

## A Tuesday in September

A decade later, Skidmore students and faculty reflect on Sept. 11

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Sat, Sep 10, 2011

On the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, students at Skidmore College woke up to attend class, beginning a normal day alongside most Americans across the country. That normalcy was short lived, however, and 10 years later students can remember the moment that the United States, and the world at large, was forever reshaped.

In the minutes after American Airlines Flight 11 collided with WTC 1 many students were not immediately aware of the full extent of the attack. Holly Leber '02, who served as the features editor for The Skidmore News at the time and is currently a columnist and reporter for the Life section at Times Free Press in Chattanooga, Tennessee, remembers that it was a few hours before she understood what had happened in New York City, Washington D.C and Pennsylvania.

"I had a seminar first thing in the morning. When I left the dorm I noticed a crowd of people glued to the TV, but didn't think much of it." Only after she had listened to a voicemail message from her cousin, asking if she had been able to reach her parents, did she turned on the television to see the news for herself.

Meanwhile Keith Kirshner '02, who now lives in Atlanta, had just started his term as SGA president. "I was leaving my house going to a marketing class that morning. One of my friends was home in Brooklyn; his dad was running in a local election, and he called us after he had just seen the first plane hit.

Without the stream of online information so readily available today, it was a while before Kirshner and many other students were able to learn more about what was happening.

In that window of confusion and miscommunication, members of the Skidmore community were desperate to hear from family and friends who worked at the towers. "It was a constant struggle for all of us to get in contact with these people," said Frank Won '02, who now works as an Optometrist in Yonkers, New York. "People couldn't get a hold of other people that they knew, and of course if you couldn't get a hold of the person for whom you feared the worst."

Accurate information proved equally elusive. Some students, like Justin Graeber '02, now a journalist at the Duxbury Clipper in Massachusetts, tried to gather as much information as possible.

"In the aftermath of the attacks, I just could not get enough news. I really became an Internet news junkie that day," he said. "This was just such a shocking event that everybody needed to know what was going on."

Although classes were not officially cancelled, many students did not attend and several professors cancelled. Holly Leber recalls going to an English class in which one of the students stood up and said, "We shouldn't be here." Justin Graeber recalls that many students felt angry that school had not been cancelled that day.

In the Spa, television screens ran the latest news from the towers, Washington and Pennsylvania. Lauren Yanuzzi '04 says that she felt dazed when she first found out.

"As I walked to Case Center alone to check my mail I thought about how relatively close my hometown was to NYC, that I had been in the towers several times, and how so many of my friends' parents commuted to the city. A lot of the people around me seemed dazed too. As though it was too big of a concept to fit in our heads at the moment. This was death we were staring at."

Kirshner spent a lot of time with then-president Jamieenne Studley trying to figure out which students had family at the World Trade Center. "Once things had settled down," he added, "we needed to do something, so we organized an all-campus meeting."

This gathering was hosted on the Case green at 4 p.m., during which Studley, Kirshner, and Campus Safety Director Dennis Conway, tried to reassure people and inform them of the resources at hand, such as the Counseling Center, Health Services, and religious services.

"I don't know if there was anyone on campus who didn't go to that meeting," Kirshner said. "It was really just a sense of community, during a terrible but historic day."

Conway, who had just started working at the college in January of that year, remembers getting a call from an officer at the front desk who had heard the news on the radio. "One of the first things I did was rush to my computer; my biggest concern and fear was of how many people were in those buildings."

Cassels, who now works at Dartmouth College as a multimedia specialist at the office of public affairs, was serving as the editor-in-chief of The Skidmore News at the time. Shortly following the event, the staff gathered together for the next two days to print an issue centered on the events of 9/11, which in 2002 won the Associated Collegiate Press Award for special coverage.

In the aftermath Cassels found a lot of support in his immediate group of friends, as well as people he had never even met before. This to him was the only thing that allowed for a quick recovery. "Move on,

but do not forget. This is our Pearl Harbor," he said, "our JFK assassination. This is our generational moment."

The attacks on 9/11 affected the entire campus, and left their imprint on each and every student. "The one thing that made that day so different from any other kind of tragedy or sad news," said Graeber, "was that it was something just so raw, so shocking that you couldn't imagine what to do with yourself."

Students who wish to mark the 10-year anniversary of 9/11 on campus may attend two events being held on Sunday: a half-hour memorial observance at the Wilson Chapel at 5 p.m., and a documentary screening of "Beyond Belief" from 9:30-11 p.m. in Davis Auditorium.

#1.2583782:175739189.jpg Sept. 11 Memorial

The "Tribute in Lights" Memorial, taken in 2005

Public Domain



## Scripture, song, and silence

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Tue, Sep 13, 2011

This Sunday nearly 50 students and faculty members gathered together to remember and pay their respects to the victims of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The service was held at Wilson Chapel and led by Director of Religious and Spiritual Life Rick Chrisman, director of religious and spiritual life at the college. Cellist Alexandra Guest '14 performed selections from Bach.

Those in attendance, including President Philip Glotzbach, listened as Chrisman spoke of the loss suffered on 9/11, quoting alternatively from the Bible, a passage from Hindu scripture, and the Quran. It was a very quiet affair, as Chrisman continuously paused so everyone could either take a moment of silence or listen as Alexandra played.

Absent was any discussion of more political facets of the tragedy, as Chrisman later noted.

"This day is not about patriotism," Chrisman said. "It's about coping with devastation and coping with the realization that we can be hurt." He added that he had almost decided not to hold this service, thinking that the day should be reserved for the families' grief, stating that this grief was very different from the feelings of those who were not directly affected. "In a way, this day is for [the families]," he said.

Guest, whom Chrisman contacted through the music department, said that in addition to Bach being her favorite composer, she felt that the selections she chose possessed the appropriate tone for the evening.

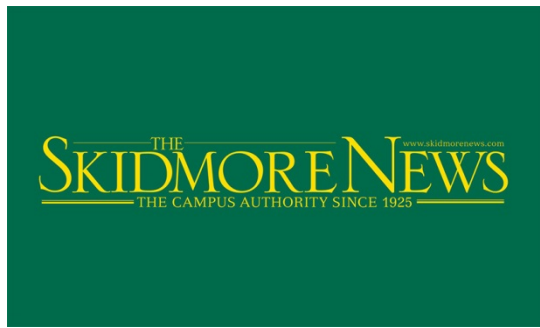
"It wasn't overly sad, and the last piece that I selected had a more uplifting feel." This choice of ending the service on a hopeful note was something that both Guest and Chrisman agreed upon.

At the end of the service, Chrisman requested that everyone leave the chapel in silence before gathering again outside. Even once outside, most students remained quiet, some thanking Chrisman for the service before leaving.

Later that night from 9:30 to 11 p.m. Chrisman hosted a showing of the documentary "Beyond Belief," in the Davis Auditorium. The film follows the lives of two women who were pregnant at the time they lost their husbands in the 9/11 attacks and later reached out to Afghanistan widows through the organization Beyond the 11th.

Roughly 35 students were in attendance and before leaving some voiced their immediate reactions to the film. Among the reflections of the students were a reconsideration of "the enemy abroad" and how different America is from a third world nation such as Afghanistan.

"The movie hit me at several levels, showing how the widows coped with their grief," Chrisman said. "How tricky it is to try to help someone when you don't live their lives, and how very important it is to express feelings of compassion and to act on them."



## **Class of 2015 arrives**

By Tara Lerman, Contributing Writer

On Wed, Sep 14, 2011

On Sunday, Sept. 4, in the Big Gym of the Williamson Sports and Recreation Center, the 633 students in the class of 2015 attended New Student Convocation, where they were formally matriculated into the college. An additional 34 first year students arrived on campus approximately two weeks earlier, before departing for London, where they will spend their first semester of college.

During convocation President Philip Glotzbach, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Mary Lou Bates, Interim Dean of the Faculty Beau Breslin, Charles Wait from the Adirondack Trust Company and Student Government Association President Jonathan Zeidan '12, each addressed the incoming class.

The male-to-female breakdown for the class of 2015 is 42 percent male and 58 percent female, similar to that of previous years. More than a quarter of the class - 171 students - identified themselves as students of color in their applications. Of those students, 134 are domestic, and 37 are international. International students make up 6 percent of the class, the highest percentage that the college has ever had.

"The class of 2015 is off to a great start," said Marla Melito, the interim director of the First Year Experience. "They were engaged and enthusiastic during pre-orientation and orientation programs and seem to be settling into life at Skidmore."

Among the differences between high school life and college life, these first year students must accustom themselves to sharing rooms with other students. "Most of the class is in a tripled room," said Ann Marie Przywara, associate director of Residential Life.

For housing concerns, first-year students should consult the Roommate Connections publication they received in their orientation folder. It is a great resource with tips, myths, facts and scripts on how to develop good roommate relationships. They should also connect with their resident advisor, who is trained in mediation.

Due to the unusually large size of the preceding class of 2014, there was some discussion as to whether the admissions office would make an effort to admit fewer students the following year, in hopes for a smaller class. According to Bates, however, that did not turn out to be the case.

The class of 2014 opened with 730 students on campus and 40 in London. The on-campus range we were targeting for the class of 2015 was 580-630 students on campus and 36 students in London. Although next year's class size target range has not been fully established for the class of 2016, it will likely be similar to this year's.

#1.2591182:1112271682.JPG Convocation 2011

Students from the class of 2015 march as part of a procession prior to their convocation ceremony.

Photo courtesy of Allie Taylor





## Lost in the Farmers' Market

By Margaret Myers, Contributing Writer

On Wed, Sep 14, 2011

Each Saturday morning at 103 High Rock Ave, vendors at the Saratoga Farmers' Market sell a variety of fruits, vegetables, plants and crafts. The Market is in its 33rd year and this summer was voted one of the top five farmers' markets in the country for 2010. The market includes over 50 vendors and is a short drive, walk or bus ride from campus.

Within minutes of arriving, it becomes clear why the Saratoga Farmers' Market has earned acclaim. This Saturday, my friends and I wandered among the tables: we stopped to pick up cups of freshly brewed iced tea; to listen to live acoustic guitar; and to admire the colorful heirloom tomatoes, tall cacti and freshly baked bread.

The Saratoga market is distinctive in that everything is entirely local - produced in Schenectady, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Washington counties, the only exception being freshly caught fish from Long Island.

Each vendor we encountered was friendly and offered unsolicited but helpful advice about proper care and handling of purchases.

The products themselves are a reason to check out the market, but the experience delivers more than the makings of a locally grown meal. "It makes me feel like a connected person," said Carmel Gordon '13, of the market. "It's nice to be a part of the community in town."

Attending the market is not the only way to feel like part of the community: Roz Freeman '12 works at the vegetable stand for Pleasant Valley Farm.

"I see a wide variety of people at the markets...There are many families that come to the market, often with young children. There is a wide age demographic, from Skidmore students to young couples to elderly people," Freeman said.

The Skidmore demographic that visits the market also ranges within itself.

"I think the market definitely benefits Skidmore students, particularly those that have houses or apartments with kitchens," Freeman said. "I have also seen many underclassmen who come to check out the bustling, beautiful scene and hang out downtown."



The Farmers' Market is positive both environmentally and economically. Many of the products are organic and profit from each purchase goes directly to the farms and farmers, which boosts the local economy.

Given Skidmore's sometimes-shaky relationship with the Saratoga Springs community, a chance to meet on common, environmentally friendly ground seems an entirely good thing.

The Saratoga Farmers' Market summer (May-October) hours are Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Wednesdays from 3-to-6 p.m. at 103 High Rock Avenue. The Winter Market runs from November to April on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Division Street Elementary.

For more information about the Saratoga Farmers' Market visit <a href="http://www.saratogafarmersmarket.org"><http://www.saratogafarmersmarket.org></a>.

#1.2592441:374376629.JPG FarmersMarket1

Fresh fruit on display at the Farmers' Market

Maddie Pelz/The Skidmore News



## One year in, college maintains late-night bus route

By Michael DuPre, Contributing Writer

On Wed, Sep 14, 2011

Prior to September 2010 the college and Saratoga Taxi maintained an arrangement to provide free rides for students returning to campus after 11p.m. The free cab program was available to all Skidmore students and picked them up from any location in Saratoga Springs.

The program was replaced in fall of 2010 with an extension of CDTA bus hours. The additional bus service runs Thursday through Saturday from midnight to 4:15 a.m. between downtown and the college.

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Officially dubbed the "Night Loop," but colloquially referred to by drivers and students alike as the "Drunk Bus," the bus follows a simplified version of the Route 473 - Jefferson Street bus that runs during daytime hours. Beginning at 9 p.m., the Night Loop runs from Case Center to Spring Street, before looping on Henry Street and returning to campus on Broadway. It skips the Embury Apartments and does not travel as far as the Saratoga Gaming and Raceway. It does, however, include stops at the corners of Caroline Street, both on the Broadway side and the Henry Street side.

Free cabs are available to students between the hours of 4:30 a.m. and 6:30 a.m.

Saratoga Taxi, and the various other cab services in town, remain open, however, and students wishing to return home by taxi are still able to request and pay for a cab from any point in town.

Expense and the enabling of underage drinking were cited among the reasons for ending the cab program. In a Student Government Association meeting one year ago, then-SGA-President Alex Stark '11, "Without using the cabs, Skidmore is saving \$25,000 by using the CDTA bus route at night."

Despite the fiscal benefits, many students have expressed concerns and frustrations over the new program. Adam Abdel-Jaouad '12 took issue with the safety of the bus rides, stating, "The night bus is dangerously overcrowded." Douglas Pilawa, also a senior, voiced confusion over the schedule. After

waiting 20 minutes for a bus downtown last weekend he announced, "Screw this, I'm walking back!" before saying of the new program, "I'm not a fan."

While Saratoga Taxi picked up students from anywhere within city limits, the CDTA bus is only available at designated stops along Broadway. Students returning from off-campus location in other areas of Saratoga Springs no longer have access to school-rides back to campus.

As a result, some students worry that drunk driving has increased since the cancellation of the cab program. "The system may have been abused, but it got people home safely," said Steve Pennell '12. Isabella McKeon '12 remarked that, without the cabs, people are likely to end up driving or walking back to campus when they are not in any condition to do so. Echoing that concern, Will Mosley '12 said "Not offering free cabs back to campus facilitates dangerous behavior. I would not be surprised if someone gets hit by a car while returning to campus."

One senior, who asked not to be named, remarked, "Since the cab program was cancelled, I have, on several occasions, received rides from students who should not have been driving."

## Stories I Never Quite Finished, Part 1

By Kevin Kerrane, Columnist

On Wed, Sep 14, 2011

I suppose that there's a bit of the writer in every reader. This is at least true in my own case, where an all but overwhelming desire to write is very nicely balanced by an utter inability to produce any really readable fiction.

This is really too bad, you know, because I'm sure that creating characters (albeit paper ones), and making them do what I want them to do, would give me that tremendous feelings of gross power which I so sincerely desire, desperately need, and richly deserve.

At any rate, I have tried writing fiction - everything from vignettes to the great American novel. But I have - fortunately, perhaps - been found lacking. This article contains several stories, of one type or another, that I never quite finished - usually because I had neither the energy nor the heart to do so. After each story a short criticism follows. The criticism is offered to me, but of course you may profit from it too.

You may notice, incidentally, that in some cases the criticism is longer than the actual story reprint. This conclusively proves what has been a major contention of mine for some time now: namely that critics make things grow. How? I think that any farmer knows what makes things grow.

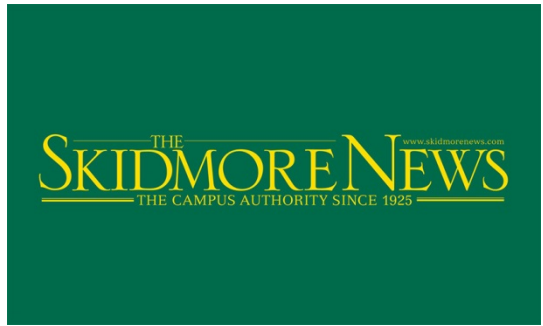
The first story that I never quite finished was written at the tender age of 13. It was, I think, intended to be an Anglo-Saxon epic. It is called "Sir Gawain Rides Again" or "Carousel." It runs as follows:

*"Geez," said Sir Gawain, as the poisoned lance pierced his armor, entered his chest, and poked one hell of a hole in his back. "The dirty red..."*

### Criticism

This manuscript, found recently, reveals several writing faults, some of which border on the sadistic. First of all, the plot has become somewhat limited in scope (and length) due to the probable early demise of the protagonist. The story poses some interesting questions:

- 1) Is this some kind of sequel?
- 2) If so, what happened when Sir Gawain rode before he rode again?
- 3) Is this a suicide attempt?



- 4) Does the use of the word "Geez" denote Stoicism?
- 5) What is the reference to dirty red in the incomplete sentence?
- 6) Does it attempt to describe Sir Gawain's blood? His socks? The fact that he was a communist?



