnout. "We're going into the polls and people don't know this," he said. "You got a day to tell people about this."

SGA President Alex Stark '11 said this reflected how Murphy's office sought the students' votes especially in this year's election. "They had seemed very interested in having a lot of student attendance at the event. Students were certainly a priority with them," she said.

Clinton's emphasis on student voting reflects Murphy's consistent efforts to mobilize the campus's support for his candidacy, as seen in his Oct. 16 speech in front of Case Center and his presence on campus throughout election day. His focus on the student vote came to a head in the initial planning for the Nov. 1 rally, which coordinators hoped to stage at the campus.

The Murphy campaign initially contacted the Skidmore administration in hopes of holding the rally at Skidmore, Stark said. But she said the legal status of the college as a tax-exempt not-for-profit private institution prohibits political rallies for individual candidates.

I worked with the administration and Murphy's campaign team to try to negotiate and bring this amazing opportunity right home to our students, she said. "But while Skidmore was absolutely interested in holding a 'Get Out the Vote' rally and having Clinton speak to us along the lines of voting, Congressman Murphy and Clinton's teams had the goal of a Murphy rally. Ultimately, that Murphy rally would have gone against the school's policies."

While she said the college's refusal disappointed Murphy's office, Stark worked with rally organizers to encourage a student presence at the Nov. 1 event. "I made sure that they secured student tickets for us and gave us all the information so we could have as many students there as possible," she said. "I know that many students who applied were put on a waitlist for tickets, but we did have a good group in attendance at the actual rally, which was really great to see."

Some local attendees at the Nov. 1 rally disagreed with Murphy's efforts to involve students in the election. "To be frank, I don't think this election should be decided by kids who are only here a few months out of the year," said Chris Kent, a member of the Saratoga Springs community. He was one of about 200 other Gibson supporters who rallied outside the event beginning at 6 a.m.

Contrary to Kent's fears, by the night of Nov. 2, voter turnout among students remained lower than expected. "We actually started our own impromptu 'Get Out the Vote' campaign," Stark said. "We made camp in the Honors Forum lounge and started calling everyone we could: Government majors, people working in the campaign offices, everyone we thought might be interested."

Their efforts led to almost a doubling of the number of students voting in the election, with a total of 313 students. This represents approximately 60 percent of students registered to vote on campus. "You're always aiming for 100 percent and we did not achieve that this year," Stark said.

She said she was impressed with the number of students who engaged with the election beyond the voting booth. "So many students were interning and volunteering with the campaigns for months," she said. "They were definitely doing important work."

While the election results disappointed those students who assisted the local Democratic campaign, Murphy said he remained proud of the work he did in Congress for the 19 months he was in office. "I have no regrets," he said in his concession speech. "We always knew it was going to be competitive and we had a credible opponent."

Gibson defeated Murphy in nine of the 10 counties of the 20th district, with 55 percent of the vote to Murphy's 45 percent. In his victory speech on Nov. 2, Gibson spoke about his hopes of actualizing the promises he made to his supporters. "This is going to be an exciting time," he said. "Our best days are still in front of us."

#1.1749673:3989421352.jpg Clinton Rally 2

An endorsement by former President Bill Clinton at a Nov. 1 Saratoga Springs rally proved insufficient to win another term for Rep. Scott Murphy, who received only 45 percent of the vote in the Nov. 2 election.

Chris Weigl/Skidmore News







## Vandals cause \$200,000 in damages

Center for Sex and Gender Relations and Northwoods construction site vandalized

By Rebecca Stern, Contributing Writer

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

On the night of Oct. 29, students vandalized the Center for Sex and Gender Relations and the construction site in Northwoods. Although the acts seem unrelated, college property was defaced in both instances.

The destruction at the Center for Sex and Gender Relations was first noticed at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 30, when a Peer Advocate went to work in the morning.

The bulletin board, which was designed to inform people about LGBT issues, such as suicide and how to get help, was covered in blue paint, along with a sign that said "Center for Sex and Gender Relations GOT ROBBED."

Additionally, Mariel Martin, who is the LGBTQ coordinator on campus, had blue paint thrown on her door. A bulletin board about stress, which also hangs outside of her office, was untouched.

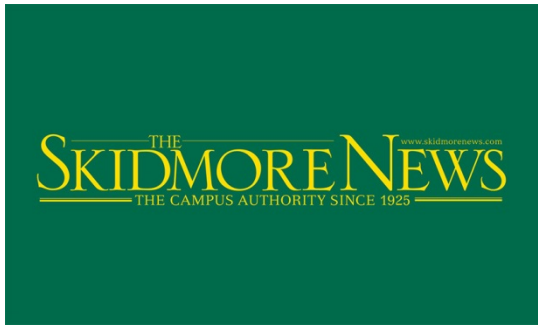
"We don't think it's a coincidence that we [the center] and Mariel Martin were targeted. It's too much. No one else in leadership was attacked," Claire Throckmorton '11 said.

When the Peer Advocate checked the cashbox, about \$30 was missing. However, the people who work at the Center do not think the vandalism and robbery are related.

"We're really upset. We provide something really important at Skidmore and it's safe right inside of our office. But right outside our door we get vandalized. And most people don't even know about it," Head Peer Advocate Joe Yanks '11 said.

This act of vandalism is reminiscent of an attack that happened two years ago at the Center. There were bulletin boards up to educate students about domestic assault, on which someone wrote "BITCHES DESERVE IT." Additionally, the door decorations were stripped down and notes such as "dykes work here" were written.

"It's bad to say but, we're used to being targeted and having our posters ripped down. It's a disheartening truth," Throckmorton said.



On the same night another act of vandalism occurred at the Northwoods construction site. The construction site, which has only been in operation for a couple of weeks, suffered severe damage.

Front windshields of two John Deer tractors were smashed in, a padlock was pried off, an ignition key was stolen, a tool box was stolen, a port-a-potty was tipped over and parking signs were thrown onto the ground. A tire iron was found lying near by.

“Things like this are difficult to prevent. We [Campus Safety] do the best we can of regulating the site and checking it out. We are going to check it even more frequently now, but there is only so much we can do,” Director of Campus Safety Dennis Conway said.

Skidmore is still waiting to evaluate insurance claims, though the damage is predicted to be close to \$200,000.

The Saratoga Springs Police Department is doing a thorough investigation of both acts of vandalism and is looking for any leads.

*Call 518-580-TIPS to report information on these incidents.*

#1.1749658:3594045628.JPG Vandalism 2

Skidmore Campus Safety



## Campus Safety responds to student concerns

By Kat Kullman, Staff Writer

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

Tuesday, Nov. 2, about 40 students convened in Davis Auditorium to participate in a conversation with Campus Safety Director Dennis Conway and Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun.

The meeting, organized by the Senate of the Student Government Association, was held in response to students' requests for a dialogue between Campus Safety and the students, Calhoun said.

Calhoun began the meeting by explaining that the relationship between the students and the officers is one of collaboration. Conway agreed and described the officers' role on campus. "We've developed a model of working with kids that's a service model, not a law enforcement model. We're providing a service for the community. We don't make the policy, but we enforce it," Conway said.

Conway then invited students to lead the conversation by asking questions.

One of the first questions regarded what sort of sensitivity training the Campus Safety officers receive. "We do close to 40 hours of training in subjects like sexual harassment, diversity and bias response. What I expect of my officers is to be non-judgmental, fair and sensitive; our job is to be objective. But sometimes we need to ask questions that are a little uncomfortable," Conway said. All officers have also attended the New York State Police Sex Defense Seminar.

Conway said he was more than willing to address any complaints about his staff. He asked any student with substantial evidence to back up his or her claims to speak to him privately at any time. He ensured that students would be granted complete anonymity and guaranteed that any complaint with evidence would be investigated.

In this same vein, one student cited several incidents of officers speaking inappropriately to students. Conway ensured that this should never be the case.

"In my opinion, trust is the most important thing. What I'd do in this situation is start an investigation into each of these incidents, but I'd need specific information. If I have an officer who's doing something he or she shouldn't be, I want to be the first to hear about it. I have an open door policy," Conway said.

Another student questioned Campus Safety officers' consistency in terms of checking students for alcohol at programmed events. "It's really hard for us to maintain access control in these events. We're

trying to come up with a strategy to make these fun and safe events for you guys. We don't want to cancel them. Right now we're working on a no re-entry policy so that people can't go out, drink and come back. We can't allow that," Conway said. He went on to specify that this is not only in response to Halloween weekend's Moorebid Ball, but to what is going on in the culture at large.

Conway informed students that in the past year and a half, Campus Safety has received calls for about 80 welfare checks, more than 250 escorts to medical facilities, more than 300 noise complaints and about 110 criminal incidents that have resulted in physical danger.

Another student raised the issue of students wanting to call Campus Safety for help with a party or a friend, but shying away for fear that they may receive disciplinary action of getting drawn into a situation that could get them in trouble.

This is the first year we have a modified amnesty policy. This policy is meant to say to individuals that there will always be a conversation. Any fines or violations come from the conversations. It isn't automatic, Calhoun said. "Regardless of what someone's worried about, a person's health is always the most important thing," Conway said.

Calhoun also mentioned that a student's personal history will be taken into account, as well as the situation that caused the issue. Such issues are not likely to end up on a student's permanent record, she added, so long as the students involved act responsibly by seeking the necessary help.

The final topic of student concern regarded Campus Safety's environmental impact. Students asked if there is any possibility of switching their vehicles to ones that are more eco-friendly.

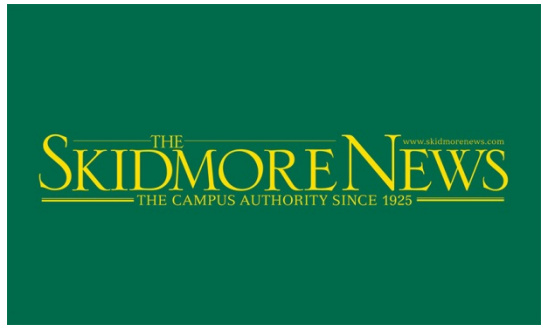
We have talked about it, but we have lots of equipment in our vehicles, and we often have people to transport, so by definition we need a large car. But we're looking at hybrids and cars with the best gas mileage, Conway said. He also noted that the officers often ride bikes and horses, both of which are very earth friendly.

Conway ended the discussion by stating that any student wishing to make an anonymous complaint about Campus Safety is encouraged to call 518-580-TIPS.

*In other news:*

Senate approved a resolution to establish a budget for the Conflict Resolution Club on campus. The club was granted a budget of \$5,410 in order to create a mediation training session in the spring semester.

Senate passed a resolution to write-off \$1,149 from the Drastic Measures loan. The resolution was passed unanimously.



*Additional reporting by Julia Leef*

## College braces for record registration period

By Sarah Barry, Staff Writer

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

The Office of the Registrar has worked to prepare solutions for issues with class registration that stem from the college's historically large student population this year.

Seniors began registering Wednesday, Nov. 3, and the other classes will follow in descending order.

Within each class year our system allows us to choose a starting letter, it goes alphabetically from there. What we try to do is change that starting letter from semester to semester to make it as fair as possible, Associate Registrar David DeConno said.

During any given semester students will complain of consistently poor timeslots, but DeConno maintains that students are gradually moving toward earlier times if they have had the last timeslot before. "It's an inexact science, but we try to make it as fair as possible," DeConno said.

Additionally, due to the above average first-year and senior class sizes, the office has spent time preparing for potential problems.

We did feel some pressures in certain areas and we worked very closely with the Dean of Faculty's office. Where possible we've increased cap sizes in small amounts that do not raise the teacher to student ratio. Our curriculum committee, long before this, put together guidelines for increased class sizes, DeConno said.

The cap for 200 level classes has increased from between 20 and 25 to 29, but the Registrar recognizes the issues with increasing class sizes across the board. "We know that it's just not effective to over-enroll a writing, lab or discussion based course," DeConno said.

To accommodate for this, the Registrar has created additional sections, particularly in the science department.

Even the Registrar's attempts to accommodate the increased number of students are not enough to ensure students' getting their first choice schedule. "In any given semester courses are going to fill up and there's going to be waitlist activity. I would go back to encouraging students to be flexible and have many alternative schedules ready to go," DeConno said.





Students are encouraged to add themselves to waitlists and approach the instructor of a course they are interested in.

The Registrar works with the Dean of Faculty's office and the department chairmen to fill gaps and create options for students. "Often if the chairman is aware of the demand for the course he or she may be able to work with the special programs office to make it available during the summer. The summer courses are really built upon demand and the availability of faculty," DeConno said.

The final step, DeConno says, is for students to double check that they've actually been enrolled in the courses they signed up for upon registering. "It's always best to log off and log back on right away and make sure everything's okay with your schedule. Always just double check; stay up for five more minutes and make sure your classes are on your schedule," DeConno said.

While the process may frustrate students, the Registrar is available to answer questions.

There's a lot of collaboration that goes on behind the scene that students don't see. We try to accommodate students. It's not always going to be easy to register, but we're here to help in any way possible, DeConno said.

## College seeing increasing number of science majors

By Tegan O'Neil, Staff Writer

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

According to mathematics professor Mark Hofmann, 33 percent of this year's seniors are science majors, representing a 66 percent increase in the number of science majors since 2005.

This increase illustrates the success of the 10-year Strategic Plan for the college, implemented in 2005, which includes a resolution to strengthen the sciences and increase enrollment.

The science department is defined by the following nine disciplines: biology, chemistry, computer science, exercise science, geoscience, mathematics, neuroscience, physics, and psychology.

Hofmann is the chairman of a working group that is focused on improving the sciences at Skidmore. "We have been working since 2007 to create a vision statement for the sciences," Hoffman said.

In 2007 the working group convened to discuss what the sciences at Skidmore should look like in the year 2018 and developed four main objectives.

First of all, we agreed on the importance of scientific literacy, Hofmann said. The other objectives concern the collaborative nature of science, the importance of undergraduate research and interdisciplinary study. "Skidmore has a unique ability to attract students who are interested in integrating the sciences with other disciplines, which is something that we can capitalize on," Hofmann said.

Hoffmann also attributed the increased student interest in science to some of the decisions made by the Admissions Office.

The size of the student body has grown and therefore we've picked up more science students...we have been working with Admissions to increase the number of science students, Hofmann said.

The college has made an effort to cater to prospective students interested in the sciences by holding science and math open-houses and offering science directed tours in addition to the general campus tour.

Another draw-in is the college's large emphasis on collaborative research. "The number of students working with faculty this summer increased from 15 in 2005 to 62 last summer," Hofmann said.

While the number of science majors is increasing, there are no immediate plans for a new science building to accommodate the swell.

In the master plan, which was formulated earlier than 2005, there is an addition to the science building scheduled for 2018. The working group has contracted with an outside planning firm and has received a preliminary report in terms of infrastructure.

## Amos Lee plays iconic Albany Egg

Let's talk about rock

By Eli Cohen, Columnist

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

Philadelphia native Amos Lee is halfway through his countrywide tour to promote his latest album, "Mission Bell," which is due to be released Jan. 25.

Lee's new tour took him to The Egg on Nov. 4. Not just a building, The Egg has become an icon of Albany. Truly an ideal representation of the building's name, the vaguely UFO-shaped building was part of the Empire State Plaza project. The concert hall has welcomed artists such as They Might Be Giants, country singer Emmylou Harris and Hot Tuna.

Lee has received critical acclaim since the drop of his self-titled debut album in 2005. In his latest tour he has been joined on stage by Dave Matthews. Lee is also scheduled to appear at one of Levon Helm's "Midnight Ramble" sessions, an event that is known to attract high-profile guests.

One key component to Lee's success is the sheer number of songs he has managed to get on television. Lee has had tracks appear on "Grey's Anatomy," "House," "Studio 60," "Brothers and Sisters," "Six Degrees" and "ER." All of these hit songs appeared on Lee's debut album, which was produced by folk-singer Norah Jones' bassist, Lee Alexander, and reached No. 2 on the billboards.

Lee's rich, soulful voice and poignant lyrics perfectly compliment the instruments he sings over. His lyrics, aided by his hauntingly beautiful, high voice, tell elegant truths. "Nobody wants honesty when looking at a perfect frame/ play the game/ Nothing could be further from the truth, my love," Lee sings in "Soul Suckers," off the album "Amos Lee."

His songs are well thought-out, simple and striking, as is his ability to move seamlessly back and forth between genres. While many of Lee's songs appear to belong in the folk category, there are undeniable blues and soul influences.

It appears that Lee's new album will fall more under the country banner than previous albums, with guest appearances by country stars including Lucinda Williams and the legendary stoner-hippie Willie Nelson.

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



## Renowned author Marilynne Robinson gives Steloff Lecture

By Rachel Kim, Copy Editor

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

On Oct. 29, Skidmore students and faculty attended the annual Frances Steloff Lecture. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Marilynne Robinson received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from President Philip Glotzbach and delivered a lecture on "The Writer in Society."

This was not Robinson's first time at the college. She has taught fiction writing for 23 years at the New York State Summer Writers' Institute that is run at the college. "I have been here for a long time. It's almost like a second home," Robinson said.

Robinson began the lecture with a reading from her novel "Housekeeping," which won the PEN/Hemingway Award in 1980. She then spoke about her thoughts on education. Robinson emphasized the importance of being educated for the sake of truly learning, rather than for becoming more qualified for a job.

She also spoke about the great influence that Latin has had on her writing. Robinson said that she considers Latin to be an important subject that is increasingly overlooked. "If you want your prose to be good, studying Latin is good for you," she said.