## **Skidmore takes Tim Brown Invite by 19 strokes**

By Skidmore Athletics

On Wed, Sep 14, 2011

The Skidmore College golf team won the Tim Brown Invitational by 19 strokes on Monday after shooting 287-296-583. The nine teams played all 36 holes on Monday.

Liberty League teams took all three top places with Rochester coming in second with a score of 296-206-602 and Rensselaer finishing third at 301-302-603.

Thoroughbred first year Zach Grossman shot 67-73-140 to take first place by one stroke. Skidmore's John McCarthy '13 (72-74-146) came in fourth, Anthony DiLisio '13 (73-75-148) and Scott Pinder '14 (78-70-148) tied for fifth, and Garrett Coglan '13 (75-74-149) placed seventh.

Skidmore will compete in the Middlebury College Duke Nelson Invitational Sept. 17-18.



## College revises Alcohol and Sexual Misconduct policies

By Kojo Amarteyfio, Contributing Writer

On Thu, Sep 15, 2011

Following a turbulent academic year that saw more than 20 students admitted to a hospital following substance abuse, the college has revised its Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) policy to feature significant changes effective immediately.

The new AOD policy features a new "point" system, where student violations of the policy may result in their being assigned points that correspond to the nature of the offense, also taking into account the record of the offender. The accumulation of 10 points at any time during a student's tenure will result in a recommendation for suspension being made to the dean of Student Affairs.

Another major change has been the insertion of an "association" rule. Underage students who are not drinking, but are found in the presence of other underage students who are, will be assigned points after the first such incident.

The categories of offenses have also been expanded from four to five and the fines attached to violation of the AOD policy have been roundly increased.

The review process has been a lengthy one, commencing last fall and continuing through this summer. According to the administration, the new policy is in part a response to trends on campus concerning substance abuse last academic year.

There were also multiple instances of physical and verbal abuse of college staff, and last academic year the college spent about \$40,000 on college property repairs following incidents of vandalism. An insufficient AOD policy was identified as a weak link in the campaign to regulate campus behavior.

Don Hastings, head of Residential Life said, "We expect that students recognize and are concerned with the new policy and that there will be a reduction in incidents."

Among students, the policy has already stirred controversy. "I think it's a bit harsh. I do not think that people caught in the vicinity should be punished if they're not drinking," said Kyle Lavecchia '14. Other students have remarked on how easily a student could possibly accrue 10 points within four years at Skidmore.

Hastings argues that the new policy is not as harsh as students perceive it; "The students who didn't have to worry with the old AOD policy will not have to worry now."

The new policy is open for discussion and potential amendment. "There are certainly controversial points," Hastings said. A change that would see students' point count reduced after a period of continued good standing is under consideration. A formal student feedback session is planned for October and the policy will undergo a review process in January.

At the same time, the Sexual Misconduct policy has undergone major changes since last year, following a recommendation by national experts on sexual misconduct policy. The primary change is a reduction in the standard of evidence required as proof of misconduct, from clear and convincing (about 70 percent consensus) to preponderate (about 50 percent consensus).

Following a "Dear Colleague" letter sent by the United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights to colleges all over the country, Skidmore has appointed a Title IX investigator for sexual misconduct claims.

Also, there is now a mechanism for claimants to appeal decisions of the Sexual Assault Response Task Force on reported incidents of sexual misconduct. Further support systems have been provided for sexual abuse victims; particularly through an increase in the numbers of staff trained to deal with sexual misconduct issues.



## **A new era for the Skidmore News**

The campus authority transitions to an online-only format

By the Editorial Board

On Fri, Sep 16, 2011

Up until this academic year, every Friday would see the distribution of a fresh printed edition of our newspaper on campus. Now, however, our editorial board is pursuing a new direction for the publication, the most noticeable consequence being the transition to an online-only format.

On this Friday evening it seems timely to use both this space and this time of the week to publicly address the changes in The Skidmore News effective this semester.

On a provisional basis for this semester, we have set out to retire the weekly print edition and produce this online-only publication, with new content posted five days a week. Should we fail miserably, the print edition may return next semester, but we have high hopes for our new model.

The industry of print journalism has been struggling for years, competing with the proliferation of 24-hour cable news, the Internet and the resulting accelerated news cycle. Collegiate journalism has remained something of a stronghold for printed news - we have no cable networks to compete with, and no obligation to be profitable.

Nonetheless, we believe we can deliver something better. Publishing weekly has put us perpetually behind the eight ball with regard to the timeliness of our news. Far too often we have been late to the proverbial party, or have missed it entirely. Furthermore, every week we would pour an enormous amount of time and resources into designing our print issue, time that could be better spent generating content.

No one is sadder to see the print edition fall by the wayside than we are. The future, however, is bright. We are going to be able to be able to publish more content in a timelier manner. We will be a more involved presence on campus. By not publishing a print edition, we will also be saving a few hundred pounds of paper each week. (We apologize to any papier- mâché enthusiasts who feel slighted by our environmental responsibility.)

Our website, [www.skidmorenews.com](http://www.skidmorenews.com) will see new content posted at least five days a week. You can also receive Twitter updates from @TheSkidmoreNews, or find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/skidnews). Additionally, in the coming weeks we will



be launching a dedicated mobile reader, available in both the Apple App Store and the Android Market. Finally, even though there will not be a new paper to read every Friday, we will send out emails featuring the biggest stories of the week.

The loss of our print product is a sad moment, but it is also a stirring one. We have the opportunity to do something exciting, something beneficial to the college community as a whole, and something that we hope will ultimately improve The Skidmore News as an organization and as a news source. We appreciate your feedback and your continued readership.

## Field hockey tops Oneonta at home

By Skidmore Athletics

On Sat, Sep 17, 2011

Saratoga Springs, N.Y. - Eight different players recorded a point as the Skidmore College field hockey team improved to 4-0 with Wednesday afternoon's 5-1 victory over Oneonta Red Dragons at Thoroughbred Field.

With the win, the Thoroughbreds remain undefeated and extend their home winning streak to 20 games.

Skidmore got the scoring started early as Lauren Tobias '12 scored twice in the first five minutes to give the Thoroughbreds the early advantage. Her first goal came at the two minute mark when Annie Rosencrans '12 sent a pass across the circle; her second goal came off a rebound from Celidih MacNeill '13 less than four minutes later.

Sam Skott '15 made it 3-0 at the 32:16 mark when she redirected a pass by Molly Gile '13 from outside the circle for her first collegiate goal. Just a few minutes later, Gile tallied her first of the season on a blast from the top of the circle off of a penalty corner. Hilary Cranston '13 and Annie Weis '14 both assisted on the goal to make it 4-0 at half.

Skidmore pushed the lead to 5-0 on a goal from Kelly Blackhurst '14 at the 47 minute mark off a pass from Tobias on a corner.

Oneonta was able to get on the board late when Andrea Day sent a pass across the goal to Kristen Jerauld for her first of the season making it 5-1, but the Red Dragons were unable to build on that goal as the Thoroughbreds secured the victory.

Haley McDougall '15 improved to 3-0 on the season, stopping all five shots she faced over the first 60 minutes. Amy Beck '15 came in for the final 10 minutes and allowed one goal.

Skidmore held a 9-3 advantage on penalty corners and outshot Oneonta, 26-9.

The Thoroughbreds open league play on Saturday, when they host RPI at 1.

#1.2596155:1268103388.jpg Field Hockey 9/17/11 1

Sophomore Kelly Blackhurst threatens from the right of the Oneonta goal. Blackhurst scored a goal at the 47:12 to put the Thoroughbrds up 5-0.

Gabe Weintraub/The Skidmore News

#1.2596158:2300439671.jpg Field Hockey 9/17/11

Freshman Melanie Webb skips a ball through the feet of Oneonta goalie Tess Tracy. Skidmore did not score on the play.

Gabe Weintraub/The Skidmore News





## Goal by freshman Bray leads men's soccer over Bard in extra time

By Skidmore Athletics

On Sat, Sep 17, 2011

ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, N.Y. - A golden goal from Gordon Bray '15 (New Canaan, CT) off a corner kick from Diego Reinerio '12 (Princeton, NJ) lifted the Skidmore College men's soccer team to a 1-0 overtime victory over Bard in the Liberty League opener for both teams on Wednesday night.

Reinerio struck a corner kick that arched right into the box, where Bray headed it home among a group of 11 other players in the penalty area in the 98th minute. The goal culminated a long period of dominance by Skidmore that bridged the last 20 minutes of the second half and the first part of the overtime.

Skidmore (4-2 overall, 1-0 Liberty League) dominated possession, save for a 10-minute stretch in the first half when play was even. When Reinerio struck the corner that would end the game, it was the 19th corner of the match for the Thoroughbreds. Bard was held to none.

Skidmore outshot Bard, 16-5, and got two saves from keeper Nick Peterson '12 (West Hartford, CT).

Next up for the Thoroughbreds is SUNY Plattsburgh, at home on Saturday at 2 p.m.



## Editorial: Give student leaders the training that they need

By the Editorial Board

On Sat, Sep 17, 2011

Burned into the memory of even the most distinguished upperclassman is that feeling of quiet dread that struck upon arrival at college. No matter how far one has climbed the social ladder since then, it is impossible to forget those initial moments of freshman year in which everyone was a stranger in a strange land.

Perhaps the memory of that unpleasant blip is what prompted so many of our peers to become mentors, advisors and residential assistants to the incoming class of 2015. With 447 students - approximately 20 percent of the student body - now dedicated to assisting first-years in their transition from greenhorns to proud Thoroughbreds, one would be hard-pressed to charge our college with negligence of the freshman condition.

Every year those students who take up this noble task - through Residential Life, SGA, peer mentoring or club leadership - arrive weeks earlier than their classmates. They are trained in those arts of counseling and guidance so that the first-years arrive to a capable crew. There is no question that some coaching is needed to equip these volunteers with the skills they need to work with struggling freshman during Pre-Orientation and First Year Experience programs. But over the past few years the nature of those training activities has taken a strange turn, and this year's schedule pushed the program's deficiencies to the forefront.

First and most troubling is that this training, meant to impart practical counseling skills, has become bogged down by so many games and mediation techniques. First the mentors and RAs try them on each other, and then when the freshmen arrive they pass the trust building onto them. These exercises range from the more standard icebreakers ("who would you bring to a desert island...") to silly diversions such as jumping around on newspaper "lily pads" to rather heavy dialogues where students are asked to share the skeletons in their closets.

So it makes sense that several peer mentors witnessed their assigned freshmen sit out these activities, or even slip away from the group altogether. It is also true that still others did enjoy them. But what the deserters understood is that the purpose of such exercises is something quite distinct from helping first years adjust to college life. Compulsory bonding, whether via "Apples to Apples" or a heart-to-heart, really does little to build genuine trust and only reduces time spent on legitimate service to the freshmen.

What might such legitimate service include? These kids have just arrived on campus, and what they want is simple. It is information: about their ID cards, or residency, or accommodations for dietary restrictions. First years are less concerned with the lily pads and secrets than they are that life will retain a structure and rhythm here at college. They would be better off with a team of 'Skidmore experts' at their disposal rather than a troupe of well meaning but improvising mediators. And many a trainee will tell you: not only did I walk away from the emotional bits frustrated, but they didn't even shed any light on my job.

Their irritation can be justified further. Speaking to upperclassmen that participated, all estimate that over half of the schedule for the training period was devoted to the games and feelings. These are hours that student leaders could have spent in practical preparations, finalizing plans to insure the best possible experience for their incoming students. Shaving the superfluous bonding time off of the schedule would have made for a more productive, more efficient, and ultimately less cringe worthy week.

There is no reason to quarrel with the aims of training, only the heavy-handed execution. First years should certainly feel as though they have support from the upperclassmen that serve as mentors and RAs. To be frank though, those older students are not there to solve first years' problems, only to guide them toward those resources on campus that can. A week of training does not make a peer mentor a certified counselor, and while mentors are the first line of resources for first years, ultimately the troubled students must be funneled toward those best equipped to actually help them, be they at Health Services, the Counseling Center, or anywhere else. Therefore there is no need for an instituted emotional connection and every need for a clean, practical program to which the trainees can adhere.

In the current state, everyone feels ambushed: the upperclassmen dedicate day after day to drills everyone said goodbye to in high school, and do so to the detriment of their clubs and duties. Meanwhile, the freshmen are not given concrete, useful direction amidst the mandatory bonding sessions. Securing a welcome and supportive college community for those entering is, as always, a worthwhile task. But sometimes scaling back our efforts, doling out straightforward jobs and letting the campus breathe achieves what a compassionate but overbearing program never could.

## Skidmore alum lends vocals to a new stage

Kyle Carey delivers her own brand of Gaelic concert music

By Sarah Barry, Features Editor

On Sat, Sep 17, 2011

On Sept. 12 Kyle Carey '08 returned to Skidmore to present a program of Gaelic music entitled "Gaelic Americana." Carey performed in a trio with Rosie MacKenzie on fiddle and Neil Fitzgibbon on guitar in the Ladd Concert Hall of Arthur Zankel Music Center.

The music, much of it from Carey's new album *Monongah*, varied from lively upbeat fiddle tunes to slower laments. One such piece was "Resting Chair," performed by Mackenzie and Fitzgibbon.

"While learning, I didn't want to play the slow ones. I only like the fast songs, but 'Resting Chair' was my mom's favorite. I kept playing it and it ended up on the album," Mackenzie said.

Many of Carey's songs draw inspiration from other music and written work. Carey explains her inspiration for each song and her descriptions show the detailed research she has conducted in the areas she is interested in.

Carey traveled to Cape Breton in Nova Scotia on her Fulbright Fellowship and the fiddle style, as well as traditional Gaelic, influenced her music. Carey sang her final song in Gaelic. Many songs also drew upon a southern style with names like "Devil at Your Back," which is about bad luck and "Resurrection."

Speaking to the Skidmore News, Carey reflected on her time as a student and the difference between her surroundings then and now.

"I'm so delighted to play in this hall because I didn't get to play it as a student. I spent many an hour in the old practice rooms. They were kind of my haunt, but this new hall has a beautiful sound," Carey said.

Throughout the show, Carey and MacKenzie spoke about Ireland; the entire class of the first year seminar, "Ireland: Myth, Reality," attended the show. Giving a nod to her own beginnings in music and Gaelic culture, Mackenzie noted of the group, "Good things come from little places."

More information about Carey is available at her website: <http://www.kyleannecarey.com>

#1.2597486:421245275.jpg Kyle Carey

Kyle Carey

Photo courtesy of Kyle Carey



## Field hockey victory extends home winning streak

By Jesse Shayne, Sports Editor

On Sun, Sep 18, 2011

Saratoga Springs, N.Y. - Eight different players recorded a point as the Skidmore College field hockey team improved to 4-0 with Wednesday afternoon's 5-1 victory over Oneonta Red Dragons at Thoroughbred Field.

With the win, the Thoroughbreds remain undefeated and extend their home winning streak to 20 games.

Skidmore got the scoring started early as Lauren Tobias '12 scored twice in the first five minutes to give the Thoroughbreds the early advantage. Her first goal came at the two minute mark when Annie Rosencrans '12 sent a pass across the circle; her second goal came off a rebound from Celidih MacNeill '13 less than four minutes later.

Sam Skott '15 made it 3-0 at the 32:16 mark when she redirected a pass by Molly Gile '13 from outside the circle for her first collegiate goal. Just a few minutes later, Gile tallied her first of the season on a blast from the top of the circle off of a penalty corner. Hilary Cranston '13 and Annie Weis '14 both assisted on the goal to make it 4-0 at half.

Skidmore pushed the lead to 5-0 on a goal from Kelly Blackhurst '14 at the 47 minute mark off a pass from Tobias on a corner.

Oneonta was able to get on the board late when Andrea Day sent a pass across the goal to Kristen Jerauld for her first of the season making it 5-1, but the Red Dragons were unable to build on that goal as the Thoroughbreds secured the victory.

Haley McDougall '15 improved to 3-0 on the season, stopping all five shots she faced over the first 60 minutes. Amy Beck '15 came in for the final 10 minutes and allowed one goal.

Skidmore held a 9-3 advantage on penalty corners and outshot Oneonta, 26-9.

The Thoroughbreds open league play on Saturday, when they host RPI at 1.

## Thoroughbreds finish second in Union Invitational

By Skidmore Athletics,  
On Mon, Sep 19, 2011

SCHENECTADY, N.Y. - The Skidmore College volleyball team went 3-1 to finish second in the Union Invitational Tournament, Friday and Saturday.

The Thoroughbreds are off to an 8-3 start.

Skidmore dropped its first match, 3-0 (25-23, 25-23, 25-17) to Cortland before coming back to beat Oswego 3-0 (25-13, 25-22, 25-15), Hartwick 3-1 (25-14, 20-25, 25-22, 25-11) and Sage 3-0 (25-17, 25-19, 25-19).

Cortland finished first in the seven-team event.

Middle hitter Corinne Palmer '14 made the all-tournament team after an outstanding performance.

In the Cortland match, Palmer had 12 kills, three blocks and a .571 hitting percentage. Kelley Vershbow '12 added nine kills, while Olivia Glassman '15 had six aces.

Skidmore bounced back to beat Oswego behind Glassman's double of 10 kills and 11 digs to go along with three aces. Setter Mallory Mendelsohn '13 had 36 assists, while Kylie Deutschman '15 added eight digs and four aces.

In the Hartwick win, Palmer had 14 kills, four blocks and a .433 hitting pct. Mendelsohn rang-up 45 assists and 14 digs, while libero Sam Friedman had 22 digs. Glassman collected another double/double with 15 kills and 16 digs.

The Thoroughbreds wrapped the tournament against Sage.

Vershbow had 10 kills, with Palmer contributing eight kills and six blocks. Glassman had nine kills and four aces, giving her 16 for the tournament.

Skidmore opens Liberty League play at home against Union College on Friday, Sept. 23 at 7 p.m.

## Field hockey opens league play with 7-3 win over RPI

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Sep 19, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. - Kelly Blackhurst '14 tied a program record with 10 points to lead the 5th-ranked Skidmore College field hockey team to a 7-3 win over RPI in Saturday's Liberty League opener at Thoroughbred Field.

Blackhurst scored four goals and had two assists, becoming the fifth player in school history with 10 points in a game and first since Emily Clark [class year?] in 2005.

The Thoroughbreds improve to 5-0, improving [new word? Repetitive] their home winning streak to 21 games

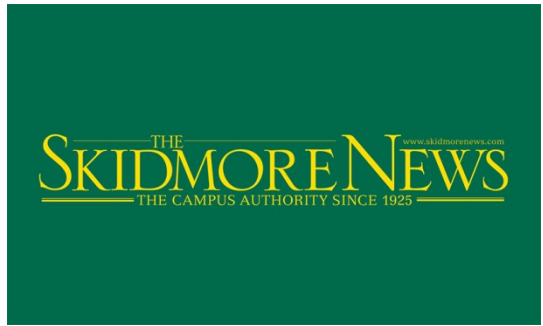
Blackhurst got Skidmore on the board one minute in when she took a crossing pass from Pauline Searles '15 and beat RPI keeper Briana Earle. Just over seven minutes later, Lauren Tobias '12 scored on a crossing pass from Jackie Slocombe '12 to make it 2-0.

The Engineers cut the lead to one at the 24:41 mark on Alissa Peterson's third goal of the season, a blast from the top of the circle. But less than a minute later, Blackhurst pushed the lead back to two when she put home a rebound for her second of the game. The Thoroughbreds made it 4-1 with less than a minute left in the half when Sam Skott '15 redirected a cross from Blackhurst for her second goal of the season.

Blackhurst opened the scoring in the second half as well, beating a defender one-on-one and scoring from the center of the circle to make it 5-1. Tori Elliot cut the lead to 5-2 at the 44:43 mark, taking a pass from Kierstan Ryan and beating the keeper for her first goal of the season.

Exactly one minute later, the Thoroughbreds answered back when Ceilidh MacNeill '13 redirected a shot from Blackhurst for her first goal of the season. Skidmore capped off its scoring at the 52:23 mark when Sam Revera '15 fed Blackhurst in front of the goal and she put it home for her fourth of the game and ninth of the season.

The Engineers were able to add another score with eight seconds remaining as Liana Viaggioscored off a corner to make it 7-3. Peterson and Sarah Krolus assisted on the goal.



Freshman goalkeeper Haley McDougall earned the win for the Thoroughbreds, making two stops in 67:43 of action.

Skidmore held a 15-7 advantage on penalty corners and outshot the Engineers, 27-6.



## Food for thought

Veganism isn't only a personal pursuit - it just might save the planet

By Eva Hagan, Columnist

On Mon, Sep 19, 2011

It seems like these days we're plagued by a thousand different environmental calamities in our backyard, each asking for its own solution. And who are we to pick and choose which matter and which don't? At times I find myself so overwhelmed that all I want to do is go hide in a tent in the North Woods.

But I don't. I've decided to take a step forward in reducing my carbon footprint, one bigger than canvas shopping bags or shutting the lights off (though these are important, too!). I've chosen to reject the meat, egg, dairy, leather and wool industries and instead invest my consumer dollars elsewhere. I've chosen veganism.

In 2006, the U.N. found that the meat industry produces more greenhouse gases than all of the transportation industry combined. Cattle are, in fact, the largest source of methane emissions, a more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide - something certainly not helped by the largely corn-based diet we insist on feeding cows in this country.

Beyond greenhouse gases, the runoff from livestock yards and other industries presents a large problem for water quality. Manure from meat and dairy cows contains nitrates, phosphates, antibiotics and other unpleasant things, which affects water quality in a variety of different ways such as algal blooms, which can cause eutrophication and essentially kill a particular ecosystem.

It's also paramount to move our food system back to one that is locally based. Rather than letting the things on your plate travel thousands of miles, buying vegetables from farmers' markets and growing your own make a significant difference by reducing the fossil fuels necessary to transport them. Who's to say you can't be local AND vegan? Simultaneously rejecting the resource-intensive processes of dairy and egg farming and the travel of one's tomatoes from South America is an important choice.

This article is only a brief introduction to veganism with some food for thought. And even if such an abstemious diet isn't for you, being equipped to make informed decisions and reducing your consumption of factory-farmed meat, eggs, dairy, wool and leather are important as well.

For more information please check out:

<http://www.vrg.org/nutshell/vegan.htm>

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Public domain

Vegan food stands a chance to reduce greenhouse gases.



## **Women's soccer cruises to 4-0 win at Manhattanville**

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Sep 19, 2011

PURCHASE, N.Y. - Four different players scored a goal as the Skidmore College women's soccer team won its fourth straight game, defeating Manhattanville 4-0 on Saturday afternoon.

The Thoroughbreds improve to 5-1, while the Valiants fall to 0-7.

Michelle Finan '13, Elena Stansky '12, Kelsey Yam '13 and Abby Benton '12 scored for Skidmore.

The Thoroughbreds dominated the game from the start, finishing with a 23-2 shot advantage after every dressed player saw time. The bench accounted for 13 of the 23 shots.

Goalie Gab Lawrence '14 earned the shutout after making two saves.

The shutout was the fourth straight for the Thoroughbreds, who open Liberty League play at home on Sept. 21 against nationally ranked Union.

## Skidmore wins Duke Nelson Tournament at Middlebury

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Sep 19, 2011

MIDDLEBURY, V.T. -- Leading by four strokes after 18 holes, Skidmore fired a 292 on day two to capture the 27th Duke Nelson Tournament hosted by Middlebury College. The Thoroughbreds finished with a 588, followed by Williams (607), defending champion Rensselaer (608), Springfield (609) and Middlebury (611). There were 24 teams competing in the event.

Skidmore's Anthony DiLisio '13 captured medalist honors with a 72 and 70 for a two-day total of 142. Action took place on the par 71 Ralph Myhre Golf Course.

The Thoroughbreds placed all five players in the top 19 in the tournament that featured 118 players. John McCarthy '13 (74-72-142) was third. Garrett Colgan '13 (74-76-150) and Scott Pinder '14 (76-74-150) tied for 10th, while Zach Grossman '15 (77-76-153) tied for 19th.

Skidmore heads to Clarkson next weekend for the Liberty League championships.

## Plattsburgh downs Skidmore 2-0

By Skidmore Athletics  
On Mon, Sep 19, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y.-- The Plattsburgh State men's soccer team broke open a tight game with two goals in the final 23 minutes on the way to a 2-0 win over Skidmore College, Saturday at Wachenheim Field.

The Thoroughbreds fall to 4-3, while the Cardinals are a perfect 6-0.

Neither team could score until Plattburgh's Pat Shaughnessy scored off a goal line scramble at 67:31 from Steve Zacharczyk. Zacharczyk made it 2-0 when he dribbled past the Thoroughbred defense from the midfield on a breakaway for an empty net goal at 74:19.

Plattsburgh outshot Skidmore 15-6. Cardinal goalie Andy Heighington had two saves, one in each half, for his third shutout of the season. Ben Harwick '12 had four saves over the first 67:29 for the Thoroughbreds, while Nick Peterson '12 had two saves over the final 22:31.

Skidmore hosts Cazenovia College on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in a non-league contest.

## Skidmore shuts out Nazareth 6-0

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Sep 19, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - The Skidmore College field hockey team remained undefeated with Sunday's 6-0 non-league win over Nazareth.

The Thoroughbreds, ranked fifth nationally, improved to 6-0 and have now won 22 consecutive games at home.

Annie Rosencrans '12 put Skidmore on the board first at the 17:22 mark, lifting a shot over the keeper off a corner insert from Lauren Tobias '12. Tobias put the Thoroughbreds up 2-0 in with three minutes remaining in the first half, putting home a rebound for her sixth goal of the season.

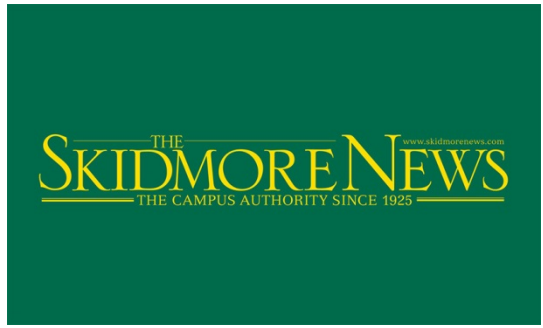
With 10 seconds remaining in the half, Rosencrans took possession and sprinted down the field on a breakaway and was able to feed a pass to Ceilidh MacNeill '13 who put one home with 1 second remaining in the half, giving Skidmore a 3-0 lead at the half.

The Thoroughbreds continued to control the game offensively in the second half, going up 4-0 at the 49:57 mark when Pauline Searles '15 put home a rebound for her first collegiate goal. Exactly 40 seconds later, MacNeill made it 5-0 when she put home a rebound for her second of the game. The scoring capped at the 55:23 mark with Kelly Blackhurst '14 taking a pass in front of the goal from Anna Wahl '13 and putting it home for her 10th goal of the year.

Haley McDougall '15 earned her second shutout of the season, making two saves.

Skidmore outshot Nazareth, 31-4 and held an 18-3 advantage in penalty corners.

The Thoroughbreds return to action on Sept. 23, when they host William Smith in a Liberty League contest at 4 p.m.



## **Comic: Campus Safety**

By Wyatt Erchak, Cartoonist

On Tue, Sep 20, 2011

## Coco Chanel: the woman and the legend

Professor Simon's new book reveals defiant side of Coco Chanel

By Kelsey Nichols, Contributing Writer

On Tue, Sep 20, 2011

"Defiant people." That is what Linda Simon, associate chair and professor of the English department, reveals as her favorite subject. Her most recent book, "Coco Chanel," is a biography on the world famous fashion icon, a woman who was nothing if not defiant.

Since Simon's first book, "The Biography of Alice B. Toklas," was published in 1977, she has written about individuals celebrated more for their intellectual abilities than their fashion sense. William James and Gertrude Stein are some of her previous subjects. But the inspiration to research Chanel came suddenly and powerfully.

"One morning I just woke up and thought, whoa!, Coco Chanel would be so much fun to write about!" she said. Simon found this emblematic celebrity to have much more than just a knack for picking out the right handbag.

Born in 1883, this eventual fashion goddess was raised in a world far removed from the glamor she projected. Chanel was born an illegitimate child and experienced extreme poverty. Her father also abandoned her family when she was quite young.

Simon says that her father's abandonment led Chanel to become a lonely woman who was constantly afraid of losing everything. This was especially the case with regards to love, and Chanel used her petite and flat chested frame as a model for her clothes in order to foster some control over her life. This choice led to an epidemic of extreme dieting among women.

According to Simon, Chanel was a "bundle of contradictions" who tried to mask the loneliness she felt in her personal life by saying and doing radical things in public. However, even though Chanel may not have had the most upstanding moral character, Simon still finds intensely admirable qualities within this woman. She greatly respects Chanel's ambition and her tenaciousness.

"She really wanted something in life. She believed in her own talent and she worked very, very hard for what she got."

From Simon's initial revelation about Chanel until the publishing of the book in September 2011, the process of creating this examination of the fashionista's life took a little more than two years. Fortunately, the project was far from tedious. Simon began her research in the summer of 2009, and in



the fall of the same year, she was given permission to tour and research within the Chanel Archives in Paris, France.

Simon described the experience as something that is not akin with reality. In the archives, one comes across diamond cuffs fine as lace, and the gown that Robin Wright wore to the Cannes Film Festival hangs on the door. Drapes after drapes of beautiful fabric rest in a way that Simon said was enormously glamorous, a compliment that Chanel would have surely reveled in. After returning from her time in France, Simon took a sabbatical to concentrate on her research and to finishing the book.

Simon admits that her complex subject has created an equally complex message for the biography. "Coco Chanel was not a nice person. I would like people to think about why they admire the people they admire and what that says about us and our needs," Simon said.

Simon's current project is a cultural history of the circus and will be her second work for Reaktion Books, a publishing house based in London.

#1.2599715:874138199.jpeg chanel

Unflinching and bold, Chanel served as an intriguing biographical subject

Public Domain



## Despite competition, Green Mountain coffee remains popular with students

Eco-friendly McCullagh tries to unseat the longstanding retailer to no avail

By Adrian Appleman, Contributing Writer

On Wed, Sep 21, 2011

On Wednesday Sept. 7, McCullagh Coffee set up shop in the Atrium of the Murray-Aikins dining hall, handing out free samples of its product to students. Only a few feet away stood jugs of Green Mountain Coffee, which has been the campus caffeine authority for approximately eight years. After tasting the visiting brand, students then filled out surveys to gauge whether or not the school might see Green Mountain coffee replaced.

The overwhelming response, according to Sharon Foley, supervisor of retail operations for dining services, was that students loved the sustainable packaging of McCullagh, but that Green Mountain was the better coffee.

"It's a better, stronger tasting coffee," said Bill Canney, director of dining services. "Even Sharon, who doesn't drink coffee, thought so."

McCullagh Coffee, centered in Buffalo, came to the college promoting its sustainable "Ecoverde Coffee," which is Rainforest Alliance and Free Trade certified. The representative also showed the students the company's new compostable coffee packaging, which worked as a selling point for most students.

However, as only two blends of the brand's coffee offer this certification, not all of them met the criteria to which students responded so positively.

"We simply want to know what's out there," Foley said. McCullagh Coffee went through a preliminary taste testing over the summer in The Spa and received a response justifying another test when the campus was in full swing.

"We looked to see what they have to offer, but our clientele love Green Mountain," Foley said, before adding, "We listen."

Green Mountain coffee has had a longstanding relationship with the college and is well known for its [environmentally conscious initiatives](http://www.greenmountaincoffee.com/Our-Story/csr/index.shtml). Its "Newman's Own Coffee" is packaged in renewable material, it distributes using trucks

running on bio-deisel fuel and it has a much more substantial selection of Fair Trade Certified and Organic products. Green Mountain calls their approach, "Brewing a Better World."

Students do not hesitate to praise the current provider. "There's no comparison," said Elizabeth Hopkins '15. Sarabelle Wrigley '15 shared similar sentiments. "I really like it. It's a lot better than Starbucks."

Last year, an estimated 23,005 cups of freshly brewed Green Mountain coffee were purchased and consumed by various members of the college community. This number, which does not take into account the thousands of cups consumed at the dining hall, at catered events or the Frappuccinos purchased from dining service retail locations, illustrates why coffee quality and availability is a main concern for Dining Services.

"All things considered, I would double our retail numbers and say we're close to 50,000 cups of coffee per year, easily," Canney said. "That's a lot of coffee."

"It's perfectly acceptable," Lyle Reed '12 said. "I like coffee that is locally-sourced. However, I do associate the brand with gas station coffee. Not that there's anything wrong with that," he added as an afterthought.

In light of the prevalent coffee-consuming culture on campus, Dining Services has addressed all the comments about the <http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/library-cafe-deemed-unsuccessful-1.2214234> year old Library Cafe's deficiencies. It now offers freshly brewed Green Mountain Coffee, in lieu of the environmentally questionable K-cups, along with a whole new array of snacks, sandwiches and fruits.

Also, the hours have been altered to better accommodate campus studying habits, opening from 9 a.m.- noon, 2 p.m.- 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.- 12 a.m. on Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m.- noon. on Fridays, and 8 p.m.- 12 a.m. on Sundays and daily specials are now offered to give more variety on a regular basis.

Soon, all the campus Dining Services retail outlets will also have a napkin suggestion board, just like the one in the Dining Hall, so that concerns and complaints can be more effectively addressed in a time-efficient manner.

"My main thrust this year," said Canney, "is to get Skidmore students, faculty and staff drinking their coffee out of reusable mugs."

Any coffee purchased in a reusable mug, regardless of the size, will be charged as if it were a small coffee. This is to help promote environmentally sound coffee consumption, as well as distribution, which is a high priority of dining services.

Taking a nod from the coffee makers, the dining services is also offering many more perks. "Samplings have seemed to become part of our mantra this year," Canney said. Every day from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., The Spa is offering free samples of its new selection of signature sandwiches and salads.