Robinson then read from her Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, "Gilead," and discussed the history of Iowa, where she teaches at the Iowa Writers' Workshop.

In fact, to foreground her novel, Robinson researched the history of Iowa. "I discovered a forgotten past, so forgotten even to the people whose past this is," Robinson said.

She noted Iowa's surprisingly liberal history. Women's suffrage and abolition were put on Iowa's agenda long before these issues concerned the rest of the nation. Robinson drew attention to the lack of attention that the middle of the country receives in comparison to the East and West coasts.


Audience members then asked questions and Robinson responded by describing her experience with research and her personal writing process.

Robinson remarked that her memory is her best tool and finished the lecture by emphasizing the importance of writing. "You learn so much about what your mind is and realize how much deeper you and your thoughts are," Robinson said.

Frances Steloff, a Saratoga Springs native, originally endowed this lecture series as a way to bring outstanding literary and artistic talent to the college. Steloff was a well-known patron of writers and founded the Gotham Book Mart in New York City. She also collected numerous books and pieces of literary memorabilia, most of which she donated to the college.

Since its start in 1967, the lecture series has been delivered by many respected authors including Gwendolyn Brooks, Anaï s Nin, Joyce Carol Oates, Arthur Miller and Margaret Atwood.

#1.1749697:870465528.JPG Steloff

Author Marilynne Robinson delivers the annual Frances Steloff Lecture on Oct. 29., and reads from her Pulitzer Prize-winning novel "Gilead." 

Maddie Pelz/Skidmore News





## Downside to leaks

### Hip-hop weekly

By Jenna Postler, Columnist

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

There is a sad, but undeniable truth within the music industry; music will be leaked. Unreleased songs make their way onto radio airwaves and, inevitably, into your iTunes library.

While it may seem awesome to have the new Diddy song a few months before the album comes out, lately leaking has gotten out of control. Every week new songs crop up all over the Internet, and most are of poor quality.

As a fan and avid consumer of music, I can understand why one might not want to wait weeks or months for his or her favorite artist's album to come out. Finding rough music by a new artist is always exciting, but at what cost?

For example, Kanye West's upcoming album "My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy" is set to be released Nov. 22. Production on the album began in early 2010 and, as of present, most of the tracks have already hit the Internet. An early, unfinished version of the first single "Power" was leaked onto the Internet on May 28.

Having heard most of the album online already, is it even worth buying when it is officially released in November?

While some fans may appreciate having free sneak previews to songs, many still value the finished product, packaged and official. West commented on the track leaks via his Twitter account in late September.

"It would have seemed like since I give free music every week even the lowest form of human being would respect that enough not to leak unfinished songs from my real album," West tweeted.

Is this just the age that we live in, that society cannot wait for the real thing? Is this the cost of the Internet? Whatever it is, artists are getting angry that their art is not only being given away freely, but before it is even finished.

After a track from Dr. Dre's "Detox" album leaked this past year, Dre expressed his anger towards hackers, not fans. The album, which has been in the making for over a decade, has been hailed as the

most anticipated album of all time in any genre. In August, Dre spoke to VIBE magazine about the leaks, "The most painful part about it is that I'm passionate about what I do so people should hear it in the right form.... Somebody actually hacked into our e-mails, so that made our red flags go up."

If anything can be learned from these leaks, it is that artists must be more careful about protecting their products. Most often, the work is accessed by breaks in technology.

The downside to leaks not only lies in compromised quality, but in the fact that the release dates of artists' albums are pushed back by record labels to prevent further leaks. Artists are forced to delay the release of their albums in order to record new, un-leaked material.

The best thing that we can do as consumers and music fans is to ignore these leaks. The wait for that new single may seem intolerable now, but we must have faith that the finished product will be worth it.

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



## Exploring 'Death of a Salesman'

By Julia Leef, Contributing Writer

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

The unique production "An Exploration of Death of a Salesman" ran from Oct. 21 until Oct. 31 in the Skidmore College Blackbox Theater.

Rather than simply revive the play, guest director Phil Soltanoff had the student actors precisely mime and lip sync the movements and lines of the original actors from the 1966 Lee J. Cobb TV production of the show.

According to the director's notes in the playbill, Soltanoff was fascinated by the video because "this recording represents something very rare—a glimpse at the original stage cast performing the play 'live.' It allows us to witness actors from a golden age of American acting doing their thing in precise detail."

Soltanoff aimed to help student actors find a connection with their characters through imitation, while learning how famous actors like Lee J. Cobb went about their art. "Perhaps imitation, much like using baroque instruments to perform J.S. Bach, can put us in touch with some sort of original 'sound' of the piece. And maybe the student actors can learn something about The Method through a video apprenticeship with the masters," Soltanoff said.

During the performance, television screens showed the original "Death of a Salesman" from 1966 while the actors mimicked the movements, emotions and even facial expressions. The actors' lip syncing was nearly perfect. Watching them and their television counterparts, one could only wonder at the long rehearsal hours it must have taken to perfect this challenging task of imitation.

The set underwent constant changes throughout the course of the performance. However, it was not simply a matter of changing the setting to adjust to a new scene. Each shift in direction, each rotation of the set, which consisted of a rectangular platform, was deliberately made to mirror the movements of the camera on the televisions.

Eventually, the actors had a chance to let their own voices be heard. In the final scene the televisions were put away and the audience heard the students' voices for the first time, witnessing their own personal touches on the characters.

Colleen Hughes '11, the assistant director for "An Exploration of Death of a Salesman," said that she enjoyed working with Soltanoff, learning from him about the importance of details and how to use the



space provided on stage. "Nothing on stage is insignificant. For instance, a simple plank of wood can be just as important as the actors' gestures," Hughes said.

Hughes plans to use the experience she has gained through this performance in her future endeavors with theater. "I think that I will take forward with me Phil's attention to detail, his vision of sculpting space rather than just staging a play and the possibility of merging different media and art forms," Hughes said.

The student actors spoke highly of their experience in this play. For some, like Varak Boronian '14, "An Exploration of 'Death of a Salesman'" was their debut at Skidmore. Boronian spoke about how the cast came together and worked hard to make the show a reality. He also described the knowledge he gained by working with the original video.

We all got the chance to study these experienced master actors and the choices they made for these characters. As a young actor, this is especially rewarding because it gave me a chance to compare what Gene Wilder, who played my character, Bernard, in the video, chose to do and what I would have done instinctually, Boronian said. He said he looks forward to his future theater experiences.

Death of a Salesman has lived on through its many revivals by dedicated actors and actresses. The Skidmore take on this show creates a mixture of the old and the new on stage for the entertainment of the audience. Viewers can commend the connections made between the students and the masters, and admire the performance for its unique approach to acting.

#1.1723551:2645659274.JPG Salesman


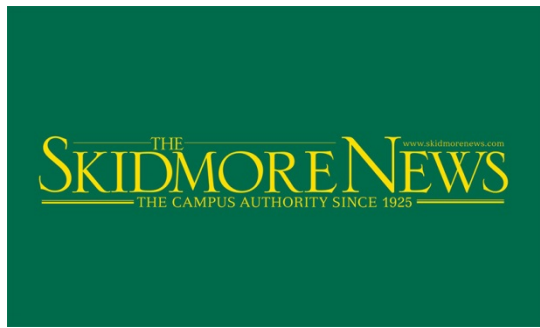
Anthony Bentreovato '11, Jeremy Ohringer '13 and Daniel Shure '14 perform in an exploration of "Death of a Salesman."

Photo courtesy of Matt Cohen







## Getting paid for creative thought

Contest offers prize money for media portrayal of school slogan

By Jean-Ann Kubler, Features Editor

On Sat, Nov 6, 2010

The Office of Communications is asking students to capture the spirit of "Creative Thought Matters" for the fifth run of the CTM Photo and Video Contest. Submissions are due on Nov. 17th for both the photo and video sections.

The contest began in spring 2007 as a response to a lack of media that properly captured the Skidmore experience. Prior to the contest, most photographs used in the college's media productions were taken by professionals.

Photographs taken by a 50-year-old man at a student event kind of stick out--you don't get the real Skidmore, said Webmaster Elizabeth Katzman.

Director of Web Communications Andrew Camp added, "We thought that the students could play an integral part. We want to see the college through students' eyes. Skidmore students have a great time with each other and that can really come through."

For the Office of Communications, this contest is the embodiment of the college's slogan. "This contest, taking photographs, it's all about creative thought," Katzman said.

This is the first year the video and photo contests have run together. The video portion was introduced in spring 2010 as a separate competition, for many of the same reasons the photo contest began.

It was a natural progression into the video contest. There's a struggle for new media here; everything about the college is through the students and we really want to see what's important to them, Camp said.

Both contests emphasize the importance of capturing Skidmore. The photo contest focuses on providing a slice-of-life view of the college.

Capture student events, study abroad experiences, classes, clubs, sports or whatever else catches your eye. These photos must be taken on Skidmore property, or highlight a Skidmore event elsewhere or abroad, reads the official rules.



The video contest, on the other hand, focuses on providing a more rounded view of college life, seeking "the most creative and compelling tours of campus as well as 'day-in-the-life-of-a-Skidmore-student' videos," according to the contest website.

The two segments of the contest also have separate judges. The video contest is judged primarily by alumni involved in media.

This year's video judges include Dave Goldberg '91, a professional television producer with his own production company, Miranda Bailey '95, an accomplished actress and star of the independent hit movie "Hindsight," as well as Dean of Admissions Mary Lou Bates. The photo contest is judged by a broader alumni board.

Because the photo contest has a longer history and therefore more entries, there are several categories of winners: People's Choice with a \$250 prize, and Judge's Choice with \$250 for 1st place, \$200 for 2nd place and \$150 for 3rd place.

The video contest has only one category, with prizes of \$300 for 1st place, \$150 for 2nd and \$75 for 3rd.

Though the video contest has traditionally had fewer entries, the Office of Communications is optimistic about its potential.

"The photography we've received has been so incredible; we can't wait to see what the students can do with video," Camp said.

The winning photographs and videos are utilized on the school website and in admissions and alumni publications such as Scope Magazine.

The Office of Communications does claim ownership over the media once it's submitted (students must sign a waiver agreeing to this) but does not prohibit students from using the photographs they submit for other purposes.

"If students want to use the photographs they submit to us for portfolios or anything like that, we just ask that they notify us," Katzman said.

The photo contest is open to all members of the Skidmore community, including staff, faculty and alumni. The video contests is reserved to only students to insure a relevant, current point of view.

*To enter, visit the contest website at <http://cms.skidmore.edu/ctm/contest.cfm>*

## Ditch the winter slump, hold on to the ladies

What would C. do?

By C.

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

With the end of the fall semester approaching quickly, most of us have begun the scheduling frenzy and winter slump. Exhaustion, stuffy noses and numb brains have some of us walking around like zombies. But we still have our weekends.

I hope everyone enjoys the last full week before Thanksgiving break. It will be short, but try make it sweet by eating as much dessert as you possibly can--the holidays are a great excuse to feast on whatever you want. Just be aware of what--or who--you sink your teeth into!

*Dear C.,*

*I met this guy at a party last week and he hooked up with a friend of mine. We've been talking since and I really like him, but if we hang out and another girl comes over to talk to him, he completely ditches me. I'm also worried he only hangs out with me because he likes my friend he hooked up with! I don't know what to do. Please help!*

*-Three's a Crowd*

Dear Three's a Crowd,

First of all, if a guy ever ditches you...tisk, tisk. Don't think it's okay for a guy to constantly walk away from you--it's simple manners.

Start by considering what you talk about with this potential love interest. Is it a meaningful conversation about each other's pasts, futures and the deep stuff? Or is it superficial and short, like the weather and school?

If it is short, definitely take the relationship for what it is--a friendship--and a possible hook up later. Treat him like any platonic guy friend so that you will be relaxed around him and you may get some insight into his actual character.

If it is deep conversation then you might want to consider becoming less attached in order to protect yourself. Notice the way he refers to girls in his stories and if he asks about your friend. Also notice the way he acts around these girls in comparison to you.

Whatever route you choose, be confident in knowing it's the right one for you. Consider the possible outcomes of each and go with it. You might want to consult your friend to see if he's even worth it!

-Stars and Hearts, 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 with questions.*

*Privacy is guaranteed. Advice can remain unpublished upon request.*



## Editorial

### The best Case solution

By the Editorial Board

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

The student center should act as the flagship structure at the center of the college. Students should be able to come inside and see the embodiment of what they love about their campus: the creativity, the liveliness and true intellectual spirit. These qualities appear in Case Center, but only as posters pasted on brick walls and conversations occurring under fluorescent lights. The spirit of the college exists in our student center, but only in spite of the building itself.

So many aspects of Case Center have no place in a building intended to act as a social space for students. Classrooms just a few feet away from Burgess Café are ostensibly a part of Ladd Hall, but as anyone who has navigated between Palamountain and Bolton Halls can tell you, those kinds of distinctions are really just technicalities. All administrative offices in Case work closely with students, but their presence can muddle the purpose of a building that should chiefly represent genuine student direction and creativity.

In an ideal Case Center, these spaces would be replaced with facilities specifically geared toward student life. Administrators encourage students to express themselves creatively and to devote themselves to a passionate calling, but the campus's facilities limit students' ability to effectively plan and advertise what they accomplish. A student center should do that.

There should be private rooms to accommodate an overcrowded library and provide consistent meeting space for clubs. A box office separate from the SGA office should act as a one-stop location to find out more about the myriad artistic endeavors that students undertake every semester. Events will be far less likely to be overlooked if students interested in seeing a play or hearing a concert know they can find tickets all in one place, rather than hunting through three different buildings to find information about performances.

Case's Dining Services should be distinct from the offerings throughout the rest of campus. The Skidmore Shop's success in bringing selections of local businesses' menus to campus shows students' eagerness to enjoy their favorite Saratoga Springs restaurants in Case Center. While Dining Services considers having national chains come to campus, bringing in a Subway or a Dunkin Donuts would clash with the college's local and sustainable spirit. Students would be thrilled instead to find kiosks offering Uncommon Grounds, Legend's Café and Pope's Pizza right in their student center.

The Spa especially should be more than just linoleum and tile, and could truly become a performing space with a set stage and comfortable seating that invites students to come together. Rather than just serving alcohol at heavy-drinking events through the semester, the college should offer local beers and pub food at the Spa, allowing students of legal age to come to their student center to relax with classmates in the evenings. In so doing, the college would follow the example of many of its peer and aspirant schools--including nearby Vassar, Middlebury and Trinity colleges--who have on-campus pubs where students can enjoy a beer with friends after a hard day of classes.

These are the kinds of changes that would make Case Center a building that would truly accommodate and nurture the college's student life. A well-run Post Office, a wonderful Skidmore Shop and an accessible SGA Office already serve students' needs well. But what the college should do is think beyond the practical needs of the student body and think of what would make students proud of the building that should be emblematic of the college they attend.

## Preparing and eating your feelings

A sprinkle in time

By Katie Lane, Columnist

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

I grew up in a family that strongly believes in the power of comfort food. You know that old saying, "Feed a fever, starve a cold?" In my house, it was: "Feed a fever, feed a cold, feed, feed, feed." My dad used to give me chocolate bars when I had strep throat.

Well, without getting too scientific here, I really do think that your heart and your stomach are linked in an important way. I'm not saying we should start eating our feelings all the time, but sometimes a girl just needs some chocolate-induced relief!

The great thing about food? It can fit any situation. Just aced your mid-term? Treat yourself to a nice frosty soft-serve twist in d-hall. Just found out that boy you kissed at Moorebid was actually the scum of the earth? Grab a pint of Cookie Dough ice cream and eat it with a spoon on the couch while watching reruns of "The OC" with your BFFs. Now that I think of it, ice cream is a particularly versatile dessert.

The moral of the story? It's been a rough few weeks here in my house--so much so that it became apparent that some serious edible therapy was in order. So I sat down with the housemates to devise the ultimate cure-all dessert.

First we needed a name. We listed all the things that had been going wrong in our lives, eventually decided upon the acronym S.C.H.I.B.A.D. This is a food column, not Dear Abby, so I'm not going to give you the dish on what these things stand for. Let's just say you can take your pick of letters and turn it into whatever is raining on your parade these days.

Then we needed ingredients. Chocolate was a no brainer. Cake seemed appropriately decadent for soaking up a miserable week. Okay, a chocolate layer cake. With creamy peanut butter frosting. Topped with Reeses Peanut Butter Cups, and M&Ms and white chocolate chips sandwiched between the two layers...Betsy tried to even get some no-bake cookies on top, but they didn't make the cut.

But what did make the cut was the best chocolate cake recipe I've ever encountered - super moist and perfectly dense and oh so chocolatey.

And it got better with each following day, as if it was continually absorbing all the S.C.H.I.B.A.D. feelings in our house and transforming them into chocolate peanut buttery goodness.



The bad news is that this cake didn't make our problems go away. The good news is that it did the best it could to warm our hearts and fill our bellies. It's just dessert, after all.

#### S.C.H.I.B.A.D Cake

##### Chocolate Cake:

- 1  $\frac{3}{4}$  cups flour
- 2 cups sugar
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup cocoa powder
- 2 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 cup buttermilk
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup vegetable oil
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla
- $\frac{1}{3}$  cup cream

##### Directions:

Preheat the oven to 350 and grease and flour two 9-inch cake pans.