Along with this, more tastings, much like the McCullagh Coffee display and the Naked Juice Company samplings last Wednesday, are scheduled to take place on Wednesdays throughout the semester. Next week, PepsiCo will be providing free samples, followed the week after by Tasty Bite, which offers ready-to-eat meals that require no cooking.

As for Skidmore's coffee brand, the college house blend is still Green Mountain Coffee. "We have a good working relationship with Green Mountain Coffee," said Canney, "and the brand provides us with the product we need. It's packed-in with variety, and it's eco-friendly. Most importantly, you guys like it. We listen, and you guys are our primary customer."

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Green Mountain Coffee

Savannah Grier/The Skidmore News



## Stories I Never Quite Finished, Part 2

By Kevin Kerrane, Columnist

On Wed, Sep 21, 2011

I wrote the second story that I never finished when I was 14-1/2. It purports to be a detective novel, and its title is *Sex, Murder, Violence and You Know What - A Shell Steel Mystery*.

*To refresh your memory on the first story I never quite finished, <a href="http://www.skidmorenews.com/pulp/stories-i-never-quite-finished-part-1-1.2591073">click here</a>.*

I have *tried* writing fiction - everything from vignettes to the great American novel. But I have - fortunately, perhaps - been found lacking. This article is one in a series of several stories, of one type or another, that I never quite finished - usually because I had neither the energy nor the heart to do so. After each story a short criticism follows. The criticism is offered to me, but of course you may profit from it too.

You may notice, incidentally, that in some cases the criticism is longer than the actual story reprint. This conclusively proves what has been a major contention of mine for some time now: namely that critics make things grow. How? I think that any farmer knows what makes things grow.

*I inadvertently pressed my left elbow against my left shoulder, and felt the slight bulge of the M-1 beneath my magenta sport coat. I lit a Lucky Strike, and then watched the match burn slowly down to my fingers. It hurt, but I could take it. My name's Shell Steel. I'm an ex-Marine. I'm tougher than a 10-cent steak. So watch out.*

*While I was pondering this (and watching my fingers burn slowly down to my palm), I happened to look at the knees of my baggy pants. There, in the shiny reflection of my leather knee patches. I saw a man standing in front of me. He had a .22 caliber Browning semi-automatic rifle (\$69.50 retail) pointed directly at my right eyebrow.*

*I took a long drag off of my Lucky. 'Hi,' I said. Then very deftly, I...*

### Criticism

It must be noted in passing that the constant emphasis on detail promotes even more vividness than before, though the dialogue is a little weak. There is, in the first sentence, possible ignorance of biology

shown. This piece shows the writer's obvious desire at 14 to be a gun-toting, deft, one-fisted detective (and/or Marine), and a cigarette smoker (the only ambition which has since materialized).

There seems to be a mercenary aspect to the writer's character. He has progressed to the use of the first person, though, and a certain element of suspense is present. But let's face it-there's something wrong with the darn thing!

Come back next week to peruse my attempted drama.

## Racing in the streets

### Skidmore's women's tennis team joins the Saratoga Palio Half Marathon

By Sarah Barry, Features Editor

On Wed, Sep 21, 2011

On Saturday morning at 6:20 a.m. the Skidmore women's tennis team assembled to join other volunteers for the Saratoga Springs Palio Half Marathon. The 13.1 mile race traveled through campus and ended with the final stretch down Broadway.

Natally Mendoza '13, the tennis team co-captain, was pleased with the turnout for the event. "It was great to see the range of ages, from 12 to the oldest runner. There was a lot of determination, people were pushing each other and although it was individual, people were also supportive," she said.

The half marathon is titled the Saratoga Palio Melanie Merola O'Donnell Memorial Race. It honors a local resident who spent her life volunteering. The day also included a 5K, which began just after the official start of the half marathon. The races serve to honor Melanie and the causes she supported.

"I was at the water station around the 12 mile mark, so it was an intense part of the race. Everyone was really grateful for the volunteers, and it made me feel great," said Tory Engros '12, tennis team co-captain.

Thomas O'Grady age 26, of Latham, NY won the half marathon with a time of 1:11:29, and Shaun Donegan, age 25, of Saratoga Springs won 5K with a time of 16:30. There were 830 finishers in the half marathon and 429 in the 5K. Ages ranged from 12 to 70 for the participants of the half marathon.

"The race was well run and well organized with good fan support, but it still had a small town feel," said Ben Shanks, another half marathon runner.

"It was nice running through Skidmore and seeing my friends cheering me on - that's really important for a runner," Carly Sacks '12 said.

Saturday morning offered cool but clear weather for the race and there were many families and spectators waiting in downtown Saratoga. "It was great to see so many people out there giving it their all, and to see so many people running in teams for causes," Hannah Brechka '12 said.





## Details announced for second Kenneth A. Freirich Business Plan Competition

The best business plan wins big prize in funds and business services

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Wed, Sep 21, 2011

Preparations have begun for the second Kenneth A. Freirich Business Plan Competition, open to all enrolled students of any year or major. The competition offers at least \$25,000 in cash and business services for the students who write the best business plans.

"I am really excited for the 2011-12 competition," said Freirich, a member of the class of 1990 and current president of Health Monitor Network, for whom the competition is named.

Freirich, who started his own business as a sophomore, began this competition when he returned to the college as its first Entrepreneur in Residence. "Last year was amazing. I got inspired by the incredible creativity, growth and learning that took place with all of the student teams that entered the competition, regardless of how they fared."

Last year the prizes for the winners totaled \$17,500 and were distributed between the first, second, and third place teams. Trevor Mengel '11 and Samuel Brown '12, who took first place, used their winnings to help them develop Slingshot, which, according to ScopeOnline, is "a website interface and smartphone application that enables users to quickly join or organize pick-up games of any sort."

The success of this competition led to its renewed sponsor by Freirich along with alterations that allow for broader participation among students.

"We want to see more submissions from students who are majoring in departments outside of Management and Business," said Tim Harper, chair of Management and Business. "We want to encourage creative students in all fields to develop their entrepreneurial potential."

Students will have four months to develop their plans, and must submit them by Jan. 25. In order to help students along, Roy Rotheim, professor of economics and coordinator of the competition, has recruited senior students from the Skidmore-Saratoga Entrepreneurial Partnership to conduct weekly workshops, which will be mandatory for the participants.

Alumni mentors will also aid finalists, who will be announced in early February, to prepare for their final presentations on April 13. These finalists will be determined by a panel of entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, accountants, lawyers, executives and members of the Department of Management and Business.

“My goal in this competition continues to be to foster entrepreneurship and create real operating businesses,” Freirich said. “I don’t want this to be just an academic exercise. I know this can be a life-changing experience for students.”

Students may either work by themselves or in a team, and the prizes will enable students to start new businesses or to help them further develop existing ones. Students must declare their interest by October 10 through an "[intent to compete](http://cms.skidmore.edu/management_business/competition/upload/2011-12-Intent-to-Compete.pdf)" form, which will have them describe the basics of their business plan and list team members.

Students who are interested should attend an informational meeting on Thursday at 7 p.m. in Palamountain 202. Freirich will be among those in attendance.

## The Hindustani Harmonies of Professor Veena Chandra

Chandra and son Devesh entrance in Zankel Music Center

By Dale Obbie, Contributing Writer

On Wed, Sep 21, 2011

On Sept. 10 the College's sitar instructor Veena Chandra performed in the Arthur Zankel Music Center's Ladd Hall with her son Devesh accompanying her on the tabla hand drums.

Chandra began the concert by playing a long improvisation on the sitar. Known as the alap, this section serves to introduce the melodic material of the raga. Note by note Chandra painstakingly developed the Bageshri raga, a musical mode. She gave each tone in the scale its due attention and often bent the strings of the sitar to color the sound of the raga with microtonal notes.

This introductory section continued for nearly an hour before Devesh started to play. Once he did, the hypnotic alap gave way to a much livelier section of the raga, brought to life by his inhumanly fast yet impeccably precise drumming patterns. Chandra built upon Devesh's drumming with her sitar improvisations, weaving in and out of the pre-composed melody or "hook" of the song. She said that they chose to play Raga Bageshri because "it is a night melody that is very melodious and supposed to be romantic [and] because it was one of my father's favorite ragas."

For their second piece - which began an hour and twenty minutes into the concert - Chandra and Devesh chose to play a medley of different ragas, stringing them together and flowing seamlessly from one to the next. Every raga is associated with a different time of day, so by playing a medley, they were able to "incorporate some ragas that are rarely heard."

What was most impressive about this concept was that Chandra had not planned which ragas she was going to play before beginning the piece. "I had some idea of which ragas I wanted to get into and what ends up happening in this process is that other ragas come to you and inspire you to play them," she said.

It is like going to a garden and picking out flowers. You know you want to pick flowers and as you go there you just pick and decide how many and of what variety. It ends up taking its own shape and form.

Professor Chandra, who has been playing sitar for 55 years, said that music has always been a part of her life. "I started my formal training with my father when I was 12, but I have had access to it since I was a baby. He introduced me to music - he played sitar, flute, tabla, harmonium, banjo, etc."

Likewise, Devesh also grew up with music. "People would come for lessons and he would be there sitting. We have always had music in the house. Also, I would take him everywhere to concerts, performances and workshops. I have pictures of him playing at two years old," Chandra said.

Despite the highly technical nature of Hindustani music, Chandra said that it can be appreciated in a purely emotional way.

One can feel the vibrations of the sitar in the audience. Ragas and these vibrations have been derived from nature. They are connected to our souls. My dog goes into a trance when we play. This is a dip into the sea of music, so understanding formal elements helps, but dipping into the sea with a clear soul is what is important.

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Veena Chandra & son Devesh



## Grant family confirms toxicology report

Young man's death was not caused by any use of narcotics

By Rebecca Orbach, Managing Editor

On Wed, Sep 21, 2011

Earlier today the family of Alexander Grant - the 19-year-old Boston College student found dead in Putnam Creek earlier this year - released a statement confirming that, according to the final autopsy and toxicology report, Grant was not on any narcotics the night he died.

On March 5 Grant attended a party at 146 Church Street while visiting friends at Skidmore College. Reports say Grant was last seen at the party at 11:30 p.m., about an hour before the Saratoga Springs Police Department arrived in response to a noise complaint.

Grant was found dead in Putnam Creek on March 8.

Video surveillance footage taken at 1:15 a.m. inside a medical office building at 3 Care Lane shows Grant breaking in through a small window and cutting his Achilles tendon on the glass on his way inside.

He appeared to be disoriented at the time of the break in, wearing only a t-shirt, boxer shorts and one sock. After spending a short time in the building he left through the front door.

His body was found in the creek only a few hundred yards away from the medical facility.

Officials had hoped the toxicology report would shed some light on Grant's behavior the night of his death, but now, six months later, his friends and family are still without answers.

"The autopsy results fail to answer key questions as to how the young man we loved so much could have sustained the state of disorientation that characterized his last few hours on this earth," his family said in a letter to the Saratoga Springs Police Department.

The statement went on to thank SSPD for its dedication to the search for their son and also thanked the Medical Examiner and the District Attorney, Jim Murphy III.

"It is our impression that extra recourses and focus were required on their part to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the report, and we want them to know we are grateful for these exertions," the letter said.

Despite the Grant family's gratitude, they also expressed their frustration with the lack of information made available to them regarding their son's death. "We remain disappointed and disheartened that some of the people involved in this tragedy have not come forward with the information necessary for us to understand what happened to Alex on the night of March 5, 2011," they said in their letter.

They ask that anyone who may have information about Grant's last night come forward to either them or SSPD.

Lieutenant Veitch of SSPD said that although SSPD has the toxicology report, they are not yet ready to comment on it.

Since Grant's passing the family has established the Alexander Maxwell Grant Foundation to advance "the deep philosophy and spirit" of Grant, a pianist and cellist. A 5K run next month at Boston College will benefit the organization, which can be found online at <a href="https://pod51000.outlook.com/owa/redir.aspx?C=Hw5IOZMllkK-P1jYTziLVafHycyuS84IKPrbku-M64v74I2elltiXiiVfx-rdcOx-7OAGUX2SoQ.&URL=http%3a%2f%2falexgrant.org%2f">alexgrant.org</a>.

#1.2602850:2696004769.jpg AlexanderGrant

Alexander Grant was found dead in Putnam Creek on March 8 of this year.



## **Editorial: Ambiguity and uncertainty in the new AOD policy**

By the Editorial Board

On Thu, Sep 22, 2011

Hardly anyone aware of the troubles that our college faced last year by way of substance abuse could be surprised in seeing a noticeably harsher Alcohol and Other Drugs AOD policy this fall. Last October, the tongue-in-cheek title of Moorebid Ball was gravely apropos, setting the tone for an academic year that would see increased incidents of disorder and vandalism; the sort of abuses that only certain "substances" can generate.

As it happens, the administration actually began the process of AOD revision a full year earlier than the aforementioned events took place. But it is safe to assume that had there not already a revision in process, Moorebid's torrent of hospitalizations and the \$40,000 worth of property repair would have sparked one anyway. So setting the question of origins on one side, we are left to pick apart the brand new, five-tier, "point-based" AOD policy - a document which has already angered enough students for college authorities to schedule a public discussion on the matter for the first week of October.

Much of the present debate over this significant alteration to our college's disciplinary code has centered on the new "association" rule included in the first tier of violations. Among the offenses of Level I - old standards such as "open container" and "underage possession of alcohol" - there lies an innovation: students simply in the presence of alcohol are to be penalized, after a courtesy free pass for the first offense. There, in print, we are told that a student who is not drinking, but only within range of those who are, can accumulate fines and heavy sanctions if written up more than once.

This clause is not only superfluous but also irrational. First, if we are to understand the rule's purpose as a way to account for those drunken, disorderly students who nonetheless carry no trace of intoxicants, there is already a Level II violation that authorizes Campus Safety to write up such individuals - a violation labeled "public intoxication/disorderly conduct." For what reason should our new code contain a statute to potentially penalize students who are neither in possession of alcohol nor causing any trouble?

Pressing this question further, what about those students who choose to act as designated driver, or walk inebriated friends home safely? What about those who, relying on the college amnesty policy, call an emergency in to campus safety? Choices of this kind are rightly preached to us as responsible, and realistically they are made more than just once in a lifetime, as the new policy would limit. Now these





choices would entail a Level I violation and we are faced with a potential situation in which students end up penalized for not only harmless but also responsible behavior.

Both of these incarnations of the "association" problem hinge on the separate but related question of Campus Safety's enforcement of the new code. Legislation is one thing, and execution another; what is the enforcement policy concerning these new rules? Realistically, if Campus Safety were to break up, say, a Scribner apartment party, the obvious impracticality of collecting every student, most of whom slip out the back of the house within seconds, dictates how closely officers could enforce the code in that case.

But when it comes to busting parties held in dorm rooms with no back door escape route, will Campus Safety lock every person inside the room and proceed to take names? Operating off of this harsher and more pervasive legislation, it would seem as though anything but that kind of thorough round up would be plain negligence on the part of the officers.

Further clarification on enforcement, then, is essential to form a coherent picture of what campus will look like under this new policy. The language of the document, highlighting the use of "discretion" on the part of the authorities, is far too vague.

The topic of discretion leads finally to the looming question of appeals. After sifting through the above issues that arise from the policy's text, one notices the text that is glaringly absent: any mention of the Integrity Board appeal system and how this new code would impact it.

The appellate process for disciplinary matters is of course located in the Student Handbook and stands on its own, but the new AOD policy remains incomplete without an articulation of how that process is affected. There is a clause that allows additional points to be assigned to any case, through the administration's discretion, but no corollary where points may be subtracted on account of amnesty or lenience. This door should swing both ways.

Without a doubt our college will be engaging in this discussion for months to come, but before any reasonable dialogue can happen it is up to the administrators to provide everyone with a clearly articulated policy. Right now, there are too many contradictions and foggy principles to soberly assess the new AOD code.

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Beerpoints

Wyatt Erchak

CAMPUS SAFETY





## **Thoroughbreds fall to Cazenovia, 1-0**

By Skidmore Athletics

On Thu, Sep 22, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. - The Skidmore College men's soccer team suffered a 1-0 loss to Cazenovia in Tuesday night's non-league matchup at Wachenheim Field.

The Thoroughbreds fall to 4-4, while the Wildcats improve to 3-4.

The game's lone goal came in the 26th minute when Tim Hartill '13 blasted a free kick from outside the box and got it past Skidmore keeper Ben Harwick to make it 1-0.

The Thoroughbreds' best opportunity came early in the second half on a penalty kick from Diego Reinerio '12 where Cazenovia goalie Riley Battaglini made a diving save to keep the Wildcats in the lead. Skidmore had the ball in the offensive zone late but was unable to capitalize as Cazenovia held on for the win.

Harwick made two saves on three shots for the Thoroughbreds, and Sam Cimino finished with one save, playing the final 6:36 of the first half.

Skidmore returns to action on Saturday for a Liberty League contest at St. Lawrence.