Sift the flour, sugar, cocoa, baking soda, baking powder and salt into a large bowl. In another bowl, combine the buttermilk, oil, eggs and vanilla. Slowly add the wet ingredients to the dry and mix until combined. Add the coffee/water and stir just to combine. Pour batter into pans and bake for about 40 minutes. Cool in the pans for 30 minutes, then turn out onto a cooling rack and cool completely.

To make the frosting, cream the butter and peanut butter in a bowl. Slowly beat in confectioners' sugar. Add cream until frosting reaches spreadable consistency.

Frost cake and add any and all toppings you desire. Eat a fat slice with a big glass of milk in your pjs. 100% guaranteed to make your day just a little better.

*Katie Lane is a senior, amateur baker and blogger. If you try this recipe please let her know at [www.asprinkleintime.wordpress.com](http://www.asprinkleintime.wordpress.com)*

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S.C.H.I.B.A.D Cake Chocolate Cake

Katie Lane/Skidmore News



## Appreciating the season with homemade soup

By Robin Krosinsky, Staff Writer

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

My favorite flavor is fall. Whether it is baked into apple pie or sprinkled on roasted root vegetables, I can't get enough of the earthy, comforting tastes and smells that fill my kitchen as the foliage starts to turn.

On a recent visit to the market I found squashes to be a plenty. Nothing sings the sweetness of fall more to me than butternut squash, so I was delighted to buy as many as I could carry back to school.

I had also made a promise to myself (and my housemates) that I would bake a pumpkin pie, so I picked up a small, robust pie pumpkin.

I couldn't wait to dig into one of my squashes, so when I got home I dashed over to the oven and started pre-heating it to 450 degrees. I grabbed the biggest knife I could find and sliced the squash in half lengthways.

I put it in a baking pan and drizzled olive oil and maple syrup (that is, real maple syrup) over the top. A sprinkling of salt, pepper and cinnamon and it was good to go. Into the oven for 40 minutes until the squash could be spooned up from the skin and melted in my mouth.

As the squash was cooking I thought of other fall flavored foods I could cook. I really wanted to use the pumpkin, but I had no desire to make a piecrust. My stomach was also leaning toward the savory. So, I decided to squash (mind the pun) my housemates' dreams of pumpkin pie and instead try to make pumpkin soup for the first time.

Once I had butchered the pumpkin and had started sautéing the chunks in a pan with onion, garlic and carrots, I realized that I was missing the classic spices that one typically sees in a pumpkin soup. So, instead of using cloves and nutmeg, I decided to use cinnamon, as it had flavored my squash so beautifully, and herbs de Provence, because I thought that the delicate, earthy aroma would balance the heartiness of the pumpkin meat.

I added some chicken stock, lots of salt and pepper and left the soup to reduce. After 30 minutes I lifted the lid off the pot and could almost smell the colors of the foliage outside. I blended the soup in small batches in a blender (a food processor is best, but we don't have one) and returned it to the pot.

While it was very tasty on its own, I wished for it to be thicker. Then, out of the corner of my eye, I saw the two squash halves sitting on the stove, their sticky maple glaze glistening in the sunlight. I decided to combine forces and blend the squash with the soup. This may have been one of the best decisions I have made in a long, long time.

The soup had a thickness that felt heavy at first, but then each bite melted down onto my tongue releasing the sweetness of the maple and the spiciness of the black pepper like a cloud of taste. The pumpkin was the perfect background, providing a rich nuttiness that was balanced perfectly by the herbs de Provence.

It was fall in every bite.

#### Roasted Butternut Squash and Pumpkin Soup

##### Ingredients:

- 1 pie pumpkin- skinned, cored, and diced
- 1 large butternut squash- roasted (see recipe below)
- 1 large onion- diced
- 2 cloves of garlic- minced
- 2 tablespoons of butter
- 3 large carrots- chopped into bite-size pieces
- 3-4 cups of chicken stock

##### Ingredients:

- 1 large butternut squash- cut in half, lengthwise and seeded
- 1/4 cup of real maple syrup
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- salt and pepper

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees. Place each half of the squash in a baking pan, skin side down. Drizzle with olive oil and maple syrup. Some will run down into the crevices of the squash, this is ok. If you'd like to, you can periodically baste the squash with the collection of juices while it's baking. Sprinkle with cinnamon, salt and pepper. Bake in the oven for 30-45 minutes.

## Textbook rentals lessen financial burden

By Jean-Ann Kubler, Features Editor

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

With registration for spring 2011 well underway, many students are looking forward to the next semester, anticipating exciting new classes and dreading ever-rising textbook costs.

Beginning in September of this semester, the Skidmore Shop has attempted to ease the economic burden on students by offering textbook rentals, which will continue this spring.

We've been looking to add textbook rentals for some time and the program finally came together in January, which allowed us to offer the rental option this fall, Director of the Skidmore Shop Jonathan Neil said.

The Bursar's website estimates that textbooks cost the average student \$650 each semester. The average textbook rental is 10-15 percent cheaper than buying the same title used.

If a student is able to rent every textbook for a semester, this can amount to a savings of almost \$100.

All of the books we're renting are new books, so you get the advantage of a clean copy, Neil said. Books are rented for the entire semester and can be returned during finals week.

Students are allowed to make limited highlights and markings in the book as well. "They don't have to come back to us in brand new condition," Neil added. As long as the book is usable at the end of the semester, it can be returned without a penalty.

Not all textbooks are currently available to rent, however. "We work with a third-party provider to be able to rent textbooks to the students, so we're limited by their offerings, which don't always match up to student needs," Neil said.

Though not all titles are available now, Neil believes the program will expand because of its symbiotic nature. "We adopted the program because it's beneficial to the students and to us as a business. If we can make procuring textbooks easier on you, then the store remains a viable option for students. Rentals can relieve a lot of stress on both ends," he said.

As rentals become more of a textbook industry standard, more titles will likely become available to rent. "The industry is really moving in this direction and campus stores are moving with it," Neil said.



About 300 textbooks were rented through the Skidmore Shop for the fall semester, but many students also rented their books from online providers such as chegg.com, campusbookrentals.com and textbookstop.com.

For some students, a lack of information about the Skidmore Shop book rental program dictated their decision to rent online.

I rented my books from chegg.com, but if I'd known the Skidmore Shop was renting I would have gotten them there. It probably would have been a lot more convenient. Savannah Lancaster '13 said.

Lancaster added that she plans to look into the SkidShop rental program for the spring semester. "If it's cheaper or much easier than online rentals, I'll get them here."

Neil also sees a future for online textbook downloads, but not as immediately as rentals. "We've offered textbook downloads for a while now, but they don't come with the same price cuts."

He said there is a common misconception that the bulk of the price of a textbook comes from printing and supply costs.

The cost is actually based on intellectual copyrights, which would not change with a shift to online textbooks.

The increasing popularity of e-readers such as the Kindle and Nook may prompt a change to online textbooks despite the similar cost. The iPad also has e-reading capabilities that could encourage students to use the non-print textbook option.

The main factor keeping students from utilizing e-readers is more emotional than economic. "People really like to have books on their shelves," Neil said.

## Senate considers IT issues

By Kat Kullman, Staff Writer

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

Tuesday, Nov. 9, the Senate of the Student Government Association met with Justin Sipher, the Chief Technology Officer of Information Technology, to discuss the most common technological problems students experience on campus.

Sipher spoke primarily about the issues with the new wireless Internet in the residence halls. After renewing their contract with Time Warner Cable last year, the college decided to create a wireless system for the residence halls.

While the college planned to have the wireless Internet ready by the end of August, students are still experiencing problems with the new Internet system.

Many people enabled personal wireless ports, which was fine when our wireless wasn't working. But now they may be interfering with our wireless. We also know that our service isn't the strongest. Tower is so high, and some of the materials used to build Northwoods make it hard to get a signal, Sipher said.

We did a test recently where everyone in Wiecking at 9 a.m. turned off their personal WiFi systems and as a consequence the school wireless improved dramatically, Sipher said. IT plans to do two more tests, one in Northwoods and one on the 10th floor of Jonsson Tower.

One of the Senators attributed the campus's frustration with the inconsistent wireless at the start of the year came to a lack of information and communication between IT and the students.

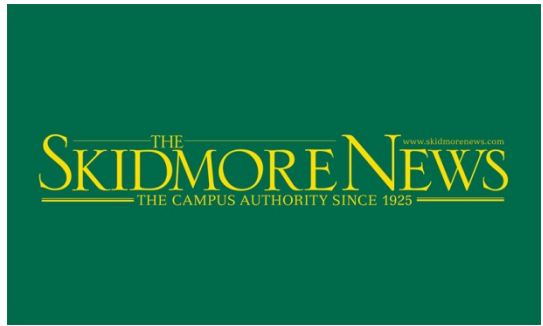
We love advice on how best to reach students. But we want to always wait a bit until we're sure we're not telling people the wrong thing. What you haven't seen in results doesn't mean we're not doing anything. Most of the progress has been behind-the-scenes. We're asking you to bear with us, Sipher said.

Sipher also spoke to Senate about potentially installing a new e-mail web browser for the school.

Upon installment, IT would transfer students' old mail into the new system, however IT is uncertain how long it would take for the new mail to catch up with the old.

Sipher initially insinuated that the transfer would be done during the school year. "We thought doing something while you were away would be worse because you're farther from support," Sipher said.





The Senate disagreed, however, preferring for the switch to occur over a break when academics were not a concern.

Sipher noted the Senate's request and said that any student with a technology problem should go to the IT Help Desk on the first floor of the library.

## **Khan, Exum discuss American role in Mideast**

By Julia Leef, Staff Writer

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

Approximately 60 students gathered at 8 p.m. Nov. 9 in Davis Auditorium to hear two guests, Amil Khan and Adrew Exum, speak about the current wars in Afghanistan and Pakistan and how America's involvement has affected those countries.

Andrew Exum is the author of "This Man's Army: A Soldier's Story from the Frontlines of the War on Terror" and is a fellow with the Center for a New American Security. He served in the U.S. Army from 2000 to 2004 on active duty in Iraq and Afghanistan and as an advisor to the CENTCOM Assessment Team. Exum is also the founder of the counter-insurgency blog "Abu Muqawama."

Amil Khan, who works in Pakistan for Radical Middle Way and writes about terrorism and extremism as Londonstani on the Abu Muqawama blog, has also written a book about the development of extremism titled "The Long Struggle," which will be published later in the year.

Exum began the discussion by explaining his take on the U.S. policy toward Afghanistan, focusing on the new policy established by the Obama administration in March 2009.

Exum said the announcement of a withdrawal period in the future will make it more difficult for people to commit to a stance on the war and work out negotiations.

Khan continued with a brief discussion of predatory governments and the view of many Pakistanis that extremist attacks were not an issue prior to American involvement. Khan added that this is not historically true and pressed the need for America to be more careful about delegating aid money. "In these times of constraint what we need to look at is not how much we spend, but how we spend it," he said.

One student questioned the possibility of flipping the less extreme fighters as a strategy, which Exum said would theoretically be ideal. However, as the presence of American troops has now become temporary, it would be difficult for America to establish the kind of control needed to initiate that switch.

Another student asked about a future in which American troops would finally withdraw and what would happen to these countries. Problems would either continue or become worse, with the positive result being that Pakistan may realize it "needs to sort this out for itself, for its future," Khan said.

Finally, another student asked what Americans have learned from Afghanistan and how it might be applied in future wars. Although Exum said we have learned how things work on an operational level, he added that we need to learn more on the political level concerning the reactions of Americans to events and how exactly citizens should respond to them.

Khan and Exum referenced their knowledge and experiences when answering questions and informed students and community members about a topic of worldwide concern.

## Faculty discusses transfer credits, student goals

By Alex Brehm, Staff Writer

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

Skidmore faculty and administrators convened for the third faculty meeting of the fall semester Nov. 5. Acting President Susan Kress, vice president of student affairs, officiated the meeting. President Philip Glotzbach is on sabbatical.

The college announced plans to expand acceptance of transfer credit for first-year students. Under current policy, first-years may enroll with up to 16 transfer credits, either earned with college Advanced Placement credit, International Baccalaureate classes or classes taken at another college. However, administrators announced plans to raise that number in the future.

Additionally, the college plans to begin accepting credit from online classes taken with accredited institutions. As more schools, particularly large universities, use video and other internet resources to teach classes, the college expects to find more transfer students requesting such classes count for credit in their application.

In another vote, faculty continued clearing the list of interdepartmental majors. By affirmation, the faculty voted to remove the Biology-Philosophy major from the catalogue. Meanwhile, Anthropology-Sociology was flagged for a similar vote next month. The college believes interdepartmental majors generally lack the structure of more conventional majors and instead provide the equivalent of two minors.

The faculty heard a report on information gained from the National Survey of Student Engagement, which has the stated purpose of evaluating students' activities and estimating their gains while in college.

The survey asks incoming first-year students if they intend to pursue an extracurricular research project while in school, if they intend to perform community service and other similar topics. The survey asks graduating classes whether or not those expectations were fulfilled.

Overall, incoming students over the years have reported increasing expectations to pursue research, community service and other projects. Graduating classes report an increase in carrying out such projects. However, for most categories there is a gap showing that generally not all students who enter school expecting to take on such projects end up achieving those goals while in school.

A report was also given on the results of the "Creative Thought, Bold Promise" fundraising campaign. The goal of the campaign was to raise \$200 million from June 21, 2004 to May 31, 2010. Exceeding the goal, the college raised \$216.5 million.

Such donations included more than \$100 million from trustees, nearly \$100 million from alumni and the more than \$40 million donation to building the Arthur Zankel music center.

Additionally, faculty gave \$4.2 million to the school, with 76 percent of faculty providing donations.

Other institutions similar to Skidmore often achieve faculty donation rates of about 30 percent.

A spokesman from the Office of Advancement commented that such a high giving rate speaks to the community fostered on the campus. The faculty thanked the Office of Advancement for a successful campaign with a standing ovation.

## Swedish professor lectures on role of class, age, religion in racism

By Tegan O'Neill, Staff Writer

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

About 60 students gathered Nov. 8 in Davis Auditorium to listen to Michael Hjerm deliver his lecture titled "Prejudice: A Decade of Research -- Knows, Don't Knows and Should Knows."

Hjerm is a professor of sociology at Umea University in Sweden. He presented research that he has gathered within the last decade that analyzes who is and is not prejudiced.

Hjerm created seven classifications to address who is prejudiced.

The first category he identified was education. Hjerm said that people with a higher level of education tend to be less prejudiced than people with a lower level of education.

Age was the second category he mentioned. Older people, he said, especially people above the age of 65, tend to be more prejudiced than younger people.

Whether this phenomenon can be attributed to the fact that older people were raised in a more prejudiced era, or whether people become more prejudiced as they age, remains unclear.

Hjerm also said he was concerned with socioeconomic position. He said that people in a higher socioeconomic class tend to be less prejudiced than those at a lower socioeconomic class.

People with friends from a variety of ethnic groups tend to be less prejudiced than those who only have friends in their own ethnic group, he said.

Hjerm admitted that this raises the question of whether or not people have friends in more ethnic groups because they are less prejudiced, or if they are less prejudiced because they have friends in more ethnic groups.

Hjerm's fifth category was based on significant others. He says that people who are surrounded by others who are prejudiced tend to be more prejudiced than those who are surrounded by people who are unprejudiced.

Attitudes and ideologies composed the sixth category. For example, he said, religious fundamentalists tend to be more prejudiced than those who lean liberally concerning religion.

Lastly, the seventh category was based on psychological predispositions. People who are naturally predisposed to be agreeable and open to new experiences tend to be less prejudiced than their more closed counterparts.

Hjerm then explained that prejudice toward immigrants occurs as a result of people applying the group threat theory, which proposes that prejudice between groups occurs when a majority group perceives a threat from a minority group. In areas where the minority population is relatively large, the majority group becomes fearful of a threat to its dominant social position.

Conflict between the two groups is heightened by competition for a finite amount of social resources such as jobs. As a result, prejudice is sparked between the two groups.

Hjerm said that the group threat theory holds true for the relationship between blacks and whites in the U.S. In areas where the African American population is high, white people tend to be more prejudiced.

The theory can also be applied to immigrant populations.

Hjerm noted that there are differences in prejudice between nations. "When it comes to explaining the differences in prejudices from country to country, we are just starting to understand," Hjerm said.

The strength of the economy offers one viable explanation. People in poorer areas tend to be more prejudiced due to an intense competition over scarce resources. It has been observed that in times of economic downturn the level of prejudice increases.

#1.1774885:2718088437.jpg Michel Hjerm

Hjerm explains the group threat theory.

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News





## The Electric Fence Solution

### Talking Points

By Tyler Reny, Columnist

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

Rep. Steve King (R-IA), the new chair of the House Subcommittee on immigration, has grand plans for the future. In 2006 he showed off a model of an electrified U.S-Mexico border fence on the House floor. It would be electrified, he pointed out "with the kind of current that would not kill somebody...We do this with livestock all the time." King's disgusting and shameful rhetoric, and the enforcement-only legislation that he has proposed, is just the beginning of what to expect from the immigration debate for the next two years. As long as Rep. King mans the crucial veto point in the House, liberals can kiss comprehensive immigration reform goodbye.

Immigration reform used to be an issue that cut across traditional partisan divides. The Republican Party was split between pro-business conservatives that lauded the cheap labor that immigrants provided and the socially conservative border hawks, or nativists, who warned that immigrants were a threat to our national identity. On the Democratic side were pro-labor Democrats who believed that new immigrants competed with native workers and lowered wages and cosmopolitans who believed that increased diversity only strengthened the country. But these historic partisan divisions are quickly lining up along strict partisan lines with Republicans opposed to anything but enforcement legislation and Democrats fully behind comprehensive reform.

When President George W. Bush, a friend of Hispanics and selftitled compassionate conservative, made a speech in 2006 in favor of "amnesty" for undocumented immigrants, his popularity was already in the toilet and his party had been running against his presidency in re-election campaigns. Needless to say, the Republican Party didn't jump immediately on board. The 2006 amnesty bill that Bush was advocating passed the Senate but died in the House when Republican leaders refused to bring it up for a vote.

In 2007, with a new Democratic majority in the House, Senator Kennedy (D-MA) teamed up with Senator McCain (R-AZ) to push a comprehensive and bipartisan bill through the Senate. During debate, the bill was weighed down with multiple conservative amendments that shifted the bill so far to the right that many on the left threatened to walk away. But, with hesitant support from many civil rights and pro-immigration advocacy groups, most Democrats stayed on, fearing that total failure would be more devastating than a bad bill. When the conservative bill came up for a cloture vote (which would allow



debate to end), most Republicans (with the exception of 12) bailed and withdrew their support. The bill died. Pro-immigrant Republicans have all but disappeared.

With Federal immigration reform officially dead, at least for a while, states like Arizona are taking matters into their own hands. This summer, Arizona's state legislature passed the toughest immigration bill in the country (which was actually written, funded and lobbied by the private prison industry, but that is the topic of another column). The bill, which is now being battled in court, allows local police officers to arrest anybody that looks "suspiciously illegal." All legal immigrants need to carry papers proving their legality. Kind of like how free blacks had to carry papers around proving their "freedom" in the mid 19th century.

The Arizona bill polled well with voters around the country. Some 59 percent of voters approve of law as written and many Republican candidates have built their campaigns around anti-immigrant sentiment. Sharron Angle, the Republican who ran against Majority Leader Harry Reid for Senate in Nevada, ran some of the most negative, xenophobic and blatantly racist ads ever aired against Hispanics. Tom Tancredo, Republican running for governor of Colorado, based his campaign on anti-Hispanic rhetoric and fear mongering. While both Angle and Tancredo lost, they both amassed a solid base of Republican supporters who shared their nativist sentiment and rewarded them in the voting booth.

Many of those Republicans, now in charge of the House, will advocate an enforcement only approach to immigration reform, never mind that President Barack Obama already signed a massive \$600 million enforcement-only bill in August. Any attempt at serious reform from Democrats will likely get hung up in Rep. King's committee. But not all hope for reform is lost. The Republican presidential candidate in 2012 will have to appeal to Hispanics to win key battleground states during the general election. Maybe the electric fence idea will get ditched for something less contentious, like border guards with cattle prods.

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

## Curb over-energetic environmentalism

### Jack Sounds Off

By Jack Ferguson, Columnist

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

Have you ever wondered why it costs you money to use your dorm's washing machines? If you haven't and think that's a silly question, consider: housing costs at Skidmore already include your utilities. Why are you made to pay for water and electricity at the washers, and not showers and lights?

One would suppose that the initial costs of those machines have been covered by now. (Ditto the library's charge-only photocopiers, even though you could print out the whole Encyclopedia Britannica at the regular printers, like four feet away, for free.) Is this Skidmore trying to eke us wherever we're eke-able, or is it just the remnants of a peculiar societal habit, some presumption that "they're washers, so pay up"? The yearly start of our "dorm v. dorm challenge" adds a whole new warped convolution to these questions.

To the best of my knowledge this challenge has been running for three years now and every year at least half the members of the winning dorm altered their living habits very-little to not-at-all. The prize for such conservatory zeal includes a pizza party, a raffle for sundry objects and the dorm's name inscribed on a trophy. To be fair, the trophy is probably the coolest piece of sculpture on campus (which I say in all sincerity though I recognize such as quite faint praise indeed).

Every year I am reminded of a class I took on the USSR, in which we learned how especially dedicated workers didn't get wage raises, but rather received badges, certificates and suchlike. I leave it to you to imagine a hungry though industrious worker receiving a trinket, and being expected to smile. The U.S., on the other hand, has prospered under a system of tax incentives by the federal government to the states and citizens.

Did anyone else have that annoying, cynical voice in the back of his or her head notice how the uproar about global warming receded as the gas prices went back down about three years ago? It seems rather a fact, and not a fault, that we look after our immediate needs and means, and provide and project rather poorly for the distant future. Why can't we initiate a system that caters to our immediate needs as well as our long-term goals?

Skidmore wishes always to further its image as a mutually supportive and nurturing community. Yet once-a-year competitions, appealing to a peculiar, nonexistent patriotism (or I guess dorm-triotism), do not promote this image, but rather fortify our feeling that any beneficial initiative undertaken by the establishment will be short, at worst selfishly motivated and ultimately abortive. In stirs in us no



continuous activism, relieves us of no immediate financial burden and seems only to fatten the purses of those we already paid.

And yet, the "dorm v. dorm challenge" is no doubt undertaken in good faith, by a school which has tasked itself to instigate in us a greener, more conservationist mentality; a school that hopes we carry our now energy-conscious minds into the larger world and spur positive change. But such hope seems rooted rather in a misguided, anachronistic communalism. We will not win over the Walmarts of the world by offering them pizza parties for cutting down on emissions. We will win them over on the very terms under which they-and we, us all-were brought into being. ("But I hate the system and its terms!" you say. Nevertheless, your flowers will wilt or go extinct by the time you get anywhere close to depositing their stems down the leveled guns of capitalism.)

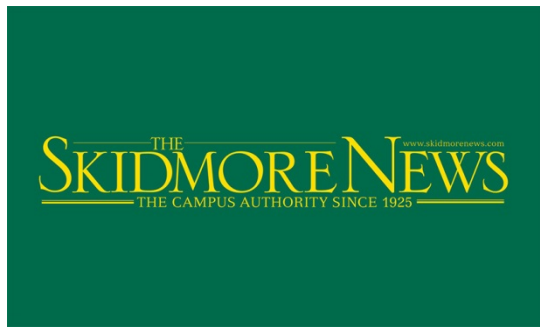
I realize this idea grates rather a lot against the environmentalist hard line that people are a scourge and must be checked immediately. But it is up to us to rectify our wrongs in what looks like a rapidly shrinking window, and to do so without extinguishing human life altogether; instead of flying in the face of humanity, we must work alongside the fact of it. Or else environmentalism, along with the rest of us, will fail. You cannot win a war through revolution.

If we have technology capable of tracking our energy output, and we have students bludgeoned by tuition and we also have a global capitalist system in need of revision, why not combine them into a mutually contributive--and reformative--system? Why not reduce (or, heaven forbid, eliminate altogether) the price of washing machines according to our energy consumption? Wouldn't this give us yearlong incentive to be more energy conscious? Maybe this could become campus-wide. Maybe if we're really good then the policy might even extend to those true luxuries such as Xerox machines.

And then maybe we would actually feel like we were all on the same team.

If we are going to effectively combat global warming; if we as a generation are to initiate true change; if we ever hope to wrest some individuality from the faceless consumers we are perceived to be, then it strikes me that we ought to work through the system in order to reform it, in those terms to which our means cohere, and not those that our ideals enjoy. Time is not on our side.

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



## Elliot Smith eternalized

### The Turntable

By Eric Shapiro, Columnist

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

Suicide may well be the best career move in the cadaver-lined halls of the rock music business, but it also leaves artists who choose to end it all with massive bloodstains on their reputations. Elliott Smith gets tons of respect among indie rock fans and much is made of his morbid, drug-addled lyrics.

It is an understatement to call him a mess and anyone who was surprised by his decision to drive a steak knife through his heart was not paying attention.

But lets look beyond the myth for a minute. Elliott Smith is far more than a depressive amateur poet who killed himself; he is also one of the greatest songwriters and composers of the past two decades. And what better opportunity to reflect on the oft-neglected qualities of his music than with the release of the aptly titled "An Introduction to...Elliott Smith."

Waltz #2, from Smith's major label debut "XO," is lavishly adorned and may come as a shock to those who have only heard his earlier acoustic work. Its classy piano line and waltz beat are a welcome departure. Smith's songwriting was consistent in form as it was in quality, and "XO" demonstrates that it could benefit from expression in a new, fuller context.

"Alameda," "The Biggest Lie" and "Pictures of Me," all from "Either/Or," are above average Elliott Smith songs, which is to say subtly creative and immediately recognizable. "Between the Bars" is a career highlight, perhaps because it strays a bit from the artist's usual faire. The guitar on "Between the Bars" is restrained and placid, allowing its haunting melody to infiltrate your brain.

Needle in the Hay, from Smith's self-titled debut album, is one of the most well-known songs in his discography due to its appearance in Wes Anderson's indie classic "The Royal Tenenbaums," ironically during a scene where one of the main characters attempts suicide.

Last Call is one of the album's less memorable tracks, but it's interesting to see what Smith can do with an electric guitar when he's in the mood.

Angeles lifts the quality back up to standard Elliott Smith level, beginning with one of his greatest guitar lines. The fingerpicking in this song would make Nick Drake proud.



Twilight, in contrast, is sappy, boring and forgettable; it is the one downright bad song on the album, demonstrating that Smith's emotional delivery can be cloying when his songwriting isn't up to par.

Angel in the Snow, my personal pick for the best song Elliott Smith wrote, is rare in that it is easy to appreciate the first time you hear and only grows more hauntingly beautiful with each listen. It captures Smith's ability to pour numerous, seemingly incompatible emotions into one song, creating a mood that is simultaneously indescribable and immediately recognizable. Very few artists can so effectively convey feelings in their music without sounding forced.

Elliott Smith's songs adhere to your brain because their initially familiar chord progressions veer off and resolve in unexpected, uniquely satisfying ways. All the while, his ethereal vocals twist and turn to accommodate the guitar. Smith is always careful not to allow drums, bass and other instruments to distract from the elegant simplicity of his vocal melodies and his guitar.

Elliott Smith's songs, while influenced by artists of the past, are highly individualistic creations that contain more depth than is immediately apparent. His personality is one of contradictions, and his music accordingly blends seemingly incompatible feelings and mindsets: melancholy and cheerfulness, compassion and selfishness, child-like innocence and world-weary cynicism.

Fans and critics will always ponder how Elliott Smith would have progressed creatively had he not given up on life, but thankfully we are left with a full and varied discography consisting of both LPs and thoughtfully-arranged compilations like this one.

*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.*



## Griff an entertaining and absurd speaker

Hip-hop weekly

By Jenna Postler, Columnist

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

From Nov. 1-5 the Hip-Hop Alliance sponsored "Hip-Hop Culture Week." As an avid hip-hop fan, I was extremely excited for Tuesday Keynote Speaker Richard "Professor Griff" Griffin of famed rap group Public Enemy.

I was shocked that Griff was speaking on campus, given that he was involved in controversy. Before the release of "It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back" Griff gave interviews to UK magazines on behalf of Public Enemy, during which he made homophobic and antisemitic remarks. Griff was kicked out of the group, but later invited back. Nonetheless, I was excited to hear what Griff would speak about.

His lecture, titled, "It's Bigger Than Hip-Hop, Beyond Beats and Rhymes: Destroying Hip-Hop's Appetite for Self Destruction" was anything but dull. The artist highlighted the elements he feels are destroying the genre and how current hip-hop deviates from the music that he was a part of in the early-mid eighties.

Griff offered up the following disclaimer: "You aren't going to agree with everything I'm going to say." He then provided the entire auditorium with his phone number, so that we could continue the conversation.

While I understood the initial concept of the lecture, shortly after introducing the title, Griff began to digress from the topic and ventured into a 300-plus slide PowerPoint that touched on sexuality within the media, the Illuminati, the spiritual chakra and blood sacrifices, among many other things. He attempted to link these seemingly unrelated topics into a lecture just shy of two hours long.

Although I have heard some of Griff's theories before, such as Jay-Z being a Free Mason and the Illuminati's subconscious influence on rap music, some of what he presented was just plain absurd. I couldn't contain my laughter when Griff started talking about "demonic people," "witchcraft" and how, "St. Nick is the devil."



At one point the artist contemplated the secret meanings within company logos. During the Q&A following the lecture, when a student asked if some of the things he presented might just be coincidences, Griff responded, "I don't believe in coincidence at all."

Even though most of the lecture was more comical than informative, Griff did express some relevant sentiments shared across the hip-hop community about the current state of the genre. "Hip-hop was the voice of the voiceless, but it isn't anymore. American rap is not helping anyone anymore. Internationally, some artists still have it," Griff said.

Griff lectured that hip-hop used to be comprised of four elements: the DJ, the emcee, the B-Boy and the graffiti artist. Today, he feels that the genre has moved to be solely concentrated on the emcee and, consequently, we are losing three-fourths of the tradition that is hip-hop.

While a certain portion of the lecture was hard to believe, Public Enemy's Professor Griff certainly had opinions on how hip-hop has evolved over the years and provided a night of great entertainment for all those in attendance.

## From a hiss to a boom

### Phantogram and Snakes Say Hiss play Skidmore

By Kara Clark, Contributing Writer

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

The Student Entertainment Committee's concert on Nov. 6, featuring Snakes Say Hiss and Phantogram, proved that Skidmore and Saratoga Springs have acquired some bragging rights. Despite difficulties with the sound system, both bands enthralled the audience and made their musical presence known.

Snakes Say Hiss opened the show, equipped with the obvious, but appropriate green drum set and green guitar. The instruments that appeared on stage were only half of the act. Extra synth and bass were played through speakers from the band's iPod, a feature that slowed down the set's overall flow and increased time between songs.

Lead singer Jamie Ayers, clearly intoxicated, writhed about the stage, frequently collapsing to the ground to do some more slithering. Ayers even attempted a stage dive, which, although successful, could have been omitted for everyone's safety and overall peace of mind. But in spite of any sloppiness, the electronic rock trio provided an aggressive, energetic set, captivating the crowd with venomous songs like "Talk." Ayers spat, "I'm a lesbian savant and I'm the only guy I know who'll give you what you want."

Or at least, that's what it sounded like he was saying. Problems with the sound system began during the middle of Snakes Say Hiss's set. Sound levels were constantly unbalanced, and at some points during the show Ayers couldn't even be heard. The singer continued to slur some sort of apology into the mic, which was followed by a pregnant silence, during which technicians were probably scurrying to resolve the problem. Thankfully, the majority of the sound issues were resolved before Phantogram's set began.

Like Snakes Say Hiss, Phantogram's music has electronic elements, but the second band also uses hip-hop style drumbeats, ambient noises and ample sampling. While on stage, keyboardist Sarah Barthel was constantly in motion, her left foot stomping in unison with the kick drum. Josh Carter swayed back and forth, plucking out complex melodies on his guitar to match Barthel's synthesized drones. Both halves of Phantogram attacked their instruments with precision and vigor.

Unlike the band that preceded them, Phantogram provided a more diverse set of songs. Audience members either danced frantically or simply swayed in time. The beat of "Futuristic Casket" and the



baseline of "Bloody Palms" inspired movement, while "Mouthful of Diamonds" demanded contemplation of it's thoughtful lyrics.

The concert attracted an audience diverse in age. In addition to students and locals, a handful of senior citizens could be spotted at the show. While this was a little off-putting at first to the average Skidmore student, it's pretty impressive that they were there at all.

While both groups were enjoyable to watch, Phantogram stole the show. Coincidentally, the band is on the verge of significant popularity; Music magazines such as "Spin" have begun recognized the band's obvious talent.

This isn't to say that Snakes Say Hiss was terrible--but it as more likely that those who attended the concert will remember its headliner, rather than its opener. Phantogram deserves all the recognition they can get.

#1.1774929:113965860.jpeg Phantogram

Skidmore students enjoy the bands Phantogram and Snakes Say Hiss, which the Student Entertainment Committee brought to campus on Nov. 6.

Rosie Dienhart/Skidmore News



## Vice-President Susan Kress fills in for President Glotzbach during sabbatical

By Gabe Weintraub, Editor-In-Chief

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

As of Nov. 1, President Philip Glotzbach is on a six-month sabbatical. In his absence, Vice-President for Academic Affairs Susan Kress is serving as acting president.

Kress has been at the college since 1975, teaching English and eventually chairing the department. While still a member of the English department, she became vice-president for Academic Affairs five years ago.

Kress is originally from England--she still has a faint English accent--and received her education at the universities of Manchester and Cambridge. "I had all of my education in one country, and I had never met a liberal arts college before I came to Skidmore," she said. "Of course, I immediately fell in love with this particular method of education, which was very, very new to me. I found a home at Skidmore." Before Skidmore, Kress taught at Cornell, CUNY Queens College and SUNY Albany.

Glotzbach's sabbatical comes at approximately the halfway-point in the college's 10-year Strategic Plan for Engaged Liberal Learning, which he has overseen since becoming president in 2003. He has numerous goals for the sabbatical but, above all else, he says it will be an opportunity to evaluate the success of the Strategic Plan, and to consider its future. "The luxury of this sabbatical is just having time to concentrate," Glotzbach said. "We spent all of last year thinking about, 'OK, what have we done so far in the Strategic Plan?'" Kress said, continuing, "What do we still have left to do? What do we really want to be focused on?"

The next question, she said, and the question that Glotzbach will be contemplating during his absence is, "What about the next strategic plan? Where do we want to be, not five years from now but 10 to 15 years from now? What comes next? What are our next aspirations? What are the next things we would like to do as an institution, as a community?"