## Candidates speak at SGA Speech Night

Students running for open positions campaign to students at large [Updated with results]

By Andrew Shi, Contributing Writer

On Thu, Sep 22, 2011

On Wednesday night nearly 80 students attended the presentation of speeches for the Student Government Association elections in the Spa from 6-8 p.m. A live feed allowed those in the dining hall to also watch. Ten first year students ran for the open offices for the class of 2015, while six junior candidates presented their platforms as well. Speeches were limited to three minutes and candidates were asked to avoid mentioning opponents. Each session of speeches was followed up by a Q &A with the audience.

First years Jarred Green, Liliana Rivera and Tobi Ewing are all running for class social chair. The candidates spoke of their past experiences in government, and emphasized the importance of disseminating information and organizing new events on campus, as well as raising funds to support said events.

Nile Nair '15 and Rebecca Shesser '15 are both seeking the position of class treasurer. Nair said that he would not be "limited to bureaucracy and monetary restrictions" and would do what was in his power to fund events that the student body wanted. Shesser offered ideas as to how she would raise money, including sports and game tournaments that would have a participatory fee.

Vice president candidates are Nikhita Winkler '15 and Noam Yossefy '15. Winkler said that as vice president she would, through planned events, "foster class community" and "create an environment to accept and respect one another." Yossefy said that she would improve existing first year orientations and housing questionnaires for future classes and also reform the tutoring system.

Soraya Attia '15, Chantal Moore '15 and Allan Brown '15 are all vying for class president. Attia focused her platform on issues concerning dorm wireless, limited library hours and a flawed point penal system, while Brown spoke about designating rooms to bands and musicians, fundraisers through raffles and t-shirts and adapting the dining hall projector to "show popular shows and movies," in addition to the sports it now commonly airs.

Moore introduced herself as someone with "the ability to understand diversity" and, hence, would not be "subject to one voice, one group, one idea." All three candidates emphasized the importance of advertising new events throughout the year.

Once the first year speeches ended, the unopposed Class Secretary Julia Hutson '13, through her proxy Evan Friedler '13, pronounced her determination to organize more Junior sponsored events.

Also unopposed was Will Wygal '13, who is seeking class social chair. He emphasized his openness to new ideas and his desire "to promote school music talent." He also spoke about bringing novel themes to the Junior Ring, such as Mad Men.

Four candidates, Skylar Sasson '12, William Heidepriem-Baird '14, Stephen Yell '13 and Luke Conley '14, are running for the two open seats of senator at large.

Heidepriem-Baird cited his work at the U.S Senate where he was able to examine the mechanics of the Senate, which, according to him, "ignited [his] passion for change." At the forefront of his concerns is Skidmore's "carbon footprint... and environmental sustainability." One step Heidepriem-Baird offered to mitigate this issue was to replace facility bathroom hand towels with hand dryers.

Yell's spoke about his desire to create a union of bands. This union is something he and other band members have already conceptualized and are mobilizing to create.

Conley, meanwhile, stated that the campus, especially Case Center, should be offered as canvases for student aesthetic creation, which will liven up the school.

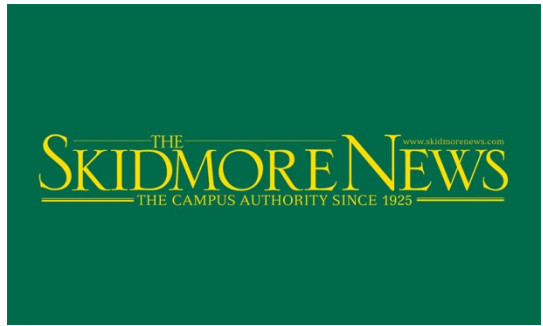
Lastly Sasson, a veteran of student government, having been active since the sixth grade, promised to achieve what she could by "working within the system." One point she made was to boost the budget for Northwoods and Scribner Houses.

For the first year senator position vied the unopposed Ben Polsky '15. Polsky, who sees Freshmen especially as "Guinea Pigs," promised to "poll classmates about newly implemented policies," to see what worked well.

Eva Frieden '15 is running unopposed for Jonsson Tower vice president. She said that she would organize events for her dorm and pointed out that she had already "implemented on her floor an opinion board."

The last speech of the night was delivered on behalf of unopposed Sean O'Brien '13 for Scribner Village senator. O'Brien says that as senator he would promote more artwork for Scribner's bare walls and to ascertain for the Village "softer toilet paper and block parties."

SGA voting will be open Thursday the 22 from 12 a.m. to 12 p.m



**Election Results:**

Voters: 813 in this election

**Class of 2015 President:**

Soraya Attia

**Class of 2015 Social Chair:**

Jarred Green

**Class of 2015 Treasurer:**

Nile Nair

**Class of 2015 Vice President:**

Noam Yossefy

**Do you agree to the following changes to the SGA Constitution?:**

Agree

**Do you agree with the following changes to the SGA Constitution?:**

Agree

**First Year Senator:**

Ben Polsky

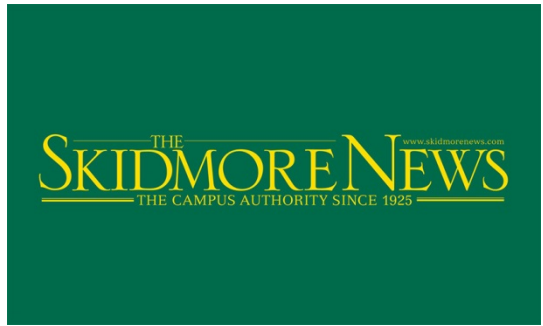
**Jonsson Tower Vice President:**

Eva Frieden

**Junior Class Secretary:**

Julia Hutson

**Junior Class Social Chair:**



Will Wygal

**Scribner Village Senator:**

Sean O'brien

**Senator At Large:**

Skylar Sasson

Luke Conley

## Skidmore knocks off No. 11 Union

By Skidmore Athletics

On Fri, Sep 23, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - The Skidmore College women's soccer team opened Liberty League play with an impressive 1-0 win over No. 11-ranked Union College, Wednesday night at Wachenheim Field.

The win marks the fifth time this season the 6-1 Thoroughbreds have handed an opponent its first loss of the season. The Dutchwomen are 6-1 and 0-1 in Liberty League play.

Neither team managed much offense through the first 39 minutes of the game. Skidmore then took advantage of a late corner when Michelle Finan '13 hit a well-placed ball in the box that Rebecca Russo '13 headed past Union keeper Mia Simone for the game's lone goal at 39:19.

The Dutchwomen came out hard at the beginning of the second half, but the Skidmore defense settled down to record its fifth straight shutout.

Thoroughbred goalie Meghan Sleezer '12 had four saves to extend her scoreless streak to 459 minutes.

Skidmore outshot Union 10-8. Simone finished with six saves for the Dutchwomen, including two big stops late in the second half to keep the game close.



## A little night music

### Kristian Bezuidenhout and the Graf Fortepiano dazzle at Zankel

By Kristin Travagline, Contributing writer

On Fri, Sep 23, 2011

On Sunday Sept. 18 renowned pianist Kristian Bezuidenhout brought the nineteenth century to Skidmore College during the unveiling of a ca. 1826 original Graf Fortepiano. The special concert took place at the Arthur Zankel Music Center.

Ms. Brooke Allen, whose family has been in possession of the instrument for nearly 200 years, has recently loaned the piano to the college. Edward Swenson, emeritus professor of music at Ithaca College, gave a pre-performance talk on Conrad Graf, the foremost fortepiano builder in Vienna during the early nineteenth century.

Swenson himself is a fortepiano builder and expert of Graf pianos and recognizes their distinctiveness. "Anybody who works on pianos, the minute you get inside one of these instruments you see the absolutely uncompromising excellence of the workmanship and the materials. There's not a smudge of glue anywhere, there's not anything that offends the eye when you look inside. Hammers are perfectly made. It takes your breath away," he said.

Immediately after, the concert was underway. The first half of the performance featured Mozart's Sonata in F Major and Sonata in B-flat Major on an Anton Walter Fortepiano restored by Richard Hester, appropriately, as Mozart is one of Bezuidenhout's favorite composers. "His writing for the piano is so perfect, so incredibly refined and subtle, I find it my favorite," he said.

Bezuidenhout began his studies in Australia, completed them at the Eastman School of Music, and now lives in London. He is a guest professor at the Schola Cantorum in Basel and the Eastman School of Music. In 2007 he was awarded the Erwin Bodky Prize and the Deutschlandfunk Förderpreis. He is Artistic Advisor for the Constellation Center, Cambridge, MA.

Before playing the first note, Bezuidenhout's hands lingered steady just above the keys in a reverential manner. From the instant he began, Bezuidenhout's demeanor physically embodied of the music. His eyebrows pulsed up and down. At rapid moments in the score, he held his face close to the keyboard. During slower moments, his head fell back into the air, as though luxuriating. He did not even seem to look at the score.

Bezuidenhout's control over Mozart's multifaceted material was quite apparent in the Allegro Asai of Sonata in F Major. The piece began with a playful exchange between fast playing and light high notes, which seemed to exemplify the difference between prancing and running.

The second half of the show began with a short introduction of Schubert's Four Impromptus played on the Graf piano. Bezuidenhout explained how the following pieces functioned as four essays in piano sound and texture. He then asked the audience to take note of the plummy base tones, woody tenor tones, and the glittering, crystalline passagework. By all accounts, Bezuidenhout's performance gave Schubert's pieces their due.

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Fortepiano

Rebecca Workman/Skidmore News



## Restaurant Review: Max London's

Suave and sleek, this week's establishment lives up to its reputation

By Tegan O'Neill, Columnist

On Fri, Sep 23, 2011

If Max London's were personified, it would be a confident and experienced businessman. The establishment is aware of its polished reputation and thus leaves no small detail ignored. The dining room is dressed to impress in golden brown; varying shades of pizza dough and pasta, butterscotch and coffee give subdued warmth to the space. The room is furnished with copper and wood and a mirror runs the entire length of one wall. The look blends the modern with the vintage rather seamlessly.

Whereas in the business world, a firm handshake sets the meeting off on a strong note, in the realm of dining out, it's the bread before the meal which sets the tone for courses to come. If dining establishments are going to set bread on the table, it better be good. It should not go overlooked that Max London's nails this first impression, with the help of Mrs. London's next door. Freshly baked, both of the breads (one Italian, the other a French baguette) were both crusty and chewy and possessed the vaguely earthy flavor that is the mark of dependable bread.

And so one is prepared for an equally delectable meal. The menu follows a minimalist approach in that each dish highlights just a few simple ingredients, but the result is sophisticated and polished. Ingredients are not disguised behind masks of other ingredients and thus quality and careful preparation are ensured.

In lieu of ordering from the selection of bigger pasta and meat plates, we opted for ordering three appetizers plus one of "The Pizzas," the rationale being that the appetizers offered more creative, mouthwatering pizzazz. Put simply, the word on the street is that the pizzas are standout.

For a divine experience, bite slowly into the Piggy Back Dates (Serrano ham, walnuts, and goat cheese). The intensity of flavor and complexity of tastes is surely meant to be savored. Taste the sweetness of date, then honey, then maple. Then let those sensations give way to the saltiness of ham and lastly, the slight bitterness of walnut.

The Peach and Prosciutto (peach, prosciutto, and aged balsamic) looked spectacular on the plate but, disappointingly, its taste and texture proved to be less sensational. The taste of prosciutto was lost on the juiciness of the peach and the texture mix of thinly sliced meat and fleshy fruit was not particularly



pleasant. The aged balsamic, though, was intensely full-flavored and quite nearly good enough to redeem the plate as a whole.

The Garlic Shrimp (rock shrimp, olive oil, garlic and smoked paprika) offered a robust bite of smoky flavor considering its rather unassuming amalgam of ingredients. It was an appetizer reminiscent of Cajun cooking and thus a refreshing change of pace from the more Italian-influenced menu.

The BLT pizza (bacon, leeks, roasted cherry tomatoes + Coach Farm goat cheese) was served to our table still steaming from the oven. The smell wafting upwards was positively tantalizing. At first glance, the ratio of crust to toppings seemed off, but we soon came to understand that it was a wise decision to load the pizza sparingly with bacon, leeks, and goat cheese. Otherwise, the combination would be too heavy to handle. With the help of tomato to balance out the pizza, each bite was luxuriously and satisfyingly rich.

Max London's is the type of place where you feel obliged to finish out the meal with something sweet, dessert being the proverbial icing on the cake for such a well-put together evening. The Butterscotch Budino (dark chocolate, butterscotch pudding, soft caramel, fleur de sel, and whipped cream) sounded excellent but proves to be too sweet and at the same time not too flavorful. However, the Chocolate Maximus, (creamy flourless chocolate cake) warms the soul in its smoothness and richness. The dollop of vanilla ice cream on top provides the perfect contrast to the mousse-like chocolate of the cake. Finally coffee served in a french press proved to be a delightful coda to the meal.

The prices at Max London's require a bit of a splurge but by ordering a few appetizers and a pizza the bill is fairly reasonable. Appetizer prices hover in the \$6 to \$9 range and most of the pizzas are \$14.

From beginning to end, the Max London's experience is suave; service is pleasant and respectful, the atmosphere is clean and refined, and the food is delightful and satisfying. The restaurant accepts the challenge of high expectations and does not disappoint.

*Read more of Tegan O'Neill's outings at her [blog](http://tegan-and-sarah.blogspot.com/).*

#1.2608670:2322771388.JPG MaxLondon

Confident and stylish, Max London's has no need to disguise its dishes with myriad spices.

Sarah Weitzman/The Skidmore News

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Max London pizza

Sarah Weitzman/The Skidmore News





## What's all the Fracking Fuss?

### Lois Gibbs Encourages Action Against Hydrofracking

By Roz Freeman, Contributing Writer

On Sun, Sep 25, 2011

On Monday, Sept. 19 in Gannet Auditorium, Lois Gibbs spoke on hydrofracking, community organizing and the importance of holding the government accountable for issues of environmental injustice. It was a talk that left the majority of the audience deeply moved and inspired to act.

Professor Eric Morser of the history department introduced Gibbs. He started off the talk with an activist tone, encouraging students to live through deeds and not only words. "Think of yourselves as citizens of the community," Morser said.

Lois Gibbs spoke to the audience directly, drawing them in as she told her personal, heart-wrenching story of how, in 1978, she became involved in fighting for environmental justice with the infamous Love Canal chemical and health disaster in Niagara Falls.

After the catastrophe, Gibbs' young children became sick with illnesses such as epilepsy, asthma and urinary track infections. After Niagara Falls Gazette reporter Michael Brown wrote an article about the toxic waste dump site in town, Gibbs realized that the chemicals in the water were to blame. In 1953, a piece of land with 20,000 tons of toxic waist was sold to the Niagara Falls School Board for \$1 and was disregarded.

"How dare they! How dare they made a decision about my little girl or boy living or dying!" Gibbs yelled. The current trends in hydrofracking mirror the serious reality of water poisoning in Niagara Falls.

"These close-to-home painful situations are the ways we will find out about fracking. They knew they were being poisoned," Gibbs said.

Lois went on to explain the finer points of hydrofracking. To extract natural gas from shale below the earth's surface, companies drill a vertical well that turns horizontal as it hits the shale. A mixture of water and chemicals (companies are not obligated and therefore do not disclose all information about which chemicals are used) is pumped down the well to break out the methane bubbles from the shale. The gas companies do not remove all of the water and chemicals - at least 30 percent is left in the ground, poisoning the water and the land.

"Hydrofracking is supposed to be the solution to climate change, but methane is the second most potent greenhouse gas," Gibbs said. She also explains that fracking does not help the U.S. with energy independence, as we are sending most of the hydrofracked natural gas abroad, often to Asia.

Gibbs did not shy away from calling this a political battle. "New York City, Syracuse and Buffalo's watersheds are frack free. That's where the New York State votes are, that's where they decide not to poison," Gibbs said.

Gibbs encouraged the audience to continually ask New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo about fracking. "Make it politically right for the politician to do the right thing." Gibbs ended by crying out, "Let's go out and kick some butt, because that is what it takes."

During the Q&A period, Gibbs gave some tips on organizing and getting people to care about the issue. She told the audience to ask others what they cared about, and then use it toward the environmental organization. She emphasized the power of youth, campus movements and the importance of supporting each other's initiatives.

Students reacted to the talk with both criticism and sympathy. "I was hoping the lecture would have had a little more information on the specifics of hydrofracking, but that information is pretty accessible online, so I see where she's coming from," said Andrew Lloyd '12. "I think it's awesome that the school was able to bring a speaker with such an impressive resume. If nothing else, this lecture inspired me to go out and find out more about the hydrofracking question."

Organizations that are currently fighting against fracking include Frack Action, Capital District Against Fracking, Water Equality and Environmental Advocates of New York. Anyone can become part of the anti-fracking movement. "Once fracking poisons the water, it is a disaster," Gibbs said.



## **Rosencrans' OT goal pushes No. 5 Skidmore past No. 18 William Smith, 1-0**

By Skidmore Athletics

On Sun, Sep 25, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - Annie Rosencrans '12 scored 7:27 into the first overtime to lift the No. 5-ranked Skidmore College field hockey team to a 1-0 win over No. 18 William Smith in Friday afternoon's Liberty League contest.