The sabbatical will be Glotzbach's first since the fall of 1991, when he was a professor at Denison University. While there may be some travel involved, Glotzbach's time away will be mainly a stay-at-home sabbatical, in part because his wife, theater department professor Marie Glotzbach, while teaching a reduced course load, will not be on an official sabbatical. He will return at the start of May, in order to be able to preside over commencement for the class of 2011.



I do have his telephone number, Kress said, "but I'm going to try not to bother him. We will try not to encroach upon his time away. We're trying to pretend he's on another planet. But if we do need to take that rocket ship we can. It's a short rocket trip."

In the meantime, Kress, as vice-president for Academic Affairs, inherits the duties of the president. The order of succession is dictated by the college's bylaws, which stipulates that the VPAA serves as the acting-president in the president's absence. While she does have presidential discretion, her responsibility is primarily to maintain agenda items already set in motion.

What we normally do, she explained, "is over the course of the spring and the summer, we set in motion our plans for the following academic year. So those plans are in motion and really it will be my job to be sure that we continue our program on the action agenda items that we said we would be working on. I don't expect there will be major new initiatives that come up in [Glotzbach's] absence."

Among the capital initiatives this year are the new Scribner Village and changes to the college's IT facilities. Kress has just released this year's action agenda, which is available on the website of the Office of the President.

I hope we'll make some progress on various other initiatives in Academic Affairs and so on, she elaborated. "So I think what I'd like is that when he comes back he'll have some of the things he knows are on the agenda moving forward. And not too many big surprises; I'm trying not to move the furniture in his office."

One of her goals for her time as acting-president is to make herself readily available to students. She plans to have an office hour every Wednesday, starting Dec. 1, when she will be available from 4-5 p.m., in her office on the fourth floor of Palamountain Hall.

As vice-president for Academic Affairs, I routinely met with the SGA vice-president for Academic Affairs, Kress said, "and in this position I will routinely meet with the SGA president, so that's a way for me definitely to keep in touch with what's on the minds of students with respect to SGA. SGA of course doesn't cover everything that people are interested in or want to talk about so I did want to keep some time for those other things."

While no longer a teacher, at least not in the classroom, she hopes the office hour can be educational, for herself and her visitors, and hopefully just as valuable as time in the classroom.

This is a learning community, so the learning goes on inside the classroom, but you don't just close the door when you come out, Kress said. "There's learning going on all the time. Whether you're having





coffee with friends or competing on the athletics field, you learn a terrific amount from being in a community and working with other people...

For me, it's all part of a learning experience, that when you leave here in four years you say 'I learned these things, not just because of my major but because I met people, because I made friendships that taught me something about how different people live and the different places they come from and their different perspectives. ' And who's to give what value to what?

#1.1774940:2363136482.jpg Susan Kress

Acting-President Susan Kress

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News





## Sports Wrap

### No. 5 field hockey to host NCAA Regional

By Audrey Nelson, Sports Editor

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

Skidmore's field hockey team won its third consecutive Liberty League Championship on Nov. 6 over Hamilton College with a final score of 4-1.

Senior Christine Kemp scored two of the Thoroughbred's goals and assisted on the other two. She now has 71 career points for the season, surpassing the previous record of 69, on her way to being named Tournament MVP.

Skidmore has won 17 straight games with a perfect home score of 12-0. Kemp made the first goal at the 5:26 mark with assist from Annie Rosencrans '12.

Within five minutes of the second half, junior Jess Danker scored the second goal of the game with a pass across the circle from Kemp. Kemp made the score 3-0 at the 53:14 mark for her 25th goal of the season. Soon after, the Continentals came back with a goal from senior Coleen Callaghan. But within a minute, the Thoroughbreds came back with a goal from Rosencrans to make the score 4-1.

Since this win, the team moved up to 5th in the most recent Kookaburra/NFHCA Division III National Coaches Poll.

Skidmore has been selected to host one of four NCAA Division III Tournament Regionals. Tournament play will begin on Skidmore's field at 10 a.m. on Sat. Nov. 13. The Thoroughbreds will play The College of New Jersey.

The college will host the second and third rounds of the championship both Saturday and Sunday, where Skidmore's field hockey team will be making its fourth straight and 10th overall NCAA tournament appearance. Sunday's quarterfinal game will begin at 1 p.m. and the winner will advance to the NCAA III finals held Nov. 20-21 at Christopher Newport University.

In the 2009 NCAA quarterfinals, Skidmore lost to Tufts University. The Thoroughbreds made its best NCAA showing in 2001 at the semifinals.

The 2010 Liberty League All-Tournament Team consists of six Skidmore players out of its total 11.





The Thoroughbreds named to the team include Christine Kemp '11 (MVP), Liz Catinella '11, Annie Rosencrans '12, Lauren McCarthy '11, Claire Superak '11 and Julia Sarni '11.

### **Volleyball**

The volleyball team concluded its season with a 1-3 record at the Liberty League Championship at St. Lawrence University.

During the event, Skidmore senior Meredith Palmer was selected Liberty League player of the year and Sam Friedman '13 was named to the All-Liberty First Team along with Kelley Vershbow '12 and Mallory Mendelsohn '13. Palmer was also named to the All-Tournament Team.

At St. Lawrence, the Thoroughbreds opened with a 3-1 win over Union College. The women then lost 3-2 to Vassar, and dropped 3-1 in its third match against the host team. In the final match, Clarkson beat the Thoroughbreds 3-0.

### **Liberty League honors**

Liberty League recognized three Skidmore field hockey players this week and an athlete on the college's swimming and diving team.

Christine Kemp '11 was named offensive performer of the week while teammate Liz Catinella '11 received defensive player of the week. First year Kelly Blackhurst was named rookie of the week. Kemp also earned Tournament MVP honors.

Stephen Lento '11 of the swimming and diving team earned co-swimmer of the week awards after winning three events in Skidmore's 146-121 win at Vassar.

He won the 200 Free, 500 Free and the 200 IM. The Thoroughbreds will host St. Rose at 1 p.m. on Nov. 13.

## **New men's basketball coach ready for season**

By Kristin Travagline, A&E Editor

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

The Skidmore basketball team begins its season on Nov. 17 with new head coach, Joe Burke. Burke's previous experiences as a coach have gradually led him to this position at Skidmore.

When Burke graduated from college he was unsure about what profession he wanted to pursue, but knew that he wanted to remain involved in athletics. "I always had the coach in me, I just wasn't sure what level I could get to," Burke said.

Burke grew up with an older brother and three younger sisters, who all participated in athletics. He played three sports in high school and went on to play two sports in college.

After graduating college, Burke returned to his high school and received his first assistant coaching job. "Every day going to work was so exciting. People always talk about doing what you love to do and every day I loved going into work," he said.

Even though Burke knew that coaching would not be an easy profession, he understood that it was the correct career path for him. After two years as an assistant coach at his high school, Burke received an opportunity to work as a head coach at Philadelphia University. Burke remained at Philadelphia University for another two years.

He then worked at Cornell University for four years where he continued to develop his coaching skills.

"I firmly believe in balance. I think kids can have a great athletic and academic experience. Being at an institution like that really enabled me to learn that you can play basketball in college and be very good at it and you can also be a great student at a great school," Burke said.

Burke's career path then led him to the Navy basketball program where he worked for six years. "Just being around those kids and around that institution helped me develop some leadership skills that I couldn't have gotten anywhere else," he said. The Navy job was also a good opportunity for Burke's growing family.

Finally, three months ago, Burke was offered the position as Skidmore's head basketball coach. "I fell in love with the place. In the 24 hours I was here I was just captivated by the people, the players and the



administration. And based upon what I had done, especially during the last 10 years at Navy and Cornell, it was just a great fit," Burke said.

Burke is optimistic about the team's upcoming season. "I have a great group of players. I love their ability, but more importantly, I love their character," the new coach said. "Sometimes in athletics, kids go to school just to be basketball players. In my opinion I always want to surround myself with kids that want to do both."

During their pre-season training, the team already began to bond. "Our relationships have progressed, meaning myself with the players, faster than I even thought it would. That's a tribute to the kids and their flexibility. I give them a lot of credit. I feel like we've come a long way in a short period of time," Burke said.

Burke stressed how the team meets on a regular basis to discuss topics other than basketball including academic and social concerns. "There are so many things that we talk about besides basketball and I think that's how relationships grow. If we have issues we have to reach out to one another and try and solve these problems together," he said.

In terms of bonding, the entire basketball team attended the girls' field hockey playoff game in the first round of the Liberty League tournament. They also helped referee a Hoop Mountain basketball camp, which runs in the college's athletic center.

"So far this year, the team has worked diligently getting into shape for our first game and has made great strides in working together under the slightly new system. This group has the potential to do some great things this year if we work at it and everyone on the team gets along with one another making for good chemistry when playing together," team captain Jeff Altimar '11 said.

Despite these strides, Burke emphasized the work that still needs to be done in order to have a successful season.

"With any coaching transition, it's never easy. They have a lot of adjusting to do, as do I. Although we've only been together for three months now, since I got the job, I want the three months to feel like three years. What I'm worried about right now is the chemistry and us coming together as a group and understanding what we both want out of this program," Burke said.

Burke said that he also hopes the team's skills will improve with every practice. "We're not where we need to be, I feel like we're progressing, but if we come to practice or games every day and we work extremely hard we'll get better every day. And in the end we'll be the best team we can be at the end of the year," Burke said.



Altimar expressed similar sentiments. "Coach has made sure to keep us humble and has reinforced that in order to accomplish what we want, we have to work hard every day to get better," he said.

The team has been practicing since Oct. 15 and is anxious to begin its season. "I'm excited about the season. I'm hoping the student body gets excited as well because I think athletics is a huge part of the campus spirit and can add so much to an institution," Burke said.

## Overshadowed lives

### Estamos Aqui' in Case Gallery

By Audrey Nelson, Sports Editor

On Sat, Nov 13, 2010

Skidmore College's "¡Estamos Aqui!" ("We Are Here") exhibit in Case Gallery celebrates the Latino immigrant population in the Saratoga Springs area.

Through the Latino Community Advocacy Program of Saratoga County Economic Opportunity Council, this documentary photography project displays 11x17 black and white photographs, both digital and film, taken by individuals in the Latino immigrant population. Each photograph includes a description from the photographer, and each represents an aspect of their daily lives. This is the fifth annual exhibit of this project.

"The goal of the project is to overcome all of the barriers preventing the voices of immigrants themselves from being heard and allow them to come forward and hopefully, through the photos, engage with members of our community," said Krystle Nowhitney, coordinator of the Advocacy Program.

The photos depict everything from family members to a child's baseball game to the horses that many of the photographers work with. "In every photo too, I think there is a sense of pride. Whether the photo is of bicycles or women cooking, the images represent a sense of pride in who they are, the work they do and the opinion or view they may be presenting," Nowhitney said.

The Latino population in the Saratoga Springs area plays a large role in the town's renowned horse racing season, making it no surprise that the exhibit mostly displays images of the horses and the track. Each photograph is accompanied with a description from the photographer, often in Spanish and translated into English.

Many view the horses they work with as symbols of beauty, which is reinforced in the descriptions. Carlos Cotrina, who works as an exercise rider at the racetrack, wrote of his photograph depicting two horses looking over at a third, "the other two horses are admiring the beauty of this mare."

Ariel Alvarez, from Guatemala, currently works as a groom but dreams of becoming an exercise rider. Of his photograph, "The Tranquil Mulberry Mare," he wrote, "I liked taking this picture of this horse



because of how she looked. She looked very beautiful as if she was sleeping...I hope people think that she is beautiful since it seems that this animal is in a place where no one bothers her."

Every year for the project, the EOC organizes a series of photography workshops, provides cameras and organizes a jury of volunteers to select the photographs to be displayed in the exhibit. Volunteers also matte and frame the photos and schedule exhibits throughout the community. Photographer Skip Dickstein led the workshops, and also processed the final photos.

When students in EOC's English as a Second Language class and students involved with the Latino Community Advocacy Program were told about the photography project, they were skeptical.

Most students had never done photography before, and some were a little skeptical that they had the 'talent' or 'ability' to be successful. "We assured students that no experience was necessary and that the point of the classes was so that they could learn," Nowhitney said.

Latino immigrants, particularly those working in low-wage jobs behind the scenes, are often overlooked. During a time when the debate over immigration in the U.S. is becoming increasingly hostile toward immigrants, it is important to present alternate representations, Nowhitney said.

The sale of photographs and note cards benefits Saratoga EOC's Latino Community Advocacy program. The exhibit will run until Nov. 15.



## Choreo II shows off moves

By Tegan O'Neil, Staff Writer

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

On Nov. 13 approximately 200 people filled the Skidmore College Dance Theater to watch the Choreography II and Dance Production Class Showing. A line formed even before the doors opened at 2:15 p.m. for the 3 p.m. performance.

The showing was comprised of 11 pieces choreographed by the students of the Choreography II class in collaboration with the lighting designs of the Dance Production class.

The show began with "Diversions," choreographed by Rachel Bier '12 and set to music by Gabriela Montero and Billy Joel. The lighting designer was Emily Craver '11. The dancers--Alison DeFranco '13, Rebecca Greenbaum '11, Anna Long '11, Sydney Magruder '14 and Talya Wolf '13---were strikingly on par with the music. Their movements were clean and the group worked seamlessly together.

The second piece, "Love Beckons," choreographed by Hattie Young '12, blended words and music to an interesting, creative effect. Young also designed the sound for this piece, weaving text from Blogs, Kahil Gibran, Michael Drayton and Petrarch into a soundtrack of Billie Holiday, Elvis Presley and Mozart.

Ivy Rose Cardillo '14, Emily Cohen '13, Jennifer Latsch '12, Hartley Parish '11 and Martha Snow '14, the dancers of the piece, matched their sexually charged movements with the ominous tone of the text spoken over the music, which created an interesting yet disturbing aura. Sabrina Lumbert '12 designed the lighting for this piece.

Chloe Prasinós '13

choreographed "Divided We Fall" set to music by Timothy Andres, who visited Skidmore earlier this semester with the Academy of Carnegie, Juilliard and Weill. The Dance Production Class along with Lori Dawson, technical director, lighting designer and Dance Theater manager, designed the lighting for this piece and Kat Sullivan '12 stage-managed.

The dancers--Anna Kerr '12, Lauren Parra '13, Lucia Ruggieri '13 and Ayako Shapiro '14--told a powerful story with their strong and decisive movements.

Emily Craver '11, Jacob Goodhart '12 and Corry Ethridge '14 used clapping and snapping in "Between a Flash and a Clap," choreographed by Emily Pacilio '12, to create the impression of sitting on a back porch

on a warm summer's eve in Kentucky. Their loose khakis and white shirts also contributed to this casual, playful mood.

Their movements and sounds were set to the music of Paul Cantelon, Etta James, Blind Willie Johnson and Charley Patton. It was a fusion of classical, blues and a tinge of bluegrass designed by Allison Dell Otto '12. Sullivan designed the lighting.

001011001101, choreographed by Danny Weinstein '11, was marked by futuristic, almost mechanistic, movements set to electronic music by Aphex Twin. The dancers included Aditi Datta '13, Paige Duarte '14, Emily Hudspeth '13, Heather Miki '11, Amanda Ostrove '13 and Nicole Sartor '11. The lighting designer, Zoe Prengaman '11, played with the electronic music and robotic movements of the dancers to heighten the futuristic dynamic.

Senior Kristiana Hubley's choreography for "Mourning Dew," set to Le Mystère Des Voix Bulgares recorded by Marcel Cellier, had her dancers fluidly and ephemerally grace the stage. Hannah Foster '14, Hannah Garland '13, Greenbaum, Shapiro, and Snow moved effortlessly as if in another world. Cameo Lethem '14 stage-managed and Lori Dawson designed the lighting.

Long choreographed "Experience Uploaded" to music by Jonathan Wan '12. The music combined with the solid movements of the dancers--Talia Arnow '13, Emily Craver '11 and Lumbert--related a captivating story to the audience. Lethem designed the lighting.

The minimalist music of Arvo Pärt provided the dancers, Duarte, Ostrove, Ruggieri and Tess Wendel '11, with spiritual material to work with in the piece, "Then There Was Her," choreographed by Daniel Chenoweth '11. As they spun around the stage in billowing grey pants, they appeared to coalesce. Julia Robins '12 designed the lighting.

As Things Unravel, choreographed by Lumbert, was filled with tension and constrained violence. The dancers Ethridge, Pacilio and Wolf seemed to be telling a story of an old rage mixed with a new one. The glowing lighting designed by the Dance Production Class along with Lori Dawson intensified these emotional undertones. Robins stage-managed.

Dorothy Franks '14, Madruger, Michael Rivera '13, Cardillo and Angela Spyrou '14 put on an exotic and dynamic performance to music by Nico Muhly and Meriedith Monk in "M.I.D.A.S." This piece, choreographed by Courtenay Thorne '12, was packed with jumps and turns and rolls and leaps.

The cherry on top for this piece was the Amazonian hair sported by the dancers. Greenbaum designed the lighting.



The closing piece of the showcase, choreographed by Hartley Parish '11, starkly contrasted the wild and dark style of 'M.I.D.A.S.' with its sassy and comedic ambience. Cohen, Nicole Kadar '11 and Young wore outfits reminiscent of circus performers and pranced and joked about the stage, hamming up the spotlight.

Their playful routine was set to music by Gerald Marks and Dizzie Gillespie. Garland designed the lighting.