The Thoroughbreds improve to 7-0 overall and 2-0 in league play and have now won 23 straight home games, 16 straight against Liberty League opponents and 29 straight regular season games. The Herons fall to 6-2 overall and 0-1 in the Liberty League.

With 7:40 remaining in the extra period, Skidmore earned a corner and Jackie Slocombe '12 sent a pass to Kelly Blackhurst '14 who then slid it to Rosencrans, who blasted a shot past William Smith keeper Taryn Little for her 7th goal of the season and fourth game-winner.

The Herons had a scoring chance at the end of the first half, earning a corner to extend the period, but Margaret McConnell's shot was sent just wide to end the half in a scoreless tie.

Skidmore opened the second half on the offensive but were unable to get one past Little. William Smith came on strong in the last five minutes of regulation, but Thoroughbred goalie Haley McDougall '14 came up with two big saves to down the stretch to help send the game to overtime.

In the overtime, Skidmore was able to control the momentum offensively, getting off three shots before Rosencrans scored off the corner to end it with a 1-0 victory for the Thoroughbreds.

McDougall made four saves to record her third shutout of the season and improves to 6-0. Little finished with 12 saves for the Herons.

Skidmore hosts Rochester in another league matchup, tomorrow afternoon at 2 p.m.

## Thoroughbreds advance in ITA Women's Tennis

By Skidmore Athletics

On Sun, Sep 25, 2011

GENEVA - Skidmore's Nataly Mendoza '13 and Melissa Hirsch '14 have advanced to the USTA ITA Northeast Regional women's tennis singles quarterfinals at William Smith College.

Mendoza has also moved into the doubles quarterfinals with Lee Ford '14. Tory Engros '12 and Molly Nolan '14 are also in the doubles quarterfinals for the Thoroughbreds.

The tournament continues Sunday afternoon with the championships on Monday.

Mendoza opened with an easy 6-0, 6-0 win over NYU's Ramya Pokala and then beat Paige Aiello of The College of New Jersey 6-3, 6-2. She won her third round match 6-2, 6-1 over Natalie Santiago of Vassar.

Hirsch also cruised past her first opponent, winning 6-0, 6-0 over Marissa Rotondo of St. John Fisher. She then beat Deborah Wu, who retired with Hirsch winning the first set 6-4. Hirsch won her third match 6-0, 6-7, 6-0 over G. Murphy-Goldberg of Mount St. Mary.

Mendoza and Ford won their first doubles match 8-3 over Santiago and Schapiro of Vassar and then beat a team from Rensselaer 8-1.

Engros and Nolan won 8-1 against a team from Stevens and 8-3 over Murphy and Young from St. Lawrence.

## **Volleyball opens Liberty League play with 3-1 win over Union**

By Skidmore Athletics

On Sun, Sep 25, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - The Skidmore College women's volleyball team beat Union College 3-1 (25-16, 25-18, 21-25, 25-20) in the Liberty League opener for both teams, Friday night at the Williamson Sports Center.

The Thoroughbreds improve to 9-3, while the Dutchwomen are 8-6.

Kelley Vershbow '12 had a match-high 20 kills in addition to 13 digs for Skidmore. Carolyn Bottelier '13 contributed 15 kills and 10 digs, while Olivia Glassman '15 also had a double-double with 12 kills and 10 digs. Glassman also had three key aces. Setter Mallory Mendelsohn '13 had 50 assists and nine digs and Sam Friedman had 21 digs.

For Union, Eve Richards had 16 kills, 13 digs, two aces and six blocks. Casey Tepper added 11 kills, three aces, and 12 digs, while setter Mackenzie Westfall had 37 assists and eight digs.

Skidmore hosts Amherst College in a non-league match on Sept. 27 at 7 p.m.

## **No. 1 St. Lawrence downs Skidmore, 2-0**

By Skidmore Athletics

On Sun, Sep 25, 2011

CANTON - The Skidmore College men's soccer team suffered a 2-0 defeat to No. 1 Saint Lawrence in Saturday's Liberty League matchup.

The Thoroughbreds fall to 4-5 overall and 1-1 in the league, while the Saints remain unbeaten at 7-0 and pick up their first league win of the season.

After a scoreless first half, St. Lawrence scored twice in the first 7:55 of the second half to take control. Jamal Samaroo and Sam DeMello scored for the Saints.

Skidmore goalie Nick Peterson '12 finished with 11 saves, while Brian Abernethy made one in the shutout victory.

The Thoroughbreds were outshot 28-4.

Skidmore hosts No. 9 Hobart on Sept. 30 at 4 p.m.

## **St. Lawrence nips Skidmore in OT, 1-0**

By Skidmore Athletics

On Sun, Sep 25, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - Stephanie Sayward broke a 0-0 tie late in the second overtime, to lead the St. Lawrence University women's soccer team to a 1-0 Liberty League win over Skidmore College, Saturday at Wachenheim Field.

The loss ends a five game win streak for the Thoroughbreds, who fall to 6-2 overall and 1-1 in Liberty League play. The Saints improve to 4-2-1 and 1-0.

Sayward collected a loose ball that got behind Skidmore goalie Meghan Sleezer '12 and a Thoroughbred defender and then calmly scored from about 12 yards out at the 1:06:10 mark.

The goal ended a five-game Skidmore shutout streak.

Sleezer finished with four saves. St. Lawrence keeper Abby van Geldern had seven saves, including one in the second overtime. The Thoroughbreds outshot the Saints 18-6, including a 3-1 advantage in extra time.

Skidmore is at Liberty League leader William Smith College on Sept. 30.

## Thoroughbreds remain unbeaten with 7-0 win over Rochester

By Skidmore Athletics

On Sun, Sep 25, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - Lauren Tobias '12 scored three goals to help lead the Skidmore College field hockey team to a 7-0 win over Rochester in Saturday's Liberty League matchup at Thoroughbred Field.

The No. 5-ranked Thoroughbreds improve to 8-0 overall and 3-0 in league play, while the Yellowjackets fall to 6-3 overall and 0-2 against Liberty League opponents.

Skidmore has now won 23 straight regular season games and also extended their home-winning streak to 24 games and their Liberty League winning streak to 17.

Tobias tallied her first goal just less than eight minutes in, deflecting Annie Rosencrans '12 shot from the top of the circle past Rochester goalie Madison Wagner to make it 1-0. Ceilidh MacNeill '13 made it 2-0 at the 30:02 deflecting home a crossing pass from Rosencrans for her fourth goal of the season.

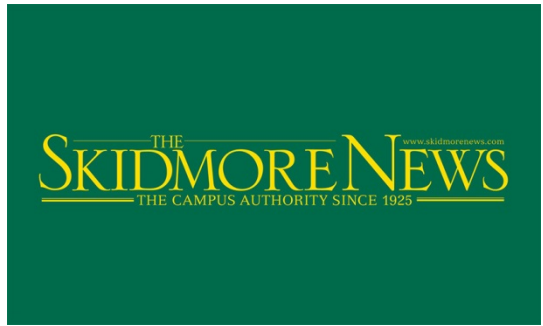
With a two-goal lead at the half, the Thoroughbred offense came alive in the second half, pouring in five goals from four different players. Tobias picked up her second of the game at the 36:44 mark, taking a pass from Kelly Blackhurst '14 in front of the goal and hammering it home, then less than 10 minutes later she recorded her third goal of game and ninth of the season, send home a pass from MacNeill to make it 4-0.

Blackhurst kept the offense rolling at the 51:51 mark, taking a pass in the center of the circle from Caylyn Sullivan '12 and lifting it to the top shelf for her team leading 11th goal of the season. Anna Wahl '13 recorded her first goal of the season, scoring on a rebound of the keeper's pads in the 59th minute to make it 6-0 and freshman Sofia San Marco '14 capped the scoring at the 61:49 mark with her first collegiate goal.

Haley McDougall '15 recorded three saves to post her third consecutive shutout and improve to 7-0 on the year. Wagner finished with 12 saves and Darragh Kerr had a defensive save for the Yellowjackets.

Skidmore outshot Rochester, 29-4 and held a 9-2 advantage in penalty corners.

The Thoroughbreds are at No. 8 Middlebury, Tuesday night at 6 p.m.



## **Comic: Peterson Cross, Sept. 25**

By Peterson Cross, Cartoonist

On Sun, Sep 25, 2011

## Further toxicology results of Alexander Grant released

District Attorney alarmed by ongoing lack of information concerning Grant's death

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Mon, Sep 26, 2011

On Sept. 23, the Saratoga Springs Police Department released new information concerning the toxicology report of 19-year-old Boston College sophomore Alexander Grant. The results indicated that alcohol was involved in his death, though there are still several unanswered questions regarding the case.

In the first week of March Alexander Grant, an honors student from Briarcliff Manor High School, came to visit some high school friends at Skidmore College for the weekend. After he disappeared from a party on March 5 at 146 Church St., Grant was not seen for three days. On March 8 his body was discovered about a mile away from the 146 Church St party. He is believed to have suffered from hypothermia and drowned.

Following his death, the Albany Medical Center screened his blood for nearly 100 drugs. All tests came back negative. On Sept. 14, an independent lab in Pennsylvania returned the results of testing for additional drugs, bringing the overall total to 600. All of these also came back negative, thus indicating that Grant had not taken any narcotics immediately prior to his death.

Saratoga County District Attorney James A. Murphy, III, said that the absence of drugs was a great relief to both the investigators and to Grant's family. "What concerns us more, however," he said in a statement released on Wednesday, "is that the toxicology, in its absence of information, actually leaves us with more questions than answers. We still don't know what affected his body to such a significant degree, which then led to the circumstances that caused his death."

Murphy also stated in a later interview that as some drugs have a very short lifespan, it is possible that the drugs had already dissipated from Grant's system at the time of the testing. However, as there is no evidence to support the theory at this time, it remains purely speculation.

Police estimate that Grant left the party between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. There remains no record of his whereabouts until 1:15 a.m. when he broke into a medical office at 3 Care Lane, wearing only his boxer shorts, a shirt and one sock. He was bleeding from cuts he received from entering the building. Grant remained there for an hour and then departed the premises.



Although the results of the toxicology report were not immediately released according to the wishes of the Grant family, last Friday the report revealed that Grant's blood alcohol content at the time of testing was 0.11 percent, 0.03 percent higher than the legal driving limit for adults.

In addition to his BAC, Grant's VAC (vitreous alcohol content), was 0.16 percent. VAC is determined from eye fluid, and lags behind the BAC. From this information, investigators have drawn the conclusion that Grant's actual BAC was higher than 0.16 when he left the party.

According to Murphy, toxicology reports generally take about 18 months to process. However, due to the small number of labs in New York state, it is not unusual for cases to be delayed. With 10,000 cases a year in Saratoga county, and 62 counties in New York, it is no wonder that the results from March are just now being released.

Despite the findings of the autopsy results, there are many questions that remain unanswered. In a statement released on Sept. 22, the Grant family expressed a desire to uncover the cause of Grant's behavior on the night of his death. "We view it as our solemn responsibility to do everything in our power to better understand this tragedy, and will continue our labors in this regard for as long as it takes to obtain the answers to which we are entitled."

One student, who wishes to remain anonymous, was at the party on March 5, but does not recall seeing Alexander Grant, although he is certain the young man was there. The student remembers that there was not an excessive amount of alcohol at the party, and believes that Grant may have been intoxicated before arriving at 146 Church St.

The Saratoga Springs Police Department recently reaffirmed the immunity originally offered within a week of Grant's death. This immunity encourages students who may know anything pertaining to Grant's death to come forward, saying that they will not be prosecuted for engaging in minor offenses at the time.

"We're not interested in charging or prosecuting anyone for that kind of offense in this particular circumstance," Murphy said. "We're more interested in getting the information from them because we're still putting the pieces of the puzzle together. There should be no fear about getting charged or arrested or prosecuted."

Saratoga Springs police said Wednesday that they are following all leads in pursuit of more conclusive answers regarding Grant's behavior on the night of his death. Some of these leads involve students who have come forth to speak to the police, which will hopefully reveal new information.

Murphy emphasized the importance of sharing information. "People who saw anything should call the police and feel comfortable about reporting what they saw," he said. "I'm just hopeful that people think about that incident that night if they were there and feel comfortable coming forward, and that they know that they won't get in trouble for coming forward."

In honor of his memory, Grant's family founded the Alexander Maxwell Grant Foundation. They will also be sponsoring a 5K run at Boston College on Oct. 8. More information about this event can be found at [alexgrant.org](http://alexgrant.org).

#1.2612592:3625445350.jpg Grant

Alexander Grant was found dead in Putnam Creek on March 8 of this year.



## Thoroughbreds rock Liberty League by 13

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Sep 26, 2011

POTSDAM - John McCarthy '13 led the Skidmore Thoroughbreds to the Liberty League Golf Championship qualifier Sunday afternoon, with a tournament-course record of five under par 67 at the par-72 Potsdam Town and Country Club Golf Course.

Skidmore earns the right to host the Liberty League championship in April. The match-play event will include Rensselaer, Rochester and Clarkson with the winner claiming the league's automatic NCAA Division III berth.

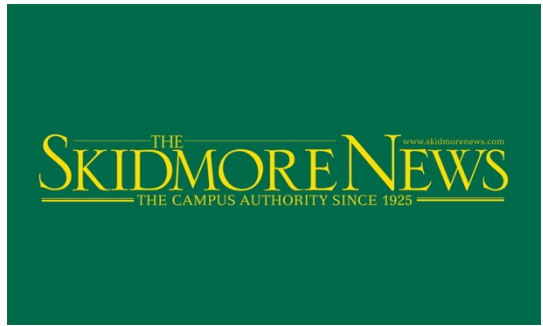
Skidmore easily won the event by 13 strokes after rushing out to an 11-stroke lead after day one, and holding off Rensselaer on the second day. The Thoroughbreds (583) had three of the top five golfers in the field, while the Engineers (596) had two of the top five. The University of Rochester came in third overall among the team scores with 616, followed by Clarkson (623), St. Lawrence (625), Hobart College (627) and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (783).

McCarthy shot a 74 on the first day, but blistered the course to a tune of 67 on day two, including six birdies and just one bogey. Teammate Garrett Colgan '13 led the field after the first day, shooting one-under, but shot one-over on day two to take second overall and finish the tournament at even-par.

Coming in third was Rensselaer's Grant Rosener, who was consistent with a pair of 73's, and teammate Brandon Mader came in fourth, two strokes behind Rosener. Rounding out the Liberty League all-stars was Skidmore's Zach Grossman '15, who tied for fourth with Rosener at 148, four-over par in the two-day event.

Playing outside of his team's top five, Rochester's Tyler Scarborough shot a 149 over two days to make the Liberty League Second-Team and come in sixth overall. Also, Skidmore's Anthony Dilisio '13 made second-team honors.

The Thoroughbreds will play in the GolfWeek Division III Invite Oct. 9- 11 at the Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort in Miramar Beach, Fla.



## **Comic: The Department Chair**

By Wyatt Erchak, Cartoonist

On Mon, Sep 26, 2011

## **EAC hosts event for Moving Planet**

Skidmore's Archimedean environmental group attempts to 'Move the Planet'

By Michael DuPré, Contributing Writer

On Mon, Sep 26, 2011

The relative silence that usually marks a weekend afternoon on the Case Green was interrupted this Saturday by music, dance and students organizing for climate action.

The goal of the day was to support a transition from fossil fuels to other forms of energy. "Today, Moving Planet, is an international day of climate action. We are urging leaders to sign legislation to fund clean energy," said Gabby Stern '13, EAC member and steward of the Skidmore Student Garden.

Several scores of Skidmore students took part in the festivities. The day's events included a clothing swap, music, petitions for a statewide ban hydrofracking on and the aerial picture to send to the international organization 350.org. The event also provided food and drink from Saratoga Apple, postcards to send to Gov. Andrew Cuomo and information about what action Skidmore was taking for clean energy and water equality.

Opposition to the natural gas extraction method called hydraulic fracturing, or hydrofracking, was a major motif of Saturday's rally. Hydrofracking is a process in which water and other chemicals are pressurized and injected into the ground to release pockets of natural gas that are trapped in shale.

"This is a water equality issue," said Eliza Sherpa '12, the vice president of the EAC. "The Watersheds of New York City and Syracuse are protected against hydrofracking. All New Yorkers deserve the same rights," Sherpa said.

Students, some of whom were being exposed to the issue for the first time, held signs that read "Ban Hydrofracking," "I Vote for Clean Water" and, of course, "Get the Frack Out."

Event organizers encouraged participants to sign a petition to be presented to Governor Cuomo. The position cited health concerns and other potential damages and advised the governor to enact a permanent ban on all hydraulic fracturing for oil and gas in New York State.

Sherpa spoke with conviction and optimism about the EAC's changing focus. "This year, we are becoming more campaign oriented. We are mobilizing Skidmore to be part of this political movement. Hopefully we are building up the youth movement in New York and the country," Sherpa said. "Show that we are going to fight," Sherpa added.

Not everyone felt called to action by Saturday's gathering on the Case Green. "Students like these pledge to be changing the world, but are really just conforming to politicized movements that they know little about," said Michael Kraines '12. "I hate to see my friends joining," he added.

As the event drew to a close, interested students continued to arrive. "As a latecomer, I am a little disappointed by the turnout. The event is for a great cause and I am fully supportive. I hope that people will be convinced to act," Ripley Sager '12 said.

#1.2614828:3872497040.JPG Aerial View of Moving Planet

Aerial View of Moving Planet:Jon Markowitz '14 EAC member

#1.2614844:2115585473.JPG students gather for moving planet

Students gather on the green for the Moving Planet event.

Beal St. George '14 EAC member









## **SGA election results in**

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Mon, Sep 26, 2011

On Friday Sept. 24 by SGA President Jonathan Zeidan '12 released the results of the fall semester Student Government Association. Two proposed changes to the SGA constitution were passed, and 813 voters elected 11 students to vacant positions.

The Class of 2015 elected the following first years to its administration: Soraya Attia '15 (president), Noam Yossefy '15 (vice president), Nile Nair '15 (treasurer) and Jarred Green '15 (social chair). Ben Polsky '15, was selected to represent the class of 2015 on the Senate.

Attia focused her platform on issues concerning dorm wireless, limited library hours and utilizing Case Green for more college events in the upcoming semester.

Also elected to the Senate was Sean O'Brien '13 who will be representing Scribner Village. O'Brien said that he would promote more artwork for the walls of Scribner in addition to softer toilet paper and block parties.

Elected for the junior class were Julia Hutson '13 as class secretary and Will Wygal '13 as class social chair. Hutson campaigned to organize more junior-sponsored events, while Wygal promoted new themes for the Junior Ring and expressed a desire to support school music talent.

Finally, Skylar Sasson '12 and Luke Conley '14 were both elected to fill the two vacant positions of senator at large.

## **Arabists address students before big move to Middle East**

Expert opinion on the Arab Spring from Sumita Pahwa and Steve Negus

By Brendan James, Editor-in-Chief

On Tue, Sep 27, 2011

On Sept. 27 in Davis Auditorium, former Skidmore professor Sumita Pahwa and her husband, journalist Steve Negus, delivered a special lecture on the recent revolutions in the Arab world.

The couple shares an expertise in Arab politics, Pahwa through her academic research and Negus through his field reporting. Both are preparing to move to Egypt this year in order to follow the Arab Spring, the moniker for the wave of political changes sweeping the Middle East and North Africa.

Negus, a reporter who has spent 13 years in the region, focused much of his talk on the unlikely realization of the Libyan revolution that began this February. Having covered the events in Libya on the ground for different publications including "The Economist," Negus offered students both analysis and personal testimony on the delicate success of the revolution.

Libya defied a lot of expectations, Negus said. He reminded the audience that many experts argued only soft dictatorships like Mubarak's Egypt could undergo such an upheaval, not a more repressive regime such as Col. Qaddafi's. Negus also stressed the anticipation for a country as large as Libya to quickly descend into tribal conflict, an outcome that it has still, if tentatively, avoided.

But Negus is still as cautious as anyone when it comes to the permanent stability of the new regime. "Right now the main danger would be if enough people with enough guns did not recognize the new centralized government," he said.

Next Pahwa took to the podium and shifted focus to the heart of the Arab world, Egypt. With her background in studying the country's main opposition group, the Muslim Brotherhood, she addressed the Islamists' status following the revolution that ousted former president Hosni Mubarak in February.

After providing a background of Egypt's religious and political history and the Brotherhood's place within it, Pahwa addressed the question of the group's involvement in the Revolution. According to Pahwa, generational and political divides within the group itself caused it to lag behind most of the secular protestors despite the Brotherhood's long reputation as Egypt's only political opposition.

During the question-and-answer session, topics included the new media climate in Egypt, the timing of NATO's intervention in Libya, and new approaches toward Islamism in the Arab world - some of which borrow from trends quite familiar to those attending Skidmore.

You have these new sorts of Salafi [traditionalist] preachers, young ones, who are called 'Salafi hipsters.' They hang out in coffee shops and try to connect to youth through that kind of fashion and lifestyle."

The thing to watch for now, Pahwa says, is what the Islamists try to do during Egypt's transition to democracy.

Whenever someone is writing a new set of rules for a country after a revolution, everyone stands to gain a lot and lose a lot, she said. Liberal and secular groups are just as wary of the Brotherhood as they are of the army that has currently taken the reins of the nation. Completing her thesis at Johns Hopkins University on the Brotherhood, Pahwa has more than enough to research in Egypt's new political climate.

In a time of great change, uncertainty and potential chaos, Pahwa and Negus will be settling in to their new home in Cairo, ready for it all. "We will hopefully be there to catch some of the fun," Pahwa said.

#1.2614822:3426601506.jpg Sumita

Both Negus and Pahwa have spent years in the Middle East and will soon return to follow the developments of the Arab Spring.

Andy Camp



## **New owners take over Sangwych shop in downtown Saratoga**

Free delivery, now accepting Skidmore cards

By Julia Leef

On Tue, Sep 27, 2011

On Aug. 1, John Meyer, Jon Malm and Bobby Holt purchased Sangwych, the specialty shop located at 68 Putnam St. in downtown Saratoga Springs, from previous owner Ron Farber. In addition to free delivery, the shop is now accepting Skidmore student ID cards as payment.

According to its website, Sangwych provides "Brooklynese-style sangwyches" soups and salads. It also offers catering services for any event.

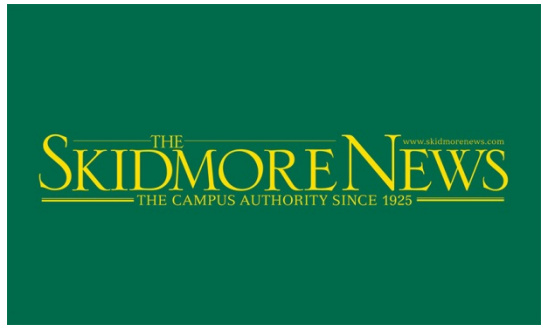
"Myself and Jon Malm have been with Sangwych since the beginning," said Meyer in a recent press release, "so we know how loyal our customers are and the great reputation Sangwych has, so we won't deviate from that base. But with the addition of Bobby and his experience as head chef at Gaffney's and Hattie's we will add to the already extensive menu with more daily specials, and, in the fall, we will be adding chicken wings and more homemade soups to the daily menu."

"I'm excited to be part of a successful business and to help it grow," Holt said in the same press release. "It's a new challenge for me with my own business and one that I believe has plenty of room for growth. We are a Brooklyn-style sandwich shop and we get weekly deliveries straight from NYC, like our fresh mozzarella, provolone and cannolis, etc. That sets us apart from the rest and we pride ourselves on building on the NYC reputation as the best sandwich shops in the world."

Sangwych hosts a menu of specialty sandwiches and subs, including award-winning Tuna Nachos, shrimp PO Boys, salads and standards. It also offers cannolis, homemade chocolate cookies and a variety of soft drinks.

Sangwych will be adding a daily burger special and at least two daily homemade soups. According to Malm, wings with specials will be available for Sunday and Monday night football.

The new owners are also looking to increase the catering side of their business. "At present, we do a significant amount of business with medical reps where we cater lunch for them when they put on a presentation at local doctors offices," Holt said. "We would like to do more of those, and we are also adding delivery service for local businesses and Skidmore, whether it's one sandwich or 20."



Sangwych is open Sundays through Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and on Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. For more information visit [www.sangwych.com](http://www.sangwych.com) or call (518) 580-9800.

## **No. 12 Middlebury hands No. 3 Skidmore first loss**

By Skidmore Athletics

On Tue, Sep 27, 2011

MIDDLEBURY, Vt. - After the Thoroughbreds moved up from No. 5 to No. 3 in the National Field Hockey Coaches Association standings today, the No. 12 Middlebury College field hockey team handed No. 3 Skidmore its first loss of the season, 3-1 in a non-league game.

The loss leaves the Thoroughbreds 8-1, while the Panthers improve to 3-2.

Skidmore had a pair of penalty corners in the first 20 minutes, but could not capitalize. The Panthers struck 23:44 into the game, with Hannah Clarke netting her first of the season. Lauren Greer carried the ball 50 yards down the field in transition, drawing two defenders as she neared the goal. Greer quickly slid a pass to her left to Clarke, who ripped a shot into the back of the cage.

Just 2:30 into the second half, the Panthers had another great opportunity as Greer found Clarke in a situation similar to the first half goal. Skidmore goalie Haley McDougall '15 made the save with help from teammate Jackie Slocombe '12, who made a defensive save on Clarke's follow-up attempt.

Middlebury made it a 2-0 game when Charlotte Gardiner earned her third of the year at the 39:33 mark. Greer sent a shot in that tipped a defender's stick, before finding its way to Gardiner for the finish.

McDougall denied Greer's attempt for a second goal in the 49th minute, coming out to make a save as she stacked her pads. The Skidmore keeper again received some defensive help at 51:30 when Ellen Kolman '14 earned a defensive save on a shot from Catherine Fowler.

Skidmore got on the board at the 55:26 mark with Caylyn's Sullivan's '12 first of the year. Slocombe sent a pass into the circle, that which Sullivan finished with a sweeping motion to make it a 2-1 game. The Thoroughbreds rode momentum for the next 10 minutes, but could not tie the game despite a pair of penalty corners.

Middlebury sealed the game with 2:43 remaining when Greer connected on a reverse stick shot high into the cage after taking a feed from Alyssa DiMaio.

Middlebury held a 17-7 shot advantage in the game, while Skidmore held a 6-4 edge in penalty corners. Becca Shaw finished the contest with four saves to earn the win, while McDougall made 10 stops for Skidmore.

## **Volleyball falls to Amherst, 3-2**

By Skidmore Athletics

On Wed, Sep 28, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - The Skidmore College volleyball team suffered a five-set loss to Amherst, 3-2, in Tuesday night's matchup at the Williamson Sports Center.

The Thoroughbreds won the first set 25-18, dropped the second 23-25 and won the third 25-23 before falling in the final two sets, 14-25 and 6-15. They are now 9-4, while the Lord Jeffs improve to 9-2.

Skidmore was led by double-doubles from Kelley Vershbow '12 and Mallory Mendelsohn '13. Vershbow finished with 19 kills and 15 digs and Mendelsohn had 52 assists and 13 digs. Corinne Palmer '14 had 13 kills and three total blocks, while Olivia Glassman '15 tallied 13 kills and Sam Friedman '13 recorded 16 digs.

For the Lord Jeffs, KC Kanoff finished with a double-double with 15 digs and 14 kills. Cristy Meier tallied 18 kills, Callie Nelson recorded 45 assists and Kristin Keeno had a match-high 20 digs. Also for Amherst, Devin Pence had 13 digs and three service aces, Abigail Hunter recorded nine total blocks and Lauren Antion finished with eight.

The Thoroughbreds travel to Potsdam on Friday for a pair of Liberty League matches against Vassar and Clarkson.

#1.2617286:364201155.jpg bottelier 1

Junior Carolyn Bottelier getting ready to serve

Savannah Grier/The Skidmore News







## **Jewish High Holy Day services held on campus**

Co-Rabbis hold services to celebrate the Jewish New Year

By Joanne Schwartzberg

On Thu, Sep 29, 2011

Over the next two weeks, Rabbis Linda Motzkin and her husband Jonathan Rubenstein will be hosting a series of services, mostly taking place in the Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater, to celebrate the Jewish New Year. All events are open to students and faculty, as well as to the general public.

The celebration of the Jewish High Holidays began Wednesday, Sept. 28 with a well-attended Rosh Hashana dinner sponsored by Hillel, a student organization that organizes activities through the Office of Jewish Student Life, located on the second floor of the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall. About 80 students rang in the Jewish New Year with apples and honey, challah, brisket and potato latkes provided by Dining Services.

Following the dinner, the college and the local Reform synagogue Temple Sinai, for which Motzkin and Rubenstein are co-rabbis, came together for evening Rosh Hashana services in the JKB Theater. Donations for local relief efforts following Hurricane Irene also were collected at the services. About 10 boxes of food, clothing, and other necessities have been collected as of today from students and members of the Temple Sinai community. Donations are still being accepted during service hours at the JKB theater.

The Holiday continues with the services sponsored by the Office of Religious & Spiritual Life, in conjunction with Temple Sinai, held in the JKB Theater. For more information, contact Coordinator for Jewish Student Life Lollie Abramson. For more information regarding services, Temple Sinai can be contacted at (518) 584-8730 or through its website at [www.temple-sinai-saratogasprings.org](http://www.temple-sinai-saratogasprings.org).

High Holiday events at Skidmore Include:

### **Rosh Hashana**

10 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 29: Rosh Hashanah Morning Services at the JKB Theater.

4:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 29: Tashlich ceremony at Congress Park.

10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 30: Rosh Hashana Second Morning Services at Temple Sinai.

### **Yom Kippur**



8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7: Kol Nidre Services at the JKB Theater.

10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 8: Yom Kippur Morning service at the JKB Theater. Following services there will be a walk in North Woods with a discussion group.

4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8: Yizkor (memorial) and Neilah (closing) services, followed by a break the fast in the JKB Theater Lobby.

#1.2620707:2165861046.jpeg Hillel at High Holy Service

Hillel members gather for services at JKB Theater. (from left) Zoe Silver '14 publicity, Rebekah Page '14 co-president, Arielle Wolinsky '13 dining hall and food coordinator, Erika Wohl '14 co-president, Julia Robbins '12 former president

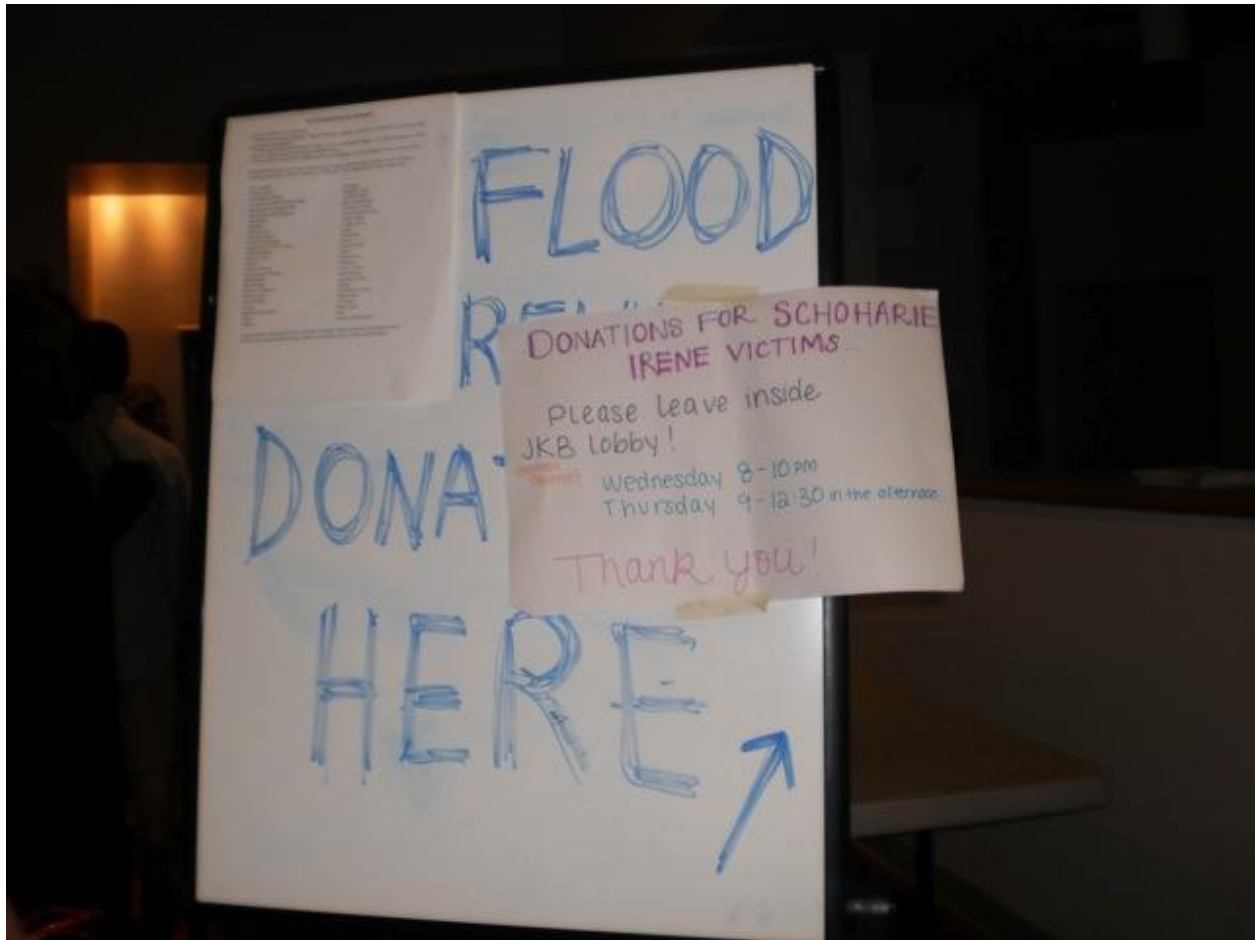
Joanne Schwartzberg/The Skidmore News

#1.2620728:1246017811.jpeg Donation Sign Holy Services

Sign in JKB Theater directing people to donation area for Hurricane Irene flood relief.