The turnout for the event was impressive. As the intimate space of the dance theater quickly filled up, audience members sat on the floor and stairs in order to get a seat.

The Choreography II class studies solo and group choreographic techniques and related musical and production resources.



## Beatlemore Skidmania in high demand

By Mariel Kennedy, Staff Writer

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

George Harrison once said, "As far as I am concerned, there won't be a Beatles reunion as long as John Lennon remains dead." Though the Beatles will not be reuniting anytime soon, Skidmore students, faculty and members of the Saratoga Springs community can commemorate and honor the "Fab Four" on Sunday, Nov. 21 at Skidmore's 10th annual Beatlemore Skidmania.

This year's Beatlemore is a year of anniversaries and introductions. Not only the 10th anniversary of the event, which was started by music professor and Beatles scholar Gordon Thompson, but this year Beatlemore will also commemorate John Lennon and Ringo Starr's 70th birthdays, the 50 years since the Beatles went to Hamburg, the 40 years since their breakup and the 30 years since Lennon's assassination. In addition, the event will showcase the Arthur Zankel Music Center's new concert halls.

Thompson's first-year seminar class was given the task of planning and organizing this year's Beatlemore. "They've been great. They've had wonderful ideas and all have dedicated time outside class to designing posters, auditioning performers and selling tickets. I think it's been a great learning experience for them," Thompson said.

Beatlemore began in 2001 when Thompson's Beatles Seminar wanted to put on a concert of Beatles' music performed by student bands and faculty members. Despite little advertising, the event was a major success. Since then, Beatlemore has evolved into one of the biggest events on campus. The renditions range from a capella variations to string quartets.

Educationally, Skidmania provides an opportunity for students to directly engage with material and make it their own. Here they enthusiastically take up the music of their own accord, work out their arrangements, rehearse their performances and put on their show, Thompson said.

Amanda Boehmer, concerts and events manager at Zankel, reasons that the Beatles resonate with everyone. "The Beatles are just timeless and relevant and meaningful no matter how old you are or what your socioeconomic class is. The music is just simply fun," Boehmer said.

This is also a year of firsts for the event. For the first time, Beatlemore will be held in Zankel. This move will both accommodate more audience members and allow additional students and Saratogians to see the new concert hall.

Beatlemore will also be a ticketed event for the first time. "In the past, it was first-come, first-seated. This year, everyone will have a seat. That transition process has some kinks in it, but we have learned and established some new benchmarks," Thompson said.

High demand for tickets led to the decision to add a second showing. "The 200 seats for faculty, staff and the public sold out in less than 15 minutes. This prompted the decision to add a same, second performance. Public tickets for this showing sold out in less than one day, and we are very close to selling out all student tickets," Boehmer said.

Beatlemore is a two-day event. On Saturday, Nov. 20 a panel of experts will lead a discussion on different Beatles-related topics. The panel will feature Allan Kozinn, a NY Times music critic and author, Tim Riley, author of "Tell Me Why" and Jonathan Gould, author of "Can't Buy Me Love." This event is free. Tickets for the concert on Sunday are \$3 for students and \$5 for the public.

Proceeds from the event will go to local charity Saratoga Cares - an outreach program that supports Saratoga's food pantries. Thompson's seminar students chose this charity because they "wanted to give something to the Saratoga community," Thompson said.

## "The Servant of Two Masters"

Italian commedia comes to mainstage

By Julia Leef, Staff Writer

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

The Mainstage Production at the Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater, Carlo Goldoni's "The Servant of Two Masters," combines traditional Italian commedia dell'arte and postmodern vaudeville to tell the tale of the madcap servant, Truffaldino, and his encounters with masters, mistresses, lovers, lawyers and meatballs.

This fast-paced comedy brings a variety of wonders to the stage, including acrobatics, juggling, audience participation, and adlibs.

The decision to perform "The Servant of Two Masters" came in part as a result of director Alma Becker's commedia class.

Becker had also seen the play in N.Y. with two students, Ilanna Saltzman '11 and Tristan Schaffer-Goldman '11, who both studied commedia in Italy. "It just felt like this was the semester to do this," Becker said.

A lot of direct communication with the audience is necessary for this show and Becker applauded her students' ability to take direction. "Once people know what's wanted, then they really go after that," Becker said.

Saltzman, the assistant director, spoke highly of students' opportunity to work together to bring this play to life. She was able to pass on the experience she had gained in Italy to the other students. Saltzman said that it was a challenge getting the details across, but very rewarding.

In addition to her regular directing duties, Saltzman also organized the pre-show that will take place about half an hour before the actual performance. This pre-show will be performed by another group of actors, and is designed to get the audience into the comedic spirit and generate energy.

Andrea Nice, '11, set designer, remarked on the collaborative creative process involved and how her job was also a lesson in decision making. Nice said that designing a set to convey the "play within a play" aspect of the show was a challenge, which involved a great deal of architecture, geometrics and mathematics.



It is a comprehensive form of art in that you have to be able to explain your every reason for what you put on the stage. You have to think of composition, balance and light, Nice said.

Nice hopes to pursue a career in set design and said she is pleased with this educational experience that she could not have gotten from a class. She also said she looks forward to seeing the final product and believes that it will be very gratifying.

Much praise for the show came from the actors. Tristan Schaffer-Goldman '11, who plays Truffaldino and the Servant, has enjoyed working with Becker for the first time.

He said that he has been caught up in the many different ways to express the style of the play to a modern audience, and the great enthusiasm exhibited by Becker and the cast.

Schaffer-Goldman was especially interested in the way that wearing a mask shifts the performer's focus from the face to the body. Schaffer-Goldman said that one must work on physical comedy to learn "how to be funny without facial expressions, breaking down what is comedy and how it lives in your body and how you can use your body to tell it."

Although she doesn't wear a mask, Isabelle Russo '11, who plays Beatrice, a woman pretending to be her brother Federigo, faced the challenge of "how to conflate the female and male aspects of the character."

Russo said she must take many things into account including how well Beatrice is disguised and how good she is at it. Russo said this requires her to balance her own acting skills with those of her character.

The Servant of Two Masters will be playing at JKB Theater from Nov. 19-21 and Dec. 2-5. All performances are at 8 p.m. except Sunday matinees, which are at 2 p.m.

The cast and crew invite students and faculty alike to play a part in this interactive show and to experience the style of Italian commedia that has played an important part in their education for the past few months.

#1.1787316:1977486563.jpeg Servant of Two Masters

Jaime Martinez-Rivera '11, Isabelle Russo '11, Leah Cohen '11, Olivia Nielson '13, Chris Iredale '11, Tristan Schaffer Goldman '11, Elly Smokler '11, Garrett Weinstein '11, Julie Dietz '11.

Courtesy of Grace Troxell



## Beckettshorts' haunting and dream-like

By Kristin Travagline, A&E Editor

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

The abstract plays of Samuel Beckett suit an abstract performance space. "The Jewel Thief" exhibit in the Frances Young Tang Teaching and Art Museum at Skidmore College created the perfect atmosphere for Beckettshorts, which ran from Nov. 11-13.

The director intelligently used the space by creating a haunting, mysterious and, at times, magical mood that complimented Beckett's writing. Even before entering the gallery, the performers drew the audience into the performance. A mannequin stood in the glass-windowed vestibule that led into the gallery. She displayed a yellow jacket, a matching wide-brimmed hat and bright red lipstick.

That is, many thought she was a mannequin until the figure emitted a loud, high-pitched shriek, sending frightened audience members briskly moving into the gallery. Likewise, other actors manned the lobby, some completely still, others slowly revolving about the room, surveying the audience with gaunt eyes.

This production immersed the audience in the theatrical experience. Throughout the entire performance, the audience stayed in close proximity to the actors.

Although several audience members had to stand during the first play, the venue made for an intimate experience that is difficult to achieve on a conventional stage where the distance between the audience and actors is rarely breached. This arrangement suited the content of the plays, which largely contemplate the nature of humanity.

The first play, "Footfalls," took place in the main lobby of the gallery. The play began in darkness when a shadowy figure entered from stage left, filling the audience with anticipation. A single light, far right, came up and revealed the actor with dark circles under her sunken eyes, costumed in a heavy, grey cloak.

A clock tolled and she methodically paced across the floor. She turned to look out at the audience and uttered with a deep, haunting voice, "Mother?" A voice, seeming to emit from the single light stationed high up on the second floor stairs, replied, "Yes, May."

The dialogue between the daughter and invisible mother continued with May repeatedly pacing back and forth, only halting her footsteps to speak. Cleverly, the single light created an illuminated rectangle on the dark floor, indicating the bare patch of carpet that May's feet had worn down.



The final lines of the play suggested that May's mother existed only in her imagination, "It is all in your poor mind." Claire Saxe '11 played the part convincingly, using a simultaneously controlled and passionate voice. Saxe delivered her lines with emphasized pronunciation and rhythm, which captured the intensity of her character.

As the lights went out and the toll of a clock rang out again, a member of the audience jumped in his seat, a testament to the powerful performance.

When the first play finished ushers led the audience into the main room of the exhibit where the audience took their seats on the piece "Jewel Thief," which consists of geometrically shaped platforms made of wood and the colorful plastic-covered metal seen on playground equipment. "Come and Go," "Breath," "What Where" and "Radio I" were also staged in this area of the gallery.

The striking costumes in "Come and Go" channeled the eye candy of the surrounding exhibit. The characters, Flo (Sophia Lewis '14), Vi (Dara Silverman '13) and Ru (Alexia Zarras '14) wore yellow, red and purple tweed jackets respectively and matching wide brimmed hats, which concealed their faces. Only their bright red mouths remained exposed.

One by one, each woman stood up, walked to the corner of the platform and the remaining two women gossiped about her, smug smiles stretching their bright lips.

What Where, although one of the most confusing plays of the evening, best took advantage of the gallery space. The play included five actors who played the Voice (Alexander Greaves '12), Bom (Ben Journey '14), Bim (Brandon O'Sullivan '11), Bem (Grady Shea '13) and Bam (Sam Szabo '11). The characters dressed identically, wearing long grey jackets and long grey wigs.

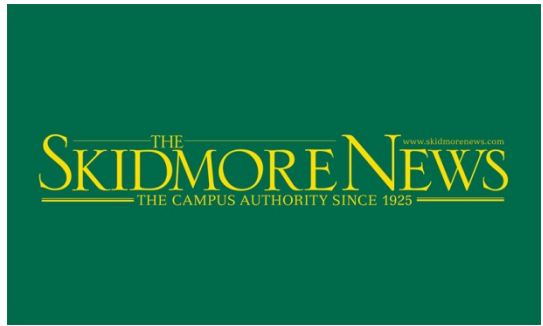
With the lights out, the characters emerged from behind several large boxes ascending in height that form part of the exhibit. Greaves, playing the Voice, stood stationary far left near the smallest box, holding a flashlight to his face in the darkness.

The Voice narrated, in a deliberately monotone robotic voice and even controlled the action, which he stopped, rewound and replayed several times saying, "Not good, I start again."

The other four actors walked rapidly through the exhibit with their heads down, hair hanging over their faces and arms outstretched. The dark forms of paintings, sculptures and hanging lanterns added to the other-worldly atmosphere.

Catastrophe, was staged even deeper in the exhibit on a carpeted patch of floor. Greaves, the Protagonist, gave a moving performance, standing on a stool, shivering in his long johns as the director





O'Sullivan and the assistant, Lewis, analyzed his appearance and exploited his suffering by casting his miserable shadow on the gallery wall.

The audience looped back to the main lobby for the final performance, "Quad," during which four actors (Greaves, Journey, Silverman and Szabo), clad in colorful hooded cloaks, paced in rapid, square patterns set to a drum beat and colorful lighting.

Leaving the museum, the mysterious magic of the evening lingered like the feeling of recalling a vivid dream.

## A Ticket to Virginia

Field hockey advances to the Final Four

By Gabe Weintraub, Editor-in-Chief

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

Annie Rosencrans's last-minute, gamewinning goal against Eastern University on Sunday, Nov. 14 put an exclamation point on a record-breaking weekend for Skidmore field hockey, extending the team's school-best 19-game winning streak and lifting them to the NCAA Final Four.

This Saturday the Thoroughbreds travel to Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Va., where they will take on No. 4 Bowdoin College in a national semifinal. Should they emerge victorious, the team will face the winner of No. 1 Messiah College vs. No. 2 Ursinus College, and fight for the right to call themselves national champions.

Skidmore finished the regular season ranked No. 5 after earning their third consecutive Liberty League title. They have not lost since Sept. 3, falling 3-0 at SUNY Cortland. They have since gone on to win 19 consecutive games, earning a 20-1 record and setting a school record for victories in a season.

I think the fact that we did lose early was really key for us in a lot of ways, Head Coach Beth Hallenbeck said. "We came into the season knowing we were very strong, but losing early really made us reexamine what we needed to do differently, how we needed to step up our game and be ready for future opponents and, obviously, it seems to have worked."

Our goal from the preseason was to get to the Final Four and to win an NCAA championship, said senior co-captain Christine Kemp, "but I don't know that we all believed in it right away. After a couple games something clicked and we all stepped our game up and our confidence and really started believing that we could get where we are today."

Kemp is one of nine seniors on the team, a considerable number for a Division III college team, according to Hallenbeck. "I think they've been a huge part of it," she said. "There's a lot of experience on the team and there's a lot of urgency in this group. This is the final chance."

As Liberty League champions, Skidmore has qualified for the NCAA tournament for the last three years. 2008 saw a young Thoroughbred team lose in the first round to Eastern, and last year the team's championship hopes were dashed by a loss to Tufts University in the quarterfinals. Skidmore last made it to the semifinals in 2001, the team's only Final Four appearance.

For seniors like Kemp, this weekend represents the final shot at the biggest prize of them all, a national title. "This is their legacy," Hallenbeck said, "they're going out in the best way possible."

In a season of team records, Kemp has set several of her own. A first half assist against Eastern on Sunday gave her the program record for assists in a single season, and she is the first player in school history to score 200 career points. Kemp has been named a First Team All-American in both of the last two seasons, and this year she has already been named to the All-Liberty League First Team and earned Liberty League Tournament MVP and offensive player of the year honors for the third time. Given a strong performance in the Final Four, Hallenbeck believes Kemp will be a serious contender for the national player of the year.

Kemp attributes her personal accomplishments to her teammates, saying "I wouldn't be anywhere without them. We all make each other play so well." Those teammates, and the other seniors in particular, have earned no shortage of individual honors themselves.

Seniors Liz Catinella, Lauren McCarthy, Claire Superak and Julia Sarni were all named to the Liberty League All-Tournament team. Catinella, McCarthy and Superak all received Liberty League First Team honors, along with junior Annie Rosencrans and first year Kelly Blackhurst. Blackhurst was rookie of the year, setting school rookie scoring records with 19 goals and 5 assists for 43 points. Catinella was defensive player of the year and became Skidmore's all-time leader in shutouts and wins. Hallenbeck was coach of the year.

Contributions have come from so many different members of this team, Hallenbeck said, "so while there are certain people who we tend to rely on, it's always interesting to see who is going to step up every game and really offer up something important."

Perhaps the biggest accomplishment of the year, according to Hallenbeck, is that the team maintained its intensity for every single game. "In the past we've been able to get up for certain games," she said, "but there have been lulls, and maybe we'll lose a game that we shouldn't, but that never happened this year."

It came down to heart this weekend, Kemp said. "We did not back down and had a 'refuse to lose' mentality. If the other teams scored then we put on the pressure defensively, and offensively we always found a way to score right back."

Kemp had a dramatic game-winning goal in overtime against The College of New Jersey on Saturday in the second round of the tournament at Thoroughbred Field.

I think the fact that we hosted the regionals last weekend was really in our favor because the crowd was tremendous, Hallenbeck said. "We had two extremely competitive games, and when that's the case it's really nice to have the support from the sideline."

School spirit is key in any team's success, Kemp added. "The more they're into it, and the more energy they bring, the more we can get into it in return. At the end of the games we take a 'victory lap' and slap all the fans' hands and their smiles, excitement and words of encouragement is one of the best feelings."

That home-field advantage will unfortunately be absent in Virginia, but fans can follow the action online with live scores and highlights at [NCAA.com](http://NCAA.com).

Even with the biggest games of the season yet to come, the attitude as the team heads to Virginia is one of jubilation. "It's honestly hard to describe," Kemp said. "I just look at my teammates and want to hug them forever. I'm so proud of everyone; everyone is so proud of each other."

Hallenbeck echoed that sentiment, saying "This is a really special group. Their chemistry and their camaraderie has made it really easy for me. They're a very cohesive group. They want to do well. They're talented but they work hard and I think that's the key to success. They recognize that nothing comes without hard work, and that's really paid off for them this season."

For the seniors, this weekend represents the culmination of all their work from the last four years. "There's an incredible amount of talent on this team, and I think the leadership that the seniors bring really ties all that together," Hallenbeck said. "They've improved steadily through their four years, and it's all possible for them now."

## Sports Wrap

### Field hockey headed to Final Four

By Audrey Nelson, Sports Editor

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

The No. 5 field hockey team won both games against The College of New Jersey on Nov. 13 and against Eastern University on Nov. 14, placing the Thoroughbreds in the Final Four.

In the second round of the NCAA Tournament, hosted at Skidmore, senior Christine Kemp scored the winning goal in overtime for a 3-2 victory over TCNJ. The win advanced the Thoroughbreds to the quarterfinals for the second straight season.

Kemp scored the first goal of the game at the 13:39 mark with an assist from Lauren McCarthy '11. The Lions came back at the 28:59 mark tying up the score to 1-1. Skidmore answered a few minutes later with junior Annie Rosencrans's goal. The Thoroughbreds finished the first half with a 2-1 lead.

TCNJ tied it at 2-2 at the 42:10 mark, where the score stayed until overtime. The Lions had possession for most of the overtime period, but Kemp broke from the defense for a shot on goal. TCNJ keeper, Shannon Syciarz '12 made the save, but Kemp scored the rebound off her own knees to give the Thoroughbreds the 3-2 victory.

The third round of the tournament finished similarly with Rosencrans's game winning goal with 2:41 remaining on the clock. The final score was 4-3 against Eastern University. The win earned the team a place in the semifinals hosted in Newport News, Virginia.

The women will face Bowdoin College at 2 p.m. ET on Nov. 20. The Thoroughbreds improve to 20-1, setting a program record of a 19 game winning streak.

The Eagles scored a quick first goal at the 2:27 mark. Kemp set the score to 1-1 at the 8:09 mark, landing her 28th goal of the season. Four minutes later, senior Brittany O'Brien gave Skidmore the lead, making the score 2-1. Eastern tied it back up early in the second half, but Skidmore responded with another goal at the 56:13 mark when O'Brien redirected a shot from Rosencrans.

Within three minutes, the Eagles tied it up again at 3-3. With less than three minutes remaining, Rosencrans landed the winning goal with assist from O'Brien. The Thoroughbreds will travel to Virginia to compete in the semifinals of the NCAA Tournament on Nov. 20.

### **Women's basketball**

The Skidmore women's basketball team won their first game of the season against Sage College on Nov. 15. Junior Christina Gargiso scored a game-high 18 points to the game's final score of 62-53. Opening game for both teams, Skidmore improves to 1-0 while Sage drops to 0-1.

Skidmore held a close advantage of 31-30 at the end of the first half, but exchanged leads with the Gators until the 9:40 mark when Skidmore regained the lead at 41-40. Sage made a comeback to tie the score at 48-48 and was only down by two points at the 3:32 mark, but couldn't maintain the close game in the final minutes.

Four Skidmore players, in addition to Gargiso, finished with double-digits including junior Megan Gaugler with 12 points, first-year Jordyn Wartts with 11 points, and sophomore Jesse Kavana with 10 points. The Thoroughbreds will host a tournament on Nov. 19-20 and will play Oneonta State at 6 p.m., Nov. 19.

### **Men's & women's swimming & diving**

The Thoroughbreds' swimming and diving teams competed at home for the first time this season on Nov. 13. Both teams lost to the College of St. Rose with scores of 184-96 for the men's team, and 171-106 on the women's team.

First-year Sarah Shaw finished strong in her races, taking second place in the 200 backstroke and 200 butterfly, and third in the 400 IM. Senior Kelsey Carson took second in the 500 freestyle. Divers Kristen Stearns '13 and Krista Pelton '14 went 1-2 in the 1 and 3 meter dives.

In the men's meet, Stephen Lento '11 broke his own record in the 1000 freestyle with a time of 10:31:49. Teammate Jesse Adler '13 took second place in the 200 freestyle with a time of 1:54:67 and in the 200 backstroke in 2:09:09.

The men's and women's teams will race Utica College at their second home meet on Nov. 20.

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Claire Superak '11 and Katie Potter '11 practice the week before the Final Four game against Bowdoin.

Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News







## Talking about the big issues

By Jean-Ann Kubler, Features Editor

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

The spirit of creative thought has taken a new form at the college: an interdisciplinary series of panel discussions.

A series of topical panels, collectively called "Intersections," began Nov. 2 with a discussion of religion in the Spa. The second panel, which focused on gender, took place Nov. 17 in Emerson auditorium.

Most panels include a combination of faculty, staff and students who are engaged in that installation's topic. Future panel topics will include class, sexuality, race and nation.

The discussions aren't linear. The panelists speak for about 10 minutes each, discuss a related topic of concern and then encourage audience participation, said Winston Grady-Willis, an associate professor of American studies and director of intercultural studies at the college who organized the majority of the Intersections series.

The series is co-sponsored by the Committee on Intercultural and Global Understanding, the Bias Response Group and the Committee on Diversity Affairs

The goal of the series, according to Grady-Willis, is not only to spark conversations about each individual panel's topic, but also to encourage attendees to talk about the topics in relation to each other.

As an American studies professor, the Intersections topics relate strongly to Grady-Willis' discipline. "American studies is very interdisciplinary and most of the courses that are taught in the department deal with every single one of these issues, if not all of them," Grady-Willis said.

Other members of the American studies department have been involved in the formation of Intersections. Allison Dell Otto '12, an American studies and gender studies double major, and professor Beck Krefting, will serve on the sexuality panel in February.

Contributions to the Intersections panels are not limited to the American studies department. Director of Religious and Spiritual Life Rick Chrisman served on the religion panel along with Rabbi Linda Motzkin, a Jewish chaplain, Imam Ghengis Khan of Schenectady and Marla Segol, assistant professor of religion.





Future panelists will include professors from the English, religion, history, economics, management and business, Spanish, sociology and anthropology departments, staff from health promotions and admissions, and students from the junior and senior classes.

Audience participation is as much a part of the Intersections series as panelist contributions. During the religion discussion, panelists spoke for about 40 minutes, followed by an additional 40 minutes of questions and comments from the audience.

The first panel took place on election night, right in the middle of midterms, and we still had about 55 people turn out and participate in a really engaged way, Grady-Willis said.

The panels encourage audience members to share their insights and personal anecdotes in relation to each topic. A first year student at the religion panel commented on her feelings of isolation as a practicing Muslim student that embraces a secular culture.

It was a powerful moment, commented Grady-Willis, "And even more powerful and great a moment was afterwards when each of the spiritual leaders on the panel spent between five and 10 minutes talking with the student about resources and individuals she could contact on campus."

Discussions are not necessarily Skidmore-focused. Conversation about each issue may begin at the college level and then extend to national and global issues, depending on the preferences of the panelists and audience members.

It's very much a group dialogue, Grady-Willis said.

Grady-Willis said he was impressed with the turnout at the religion panel, and the audience for the gender panel filled Emerson Auditorium.

Even if audience turnout is not as high in the future, due to overscheduling or any other factors, I'll be satisfied as long as the panels produce substantive conversations and encourage the audience to connect the dots between the different topics, Grady-Willis said.

The next four panels will take place throughout the academic year, culminating with a capstone lecture presented by Cornel West of Princeton University in April.

While there are not currently any plans for Intersections beyond this year, Grady-Willis believes the capstone lecture might shed light on additional topics worthy of panel discussion.

## Seconds' sauce makes great leftovers

By Robin Kronsinsky, Staff Writer

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

I've tried, but I can't seem to find the right way to describe my love of the farmers market. But I can say that a major source of that love comes from the wonderful people who sell the produce of their farms.

The food that I buy at the market always tastes better than store-bought goods, in part because it is grown or made locally, but also because the people who sell it know everything about their products. The farmers at the market are happy to be sharing both their harvest and their wisdom with you, and this makes for the sweetest food there is.

One of my fondest memories of the farmers market led to the making of my favorite sauce--a chunky, vegetable-filled tomato sauce created by my dear friend Caitlin and myself.

The sauce was made possible by the generous gift of a kind-hearted farmer. He was selling a large box of "seconds" tomatoes (tomatoes that became too juicy for their own good and split open, causing scar-like cracks to form) for \$8.

Caitlin ran up to me as I was examining a bushel of Swiss chard, told me of the deal, and asked if I would make a tomato sauce with her. I couldn't imagine anything better, so we decided to carry the box back to school together--it was quite heavy with all the large, juicy tomatoes.

After telling the man behind the farm stand that we wished to buy the box, he asked us how we planned on using them. We told him that we planned to use them in a sauce, and he responded by giving us a whole extra box that he was keeping in his truck.

When we kindly refused, saying that we would not be able to carry them back to campus, he offered to deliver both the boxes in his truck after the market had ended.

We could hardly believe his kindness, and after attempting to politely refuse his offer, we accepted and made sure to buy a few bushels of fresh herbs from him to use in our sauce.

Once back in Caitlin's kitchen, two large boxes of incredibly colorful, somewhat gruesomely scarred tomatoes resting on the counter, we spent over an hour in reconstructive vegetable surgery, skinning and coring about 30 tomatoes.

Caitlin also had fresh garlic, peppers, zucchini and various types of carrots from the market. We diced all these vegetables to use for the sauce, along with onions from the grocery store.

Once we had about two pounds of luscious, sweet tomato guts prepped, we began to make the sauce. We didn't follow any recipes or plan what we were going to do. We started with a simple beginning--sautéing onions and garlic in oil--and added the rest of the ingredients step by step, ending with the tomatoes and red wine.

The sauce cooked for several hours, though we allowed ourselves many taste-testing spoonfuls. Once it had cooked down long enough, we had before us a hearty, heart-warming sauce. It was quite rich, thanks to red wine and fresh sage, but also had a beautiful lightness due to the extra-juicy tomatoes, fresh zucchini, fresh parsley and oregano.

Caitlin and I both stored a good portion of the sauce in the freezer (we had made a huge batch). I have been using it for months in several different dishes. It's delicious over pasta, served with breaded chicken or as a base for stews. I used it to make beef stew last week.

The afternoon of labor was absolutely worthwhile; the "seconds" sauce makes for delicious dishes and sweet memories.

## Seconds Sauce

### Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 20-30 heirloom tomatoes (preferably "seconds" pick, but it is not a necessity - skinned, cored and cut into large chunks
- 5 cloves of garlic - peeled and minced
- 4-5 onions - chopped
- 4-5 green bell peppers - diced

### Directions:

Sautee the onion and garlic in the olive oil until soft. Add the carrots and peppers and cook for five minutes. Add in the zucchini and sauté for another five minutes. Add generous pinches of salt and pepper. Add the tomatoes and whatever juices have escaped. Add all of the spices, plus another generous pinch of salt and pepper, then add the red wine.

Let the sauce simmer with the lid on for an hour. Remove the lid and simmer for another 2-3 hours, until the sauce has cooked down to a thick, stew like consistency. At this point, the sauce may be blended to create a smooth pasta sauce, or left as a chunky vegetable sauce/stew.

#1.1787294:437485399.jpg Second tomatoes

“Second” tomatoes from the farmers market.

Caitlin Allen/Skidmore News



## Eat, bake, love

The Token Dude

By Jack McDermott, Columnist

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

Since Thanksgiving is just around the corner and Katie Lane's baking column is anything but vanilla, I think it is high time we talk about baking in a house full of girls.

There are so many baked goods in our house right now we could probably open up a bakery that would shut down Plum Dandy, as blasphemous as that may sound.

Now, I am not saying guys do not or cannot bake; they just definitely do not bake as much as my housemates. The guys next door, in fact, do not bake at all.

Fun fact: girls love baking, girls love eating baked goods and girls love boys who make them baked goods. I just so happen to be one of those boys. But I really only make a couple different things--mostly rice krispy treats and chocolate chip cookies.

My housemates, however, are more into seasonal and themed baking. We had a whole month of apple cinnamon and now we are chugging along through cans of pumpkin and bags of brown sugar.

We've had apple pies, apple scones, apple tarts, pumpkin scones, snickerdoodles, white chocolate cookies, ice cream cake with marshmallows and teddy grahams, brownies, blondies and lots more cookie variations.

One time, the head baker of the house got me to help her make an apple pie at 3 a.m. on a Saturday. I'm not saying I regret it, but who does that?

Now what would baked goods be without some good old fashioned emotions? When you live in a house of girls, you come to notice that emotions are much more out and about in everyday interactions. There is much more drama, much more crying and much more honesty about everything.

There is absolutely nothing wrong with that--it can actually be kind of refreshing--but guys do not really do that. We keep things to ourselves. And if and when we cry, we usually do it alone, out of sight, without anyone knowing.

Having said that, I must admit, since living with five girls, I have cried more times than ever before. This is not good. They're rubbing off on me.

On a similar note, I found out last night at dinner (yes, this was part of our dinner conversation) that the five of them are almost synced up, if you know what I mean. Next month is going to be rough.

But to deal with all these emotions, the go-to response is usually baking. It's true, according to one of my housemates, sometimes the only cure to whatever she's dealing with is a fresh batch of cookies. It's quite comforting.

So we've baked, we've cried and now to round it all off, let's talk about gentlemen friends.

It is quite interesting when one of my housemates brings home a guy to hook up with. When I have a girl over, it feels more normal because, well, it's a house full of girls. She just blends right in. But when there is another guy, it suddenly all changes. I'm no longer the token dude. I'm the token dude plus one. When I wake up in the morning do I try and be friendly like I would a regular guy? Or do I act awkward, because hey, you just slept with one of my sisters. I'll tell you when I figure it out.

On a side note, this past weekend my housemate and I both had friends sleep over. Interestingly they were housemates too, conveniently living next door.

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

## Seeing red and white on your birthday

### A Sprinkle in Time

By Katie Lane, Columnist

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

You should come over to my house. You should sit on my couch. You should look down at the coffee table and start drooling. Because that's basically what we do over here.

Why? I own some pretty sweet cookbooks completely devoted to cupcakes.

There is something about a stack of books filled with nothing but tiny, delicious, personal-sized cakes that just gets those salivary glands working.

Needless to say, it became a weekly habit for my housemates to peruse these books, neglecting their French homework and business projects to choose the cupcake I should bake that week.

About a month ago, my friend Elaine came to my door and peeked her head in.

She declared that she had chosen what I would be baking for her birthday: Red Velvet Cupcakes.

My little ears perked up because I had never made them before and we all know I love a good adventure in the kitchen!

So Nov. 12 found me in the kitchen at 8 a.m. elbow deep in red food coloring, trying to create the perfect red velvet cupcake. Just a few hours later, after I had finished scrubbing the last of said food coloring off the counter and picking up all the sprinkles from the floor, I had these little treats ready to go!

Here's an interesting little fact: red velvet cupcakes traditionally got their color not from food coloring, but from the reaction of acidic vinegar and buttermilk with the red anthocyanin in the cocoa.

The "Dutch Processed" cocoa we use today is more alkaline, so that red color isn't quite as prominent.

There are endless variations of red velvet cake, with varying amounts of food coloring, cocoa, buttermilk and/or vinegar.

It all depends on whether you are going for a sexy valentines-day-don't-you-want-me sultry deep red or a HAPPY-BIRTHDAY-ELAINE-BURNS bright and cheerful red.

Okay. Science lesson over (thanks Wikipedia)!

Let's all sing a round of Happy Birthday and wait for the birthday girl to take the first bite.

*Katie Lane is a senior, amateur baker and blogger. If you try this recipe please let her know at [www.asprinkleintime.wordpress.co](http://www.asprinkleintime.wordpress.co).*

### Birthday Girl Red Velvet Cupcakes

#### Ingredients:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tbs unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup milk
- 1 Tablespoon red food coloring (I like to use no-taste gel food coloring)
- 8 oz cream cheese (room temp)
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup unsalted butter (room temp)
- 4 cups powdered Sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract

#### Directions:

Put a rack in the center of the oven and preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Line a muffin tin with cupcake liners and set aside.

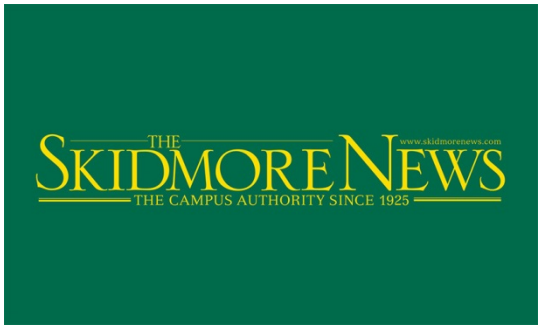
Sift together flour, baking powder and salt into a bowl. Set aside.

Beat together butter and sugar in a large bowl with an electric mixer at medium-high speed until pale and fluffy, about 3 minutes. Beat in eggs one at a time, beating for 1 minute in between each addition. Beat in vanilla. On low speed, add flour mixture alternately with the milk and red dye in 3 batches, beginning and ending with the flour mixture and beating until just incorporated.

Bake at 350° for 15-18 minutes, or until the cakes a pick inserted in the center of the cakes comes out clean. Let cool for 10 minutes then remove cupcakes from muffin tin and let cool on a wire rack.

To make the frosting, beat the cream cheese in a bowl until it become fluffy. Beat in butter until combined, and then add vanilla. Beat in powdered sugar until desired consistency is reached. Decorate cupcakes when cool!





#1.1787287:2028479639.jpg Red Velvet

Birthday Girl Red Velvet Cupcakes

Katie Lane/Skidmore News



## When privacy is necessary, bribery is the best solution

What Would C. Do? Advice from an Anonymous Friend

By C., Columnist

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

Everyone loves a piece of juicy gossip. However, the feeling isn't as mutual on the other end of the gossip train. When it's our secrets and actions that are being talked about, it's about as juicy as an overcooked piece of meat.

When your sexcapades are on the lips of people you haven't touched, it's natural to feel paranoid and upset. You want to know who is saying what, underestimate the trustworthiness of friends and worry that people are jumping to conclusions.

And you know what? It doesn't matter! Even if you attempt a dramatic hunt for the gossiper it doesn't solve the six degrees of separation puzzle of possible people the rumor originated with.

Sure, you may be curious as to whom not to confide in, but the truth of it all is that everyone talks about everyone. As long as the people that are most important to you know the truth, that's all that matters.

Rumors suck, especially if they aren't true, but life will go on. What people say and think now will not matter after a week, a month or a year. The less of a stink you make out of the situation, the more you'll reek of self-respect.

*Dear C.,*

*How do I ask my roommate to leave for a night? My boyfriend is coming to visit right after Thanksgiving and I don't know how to talk to my sort of homebody roomie about leaving...*

*-Turkey Jerky*

Dear Turkey Jerky,

This is a sticky subject, but luckily you're in a double. Remember the beginning of the year when you had to fill out that awkward roommate questionnaire laying out the ground rules of your room?

If you both agreed about visitors, I wouldn't be too worried about bringing it up. Remember, the sooner the better! Approach her as soon as possible that way she can plan an alternate sleeping situation for when your temporary roommate arrives.

If you ask her in a nervous manner, chances are she'll be sympathetic to your request. If she doesn't seem too open to the idea, try to make her feel as comfortable as possible by helping her find other options. Make sure you tell her exactly when he's coming and what times it will be convenient to be in the room. Look at your situation and think, how can I make it most convenient for her?

There's also the bargain route. Offer to buy her lunch or dinner downtown, or when you go out with your guy, bring her back something. Perhaps surprise her with her favorite treat. Any gesture to show your appreciation is as sweet as leftover pumpkin pie.

-Stars and Hearts, C.

*Email me at [SkidWWCD@gmail.com](mailto:SkidWWCD@gmail.com) with questions. Privacy is guaranteed. Advice can remain unpublished upon request.*

## The way we do things around here

### Campus Banter

By Taylor Dafoe, Columnist

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

We talk about it all the time - the enigmatic, esoteric and all-encompassing "Skidmore culture." It's everywhere: it's the hipsters, the bros, the smokers, the artists. It's you.

The Skidmore culture is an abstract thing that you can't quite articulate when describing your school to someone else. It's a culture that you can't understand unless you're a part of it. It's what makes us who we are. Discussion of the college culture has, however, in the light of recent events, flared up into a heated debate that's calling on everyone to question whether or not it's a good thing.

Some pride themselves on the uniqueness of our reputation, on the novelty that is the Skidmore student. And, of course, there isn't anything wrong with this; school pride only enhances the college experience that we work so hard to protect. But school pride isn't the issue here; the real issue, going further than our style and our students, is the questionability of the world in which that pride is grounded.

This world, so ubiquitous and self-perpetuating that we hardly notice it anymore, is becoming a problem. And frankly, it's about time we talked about it.

Recently, the Skidmore culture discussion has surfaced in the arguments surrounding the excessive drinking and partying dominating headlines on campus. This is undoubtedly part of the problem of our incomparable culture, yes, but that's not where it begins, and it's certainly not where it ends either.

The scope of our college culture extends to almost every facet of our campus lives. Our notorious concentration on what we wear and what we look like, the select music we listen to and pretend to be so passionate about, what we eat, what we do on weekends, the way we talk and act and even think - it's all a product of the culture.

However, the idea here is not our parties or our North Face jackets. The fact that we're so easily influenced by both those around us, and the larger group itself, and that we're viewed not as a collection of distinct and diverse individuals united by the college experience, but as a group formed by the culture as a whole - this is what we should be talking about. It says a lot about the lifeblood of our school.



It's the reason we're drinking too much on weekends, pre-gaming in dorm rooms and ending up in hospitals; it's why we have bias incidents so often, and have issues of vandalism week after week. Of course the college doesn't support such things, but we as the Skidmore collective are nurturing a culture that spawns these kinds of effects.

Most would agree that the Skidmore culture is a wonderful thing - that's why we're here. But sometimes our school acts like Skidmore for the sake of acting like Skidmore. We're playing with the risk of going overboard, drowning not in alcohol, weed and stifling homogeneity, but in our self-involved idealism that promotes those things.

For all the talk about the newfound independence that college provides students, it's funny how people are so readily willing to overlook it, to use and abuse it carelessly - to exploit it rather than use it to forge a personal path. For once, think about what really makes you a Skidmore student. You're just as much a part of the culture as any other person here; you have just as much say about what goes on.

So it's fine if you consider yourself a hipster, bro, smoker, artist or anything else under the ever-expanding Skidmore umbrella, just do it for the right reasons.

*Taylor Dafoe is an undecided sophomore from Cheyenne, Wyo.*



## Go gently into that good night

### Daydreams

By Rick Chrisman, Columnist

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

Dear students,

I see you on the way to classes, I see you coming out of the Dining Hall, I see you laughing with friends, I see your faces sometimes a little vacant, sometimes crestfallen, often thoughtful, mostly lively. I see you and I say to myself, You are paragons. Yes, paragons. Every student, each and everyone of you, are paragons, I say!

Paragon - a model of excellence and perfection - Webster's Third. Well, maybe you are not total excellence and perfection - yet. More like potential excellence. You are, let us say, buds of pure potentiality, hard on the heels of excellence and perfection, as good as gold yet to be burnished. You certainly have the look of it to me, the look of a great capacity, a great destiny and the look of pursuing it intently, not about to let it escape you.

And why not, after all? You landed here triumphant from your schools, flags flying, admitted to this prestigious college (and probably many others for that matter) and acknowledged for strengths that you have earnestly cultivated, strengths for which your families and friends and teachers and supporters have cheered you.

Now, for a change, you have some real scope and you can finally accelerate without impediments or deterrents of any kind. You find yourselves exhilarating in the full flush of all the great things that the human mind and body are capable of doing and feeling.

So far, I have only reported what I see of you in the daytime, which is the only time I see you - or you me. But there is also another world to be explored and discovered, namely, the Night, where an entirely other education is to be had. Yes, thank goodness for the Night! It provides respite from the exactions of the sunlit world, respite from the intellectual sun's exposure of our weaknesses. Fortunately, the moon rules the Night, when the normal rules don't apply and our daydreams of love have sway.

Except for a big problem: Day inhibits Night's call. It seems to take some kind of kick to rid ourselves of the Day's over-regimentation, especially, I think, for students because you live where you work (who else in society has to cope with that?). Your rationale is that, because you work hard in the daytime, the

antidote is to play hard at night. Nothing new about that. It's been that way since the neighbors of medieval Heidelberg University complained about mobs of drunken students careening down the village streets.

But how did we wind up with 11 students hospitalized on the night of the Moorebid Ball? It's one thing for people to try to annihilate Reason's glare, but to annihilate one's whole self (and one's living environment in the bargain)? Maybe Dionysus, the god of the grape harvest and wine and festivity, was paying some of you back for two-timing him with Four Loko!

Or was Moorebid a collective reenactment of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde? I certainly accept that youth is wholly experimental, but, clearly, love is to be found only within and not outside of our mortal bounds. Jekyll didn't survive his experiments, you remember. Was his such a desirable fate?

The way I see it, you are paragons, and I hope you know it. What you don't know yet is just what you are paragons of! Maybe that makes you nervous. But the answer is coming. In the meantime, you are in flight, aloft, flung toward the excellences and perfections of truth and love.

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

## Editorial

### T-breds, take off blinders

By the Editorial Board

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

The second and third rounds of the field hockey championships this weekend gathered one of the loudest and most enthusiastic crowds for an athletic event the college has seen in years. As the team heads down to Virginia for the semifinals, students applaud a superbly played season. But why was this the first game to attract student attention in so long?

The historically poor turnout for the college's athletic events always wins the same responses: an apathetic student body, a campus-wide lack of school spirit or a school divided between the arts and the athletics. But these kinds of easy labels avoid confronting the much more nuanced culture of student involvement at the college.

We are not a passive student body. An average day at the college sees lectures, games, dance performances, theater productions, music workshops, student exhibits and more club meetings than any one person could attend. Our students devote themselves passionately to their interests, dedicating hours to practices and rehearsals to achieve their best.

But it's hard to ignore how the events that clubs and teams spend hours putting together only gather crowds that can be counted in the single digits. It's embarrassing when departments bring impressive speakers, but the auditoriums echo with the empty seats. Moorebid Ball, The Big Show, Junior Ring, Fun Day - these events, which win mobs of attendees, remain exceptions to a general campus mentality of polite disinterest in their classmates' contributions.

This is a college of participants, not spectators. The empty bleachers at our athletes' games represent a larger campus culture of active participation over passive observation. It's hard to denounce a student body that wants to be on the field, not in the seats. But as long as paintings hang in empty galleries and athletes score goals to resounding silence, there will be a sense of irritated dissatisfaction hanging over the laudable accomplishments that so many students pour hours into achieving.

It's a saccharine cliché, but colleges need school spirit. It keeps students in the classrooms, unites a college divided by diverse interests and ensures that alumni return to their alma mater years after graduation. But we do not express pride in our school just by spending hours practicing and rehearsing. School spirit is forged in full auditoriums, sold-out box offices and roars of approval from the bleachers.



When the field hockey team competes against Bowdoin College on Nov. 20, they will play better with the knowledge that they have the support of their classmates at home.

This is the kind of support the college should strive for. Instead of clubs and teams bemoaning poor attendance quietly behind closed doors, a community discussion should acknowledge that the issue is campus-wide. The cast of the Blackbox production should partner up with the players on the Women's Soccer team, with each cheering the other along. If the Bandersnatchers spend a week attending Irish Dance rehearsals, the dancers can do the same. Lectures put on by the Physics Club could see steady attendance from members of the International Affairs Club, knowing the attention will be reciprocated. Formal agreements will form into habitual support: out of that, school spirit will grow.

When the field hockey team won game after game this weekend, they did so with singers, artists and dancers in the stands. That image should become a mission statement for the college as it moves forward. Students here dedicate themselves to their interests, but we need to just as passionately support those of our classmates. We need to learn how to sit in the stands, not just play on the field.

## College IT works on consolidating resources

By Julia Leef, Staff Writer

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

The college is planning renovations to Scribner Library and Dana Science Center to create a more collaborative environment for students and faculty, and to facilitate studies and projects by combining technological and academic resources.

Plans are currently in the proposal stage.

The first set of planned renovations involves combining the four separate IT units in Bolton Hall, Harder Hall, the GIS Center and the Library into a single location in Scribner Library.

The renovations will facilitate more high-tech classrooms in Scribner Library, which will "better support the work of faculty and students and library staff," said Muriel Poston, acting vice-president for Academic Affairs.

We anticipate having additional technology-enabled study and meeting spaces for use, capitalize on synergies between librarians and technologists as we explore emerging technology and information resources and allow the rest of the IT department to be closer to the IT Helpdesk, which has existed on the first floor of the Library for some time, Chief of Technology Justin Sipher said.

Sipher and Head Librarian Ruth Copans collaborated on the idea to combine the IT units and create more workspaces. "This is a partnership between administration and academic services," Poston said.

The purpose behind this is multi-faceted, however it begins with the belief that together we can provide better service to the faculty and students of Skidmore College if our two organizations [the technology office and the library] are co-located, Sipher said.

Poston hopes the planning phase will be finished by the end of the semester.

The project proposal will be submitted through the Capital Project Planning Process, beginning with the President's Cabinet and Acting President Susan Kress who, together, will decide what within the project proposal will be carried out.

Sipher said that changes will most likely occur over several years in order to minimize disruption in Scribner Library during the academic year.



Renovations will also be made to Dana Science Center.

Poston said these renovations are aimed at enhancing science literature for students, strengthening the disciplinary and interdisciplinary structure to help science majors and analyzing the intersection of sciences, arts, humanities and social sciences at the college.

Poston said combining the equipment of various departments and creating an animal facility to house the rats and mice used in lab courses are examples of the ways in which these goals may be accomplished.

As of now there is no set plan for renovations to the building.

Poston attributed the premature plans to the Dana Science Center to the lack of knowledge about what changes are necessary to strengthen the science department.

Poston said students in the Life Sciences, Neuroscience, Human Physiology and Chemistry Departments all use similar equipment. These resources, however, are divided among the departments.

There are separate housing locations for rodents used in Neuroscience labs and those used in Biology labs.

Poston is working with Professor Mark Hofmann to combine these resources.

The college has hired an outside consultant to determine what renovations need to be done to both buildings in order to promote the sharing of resources.

“We have great hopes that we’ll be able to move from program planning to design, which is the next step,” Poston said.

## Hrbek premieres new writing

By Julia Leef, Staff Writer

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

At 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 17 in Davis Auditorium more than 140 students gathered to hear faculty member Greg Hrbek read an excerpt from his soon to be published collection of short stories, "Destroy All Monsters."

Hrbek has written many novels and short stories and has won several awards for his works, including the James Jones First Novel Award and the Prairie Schooner Book Prize in Fiction.

Earlier this year he received the U.S. Japan Creative Artists Fellowship and plans to spend several months next year working on a novel while living in Japan.

Destroy All Monsters is based on the 1965 Japanese monster movie, "Great Monster War," known in the U.S. as "Godzilla vs. Monster Zero."

The novel tells the stories of the real-life people involved in the making of the movie. The Japanese film was played in the background while he read from his book.

The story is written from the perspectives of six different characters: the director Ishiro Honda, Nick Adams, translator Miriam Schuman, an original character who survived the atomic bomb in Nagasaki, special effects director Eiji Tsuburaya and the mixed viewpoint of Monster Zero and the actor inside the costume, Haruo Nakajima.

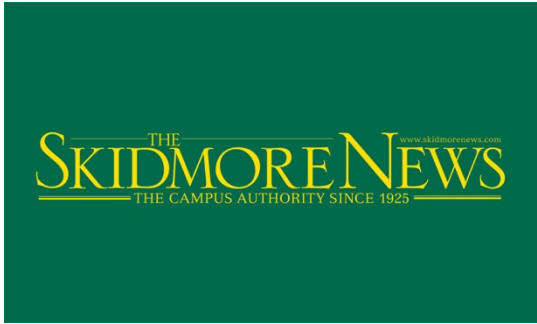
The short story portrayed the thoughts and actions of these six people when the camera wasn't rolling. Hrbek took these figures, most of whom were real-life figures, and gave them fictional stories to tell.

Such stories ranged from the director's dinners with the famous Japanese director Akira Kurosawa, to Adams's awkward encounter with Marlon Brando in the men's restroom.

Hrbek described "Destroy All Monsters" as a humorous tale that combines fiction and reality to entertain its readers.

#1.1787257:1678771487.jpg Hrbek

Hrbek read aloud from his unpublished story "Destroy All Monsters."



Lauren Elsner/Skidmore News





## Students share opinions on alcohol

SGA holds open forum in response to recent alcohol related incidents

By Kat Kullman, Staff Writer

On Fri, Nov 19, 2010

At 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday Nov. 16, 50 students, faculty and administrators gathered with the Student Government Association Senate to discuss the drinking culture on the college's campus.

Rochelle Calhoun, dean of Student Affairs, called the meeting in response to the recent incidents on campus involving excessive alcohol consumption. The administration, concerned for both students' safety and the college's public image, hopes changes can be made with regard to the attitude toward drinking on campus.

Beginning the discussion, Calhoun reinforced the idea that the college is a community and, as such, individuals need to take personal responsibility for themselves.

The goal of this evening is to have an authentic conversation and to listen respectfully to each other, she said. "The administrators and faculty aren't here to judge. We want to hear you speak honestly."

In this vein, Calhoun asked the room to briefly break into small groups of faculty and students to discuss excessive drinking, safety issues and strategies for making alcohol consumption safer.

One of the primary concerns of the meeting's attendees was the mixed messages that previously came from the administration with regard to drinking. As one student said, people at the college get both the message to drink slowly, but also not to drink at all.

It creates a contradiction that ultimately makes alcohol use hard to control. "How can the administration teach us responsibility about alcohol if it's forbidden?" another student asked.

Many student comments raised the notion that because drinking is illegal for most under, and many upperclassmen, it becomes more enticing.

I'm worried that because drinking has been driven underground, people stop worrying about the consequences because they're not in public, one student said. "If we were drinking in a public environment we would be more aware of our actions."

However, because the legal drinking age in the U.S. is still 21, administrators said there is little the college can do to create more lax regulations with regard to underage drinking.

Calhoun said no matter what the administration felt about the drinking age, they operate in the state of New York and therefore have to abide by state laws. Legally, the college cannot just become a more open drinking environment.

Many students at the event placed emphasis on dorm life as the biggest problem. Students said that there is a definite shift in the drinking culture upon moving to Scribner, Northwoods or off-campus.

One student said that it was obvious the issues were mostly coming from the dorms. "In the later years, you aren't pre-gaming, you're relaxing," she said. "But the dorm culture is one of drinking as fast as you can so you can get out."

It was also noted that the lack of fraternities and sororities sets the college apart in an adverse way. Not having a place to go means students do not drink for a purpose, and this causes students to drink more than they intended.

One student agreed about the problems with the underclassmen living situation and said that by making the dorms substance-free, the college instead guaranteed that they would not be.

All the residence halls have people drinking even though they're 'substance free,' but I think that making separate and truly 'substance free' dorms would be really helpful, he said.

Some students said that such changes would cause non-drinkers to be targeted negatively. Instead, others said, the college should host school-sponsored parties specifically for non-drinkers.

The problem is the culture on our campus, but also in America, one student said. "And I think the change starts with informed citizenship. We all need to create a support system here for each other so this sort of thing stops happening. It's about growing up. How do we make people look out for each other?"

Students offered solutions such as employing more peer advocates, creating more scheduled events and placing RAs in the position of allies, not enemies.

Calhoun said she listened carefully to all the suggestions and comments.