Joanne Schwartzberg/The Skidmore News





## **Celebration of the New' collaborative performance Oct. 2 at Zankel Music Center**

Artists-in-Residence collaborate on flute and piano program

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Thu, Sep 29, 2011

A free public "Celebration of the New" concert featuring Senior Artist in-Residence Jan Vinci, flute, and Distinguished Artist-in-Residence Pola Baytelman, piano, is scheduled at 3 p.m. Oct. 2 at the Arthur Zankel Music Center.

This concert will feature works by such American composers as Jennifer Higdon's "Flute Poetic," which was commissioned by Vinci and Baytelman for the opening of Zankel and premiered last fall.

Also to be performed are George Crumb's "Little Suite for Christmas," Lowell Liebermann's "Gargoyles," Mark Vinci's "Crow's Nest," Joseph Fennimore's "Old Soft Shoe," Katherine Hoover's "Medieval Suite" and Jennifer Higdon's "Flute Poetic," a three-movement sonata that attributes equal importance to the flute and to the piano. Its first movement was written expressly for Vinci and Baytelman.

Higdon taught herself to play the flute when she was 15 before beginning her formal musical studies at 18. She did not begin to compose music until 21, and since then she has become a major figure in contemporary classical music with a range of genres from orchestral to chamber and from choral and vocal to wind ensemble. She specializes in commissions and won the Pulitzer Prize for her work in 2010.

Vinci is a soloist as well as a member of the ensemble, most recently in the flute and harp duo Iridescence and for 10 years with Tritonis, a trio composed of a flute, guitar and cello. She has commissioned more than 20 works of new music since 1988.

The second performer, Baytelman, debuted with the Chilean Symphony Orchestra at 17, and has played with other orchestras since, such as the Chilean Philharmonic Orchestra and the Boston Pops.

For advanced reservations for the concert, visit [www.skidmore.edu/zankel](http://www.skidmore.edu/zankel) or call the box office at (518) 580-8381 for more information.

## Healthful Hints

### Getting acquainted with stress in college

By Zoe Silver, Columnist

On Thu, Sep 29, 2011

"I just spent five hours in the library reading for my Government class. When I got back to my dorm, my roommate was coughing all over, but it's too cold outside to open the window, so I'll probably get sick too. I miss home and don't feel comfortable introducing myself when I go out. On the plus side, I've met some really cool people and last Friday at Falstaff's was amazing! I also think my Anthro professor is a genius."

...Sound familiar?

This is the narration of many of our stories. Adjusting to life on campus is no piece of cake, but through the trials and tribulations of college life we all can, and will, find one happy place to call home: Skidmore.

As a peer health educator, I am dedicated to making Skidmore a happy and healthy haven for us all. We each deserve the liberty to make our own decisions and it is my hope that we will also take on the responsibility of educating ourselves to promote our own health and the health of our peers. Adjusting, for first-years, and re-adjusting for everyone else can be a stressful experience. As college students, we are constantly put in situations that force us to choose our own paths: Will I get an A on my paper if I pull an all-nighter? How many cookies should I allow myself at D-Hall today?

We govern our own bodies, relationships, academics, etc., so if we take the time to ease our stress and enhance our decision-making, we can ensure an awesome experience at school.

Let's assume that stress is the most difficult part of our lives. A common example: "The walls suffocate me as I try to cram for my Econ exam tomorrow and my roommate's music is blasting, but I'm too shy to ask her to turn it down. My other roommate is still out. She's probably drinking... and I'll probably have to help her get undressed at 2 a.m. so that she doesn't stumble and fall. Meanwhile, my friends from home are mad at me for not calling them often enough. I feel like I'm going to explode!" Stress management is a really important tool in your first year and beyond. If you can learn it, you will be good to go.

Before I get to strategies for stress management, here's a quick vocab lesson: A "stressor" is defined as an agent that causes stress. In the hypothetical situation above, the stressors include noise, relationships, etc. An excellent initial step to take in minimizing your stress should be to avoid the stressor. In other words, figure out how to remove stressful things from your life. This may mean learning how to say "no" when you've reached your limit, avoiding people who stress you out or taking control of your environment (perhaps by removing yourself from the loud room and making a cozy set-up in the study room).

When we can't avoid the stressor, we can try to alter it or alter our reactions to it. Simply put, talk about it (come visit your peer health educator!) or confront it. Don't be afraid to assert yourself, and stay open to compromise.



## **Kiki Smith photography show intrigues and surprises at the Tang**

The travelling show is Smith's first photography exhibit

By Rebecca Workman, Contributing Writer

On Thu, Sep 29, 2011

For the first time, the photographs of sculptor Kiki Smith take center stage in "I Myself Have Seen It," an exhibition at the Tang Teaching Museum that will run until Dec. 30. The travelling exhibition, currently at its third of four venues, signifies Smith's focus on the body and displays her spin-offs on stories such as "Little Red Riding Hood."

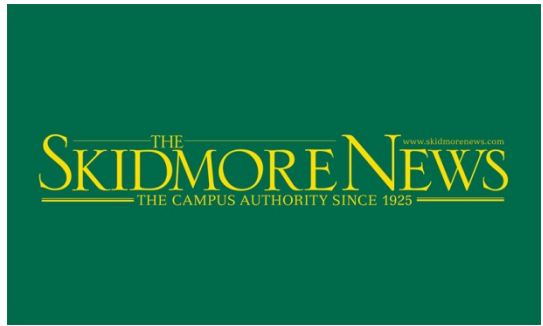
Smith, the daughter of minimalist sculptor Tony Smith, is most acclaimed for her sculptures. While this is Smith's first photography exhibit, the artist has been taking photographs her entire career. Rachel Seligman, associate curator of the Tang Museum, said that photographs are tools in Smith's artistic practice. These photographs act as portals into Smith's complex thought process. Elizabeth Brown, chief curator of University of Washington's Henry Art Gallery, said that they "flow seamlessly into the next, just as Smith's work itself meanders from one focus to the next."

During a curator's tour at the Tang on Sept. 21, Seligman said, "[Smith] is not interested in making what is traditionally a good photograph." Starting with the layout of the exhibition itself, Smith has thousands of 4x6 photographs lining the bottom of the walls, forming a border to the exhibit. These 4x6 photos not only relate to each other, but also correspond to the works displayed above. In each cluster of the larger photographs, which are displayed in different forms, you may find that a piece of art has strayed toward the ceiling from its cluster (don't forget to look up.)

Many of Smith's photographs display her earlier work in other mediums. However, they are not used as a form of documentation. These photographs show Smith's work in a different light. They force viewers to look at her creations from different angles or by focusing on only a certain part of a sculpture. Smith skillfully uses light, angle, color and borders to capture the attention of the viewer and to express certain moods and messages. She has also mastered the use of foreground and background, as well as focus, in her photographs to convey specific points of view.

Although she has been generally recognized as a feminist artist, Seligman notes that, "while a lot of her work speaks to feminist issues, it is unfair to classify her as a feminist artist."





There will be curator's tour at noon both Oct. 25 and Nov. 15. Kiki Smith will be appearing at the Tang to speak at 7 p.m. Nov. 3. The exhibition will next move to the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art in Scottsdale, AZ.

#1.2621314:1234649579.jpg

Kiki Smith

Courtesy of Arthur Evans



## **Saratoga Springs Police Department releases full report on death of Alexander Grant**

Investigation of active leads complete, but case to remain open

By Gabe Weintraub, Managing Editor

On Fri, Sep 30, 2011

The Saratoga Springs Police Department announced today that they have completed their investigation of all active leads in the death of Alexander Grant. The case will remain open pending new information. Below is the full report.

*Saratoga Springs Police have finished examining the active leads in the investigation into the death of Alexander Grant during the early morning hours of March 6, 2011. A summary of the investigation is below. Much of the information contained herein has been released on prior occasions.*

*On March 5, 2011 Alexander Grant, 19-years-of-age from Briarcliff Manor, NY who is a student at Boston College, travels to Saratoga Springs during his spring break to meet with friends who are attending Skidmore College. He arrives in Saratoga Springs sometime before 8:30 p.m., picks up a friend in the downtown area and travels to Skidmore College. He plans to stay with a friend in one of the dorms on campus.*

*Between his arrival in Saratoga Springs and 10:28 p.m. when he boards a bus on the Skidmore Campus, Grant and several others are drinking beer and tequila in one of the dorm rooms. At 10:28 p.m., Grant and the group of people he is with board a bus at Skidmore and then is dropped off at the intersection of Clinton and Van Dam Streets.*

*They then walk to a party at 146 Church Street where Grant is reported to be last seen dancing with a female between 11 and 11:30p.m. Two female Skidmore students are identified as having contact with Grant at the party however both report that Grant was only there for a short time before he went to another part of the house and they never saw him again. Grant's friend loses track of him at the party and assumes that Grant has met up with someone else and that they would re-connect at a later time. His friend sends approximately six text messages to Grant between 11:37 p.m. and noon on March 6 asking where he is and giving Grant the address of the dorm room. All of the people who report seeing Grant at the party state that they left the party when the police arrived to break it up at about 12:30 a.m.*

*Surveillance video at the train station on Station Lane off of West Avenue in Saratoga Springs shows Alexander Grant walking to the front of the building from Station Lane at 11:31 p.m. He is alone, fully clothed and appears to be staggering as he walks. Grant is observed walking around the building to the train tracks behind and then is last seen heading north along the tracks towards the Church Street overpass. No other people or vehicles are observed coming or going from the train station. He is last seen at the train station at 11:34 p.m.*

*At 1:33 a.m. surveillance video at 3 Care Lane captures Alexander Grant kicking in a small 3x3 window at the entrance to the building. He squeezes inside and is now observed to be wearing only one sock, a long sleeve white shirt and shorts. He appears to have already fallen outside, as there is dirt on his back upon his entry to the building. Grant has cut himself and is bleeding considerably. He never leaves the lobby area or attempts to break into any of the offices. He appears disoriented and/or intoxicated. He is stumbling into the walls and repeatedly loses his balance. He eventually staggers out of the building once again at 2:11 a.m. and is last seen walking away from the building. Any blood trail that may have been left by Grant at that time was washed away by heavy rains during the day on the 6th, prior to police being notified of the break-in at 12:36 p.m.*

*Police are notified of the break-in at 12:36 p.m. on the 6th. A brief search of the area for evidence related to the burglary is conducted as police have no missing person report until 4:47 p.m. when Grant's friend and another student arrive at Police Headquarters and report that Grant has not been seen since the party on Church Street. No additional evidence of the burglary is located during the initial search.*

*Grant is quickly identified as the person observed on the Care Lane surveillance video and an intensive search of the area is immediately begun. An approaching severe winter storm reduces the amount of time police and fire personnel will be able to search on the night of the 6th. New York State Forest Rangers are unable to respond during the night due to the storm and New York State Police Aviation is unable support the effort that night. Thermal imaging units were employed without success. The Saratoga County Reverse 911 system was activated, reaching 7,000 landlines within a half-mile radius of Care Lane generating any leads or reported sightings.*

*Small search teams begin searching the area to the north and west of the Care Lane area, along the railroad tracks, and including the buildings at Sunnyside Gardens. One search team located Grant's pants and wallet on top of a snow bank between the Care Lane building and the railroad tracks. Another search team located footprints in the snow along the railroad tracks. There was only one set of footprints that traveled north along the tracks occasionally entering the woods, circling dense brush and then returning to the tracks. One set of tracks leading into the woods towards Putnam Creek was observed and a visual check of the creek was made without success. The tracks were lost and no other tracks were observed*

*further north. By this time the storm had become too severe for further searching and all search teams were called back to the command post.*

*On the morning of March 7, an intensive search with additional manpower was begun at about 10:30 a.m. with improving weather conditions. Searching continued all day on the 7th until dark. Search teams again were sent out on March 8 at 9:45 a.m. and at 10:43 a.m., Saratoga Springs Fire Department personnel located Alexander Grant's body submerged in Putnam Creek under an ice shelf in about four feet of water approximately 30 yards from where the last set of foot prints were seen during the search on the night of the 6th.*

*Chief of Police Christopher Cole and Public Safety Commissioner Richard Wirth made notification of the recovery of Alexander Grant's body to his parents.*

*The body was turned over to Coroner John Demartino and Dr. Michael Sikiricka at Albany Medical Center performed an autopsy on March 9.*

*The cause of death is officially listed as asphyxia due to drowning with contributing factors of intoxication and probable hypothermia. At the time of his death Alexander Grant had a blood alcohol content of 0.16 percent. A low level of THC (marijuana) was also detected. Injuries sustained by Mr. Grant were consistent with someone who had been stumbling through the woods with no indication of injuries consistent with an assault observed. As noted by Saratoga County District Attorney James Murphy previously, two toxicology tests were run with several hundred drugs being screened for. Other than the alcohol and marijuana, no other drugs were detected in Grant's system at the time of his death. The known facts of the case tend to support the conclusion made regarding the cause of death. Alexander Grant apparently became lost and disoriented due to his level of intoxication and suffering from the effects of hypothermia tragically fell into Putnam creek and was unable to pull himself to safety.*

*Police do not suspect foul play in the death of Alexander Grant. However, police have tried unsuccessfully to interview the occupants of the 146 Church Street apartment. With the exception of one of the occupants, who police spoke with last week, all have declined written requests by police to their attorneys to make them available for interviews. The friend that Alexander Grant had come to visit and planned to stay with while in Saratoga Springs has also decided not to speak with police any further and has obtained legal counsel.*

*Police have stressed that the priority of this investigation is to determine what happened to Alexander Grant. Saratoga County District Attorney James Murphy has offered immunity from prosecution for*

*anyone who may have information relating to what happened to Alexander Grant but fears being arrested for minor disorderly conduct or alcohol related charges.*

*Police have located the source of the alcohol for the Church Street party, which was legally purchased by someone over 21 years of age. Police were first notified of the party on Church Street at about 11:50 p.m., nearly 20 minutes after Alexander Grant is captured on surveillance video at the train station. Patrol units were eventually able to respond, and arrived at 12:25 a.m. on the 6th. Police had a difficult time controlling the unruly crowd and dispersing the partiers. While doing so they were unable to build enough probable cause to arrest anyone for furnishing alcohol to minors at the party. None of the occupants at the time of the party currently reside there.*

*As for the drinking that occurred in the dorm room at Skidmore College. None of the participants was of age. Police do not know how the alcohol was obtained, but do know that alcohol was consumed in the room, including by Alexander Grant. Again, the source of the alcohol at the dorm room was a secondary consideration during the early phases of the investigation. By the time police were able to focus on this aspect of the case, potential witnesses were uncooperative and police were not able to locate independent evidence of the source of the alcohol in the dorm room. In consultation with Saratoga County District Attorney James Murphy and in consideration of court decisions and the facts of the case, a decision has been made not to charge any of the occupants of the room with a criminal offense.*

*Police do not know how or why Alexander Grant came to be at the train station at 11:31 p.m. Based on the time of the video, Grant was at the party on Church Street for considerably less than one hour. He appears in the video, walking alone and apparently intoxicated. Police have been unable to locate anyone who saw or had contact with Grant between the time he left the party and the time he appears at the train station. Several phone messages and text messages were sent to his cell phone between 11:37 p.m. and noon of the following day, however Grant never answered and his cell phone was never recovered. It is important to note that no one and no vehicles approach the train station for a considerable amount of time before or after Grant appears on the video.*

*By the time Alexander Grant appears at the Care Lane location, he has not only shed some of his clothing but he appears quite disoriented, probably suffering from the effects of hypothermia. In addition, on March 9 an employee of 7 Care Lane found Alexander Grant's Boston College ID in the snow next to the door. The door to 7 Care Lane has a swipe card lock system similar to the system at the entrances to the buildings at Boston College. Along with the footprints in the snow that enter the woods and circle dense brush repeatedly, this indicates that Alexander Grant was considerably disoriented.*

*At this point the Saratoga Springs Police have no more active leads. However the case will remain open in the event that someone comes forward with information about the critical time period between when*

*Grant leaves the party and he arrives at the train station. Grant's shoes and cell phone were never recovered and if found may give police additional information on his route of travel and therefore additional possible leads. Police will leave the investigation open in the hope that someone or some item of evidence will provide the critical information needed to complete the investigation.*

*The family of Alexander Grant will continue to be advised of any developments in the case. Once again, the Saratoga Springs Police offer their condolences, and their support to the Grant family.*

## **A Friday full of folk and funk with the Ryan Montbleau Band at Putnam Den**

Ryan Montbleau band embraces different styles at Putnam Den

By Dale Obbie, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Sep 30, 2011

On Sept. 23, the Ryan Montbleau Band returned to Putnam Den, filling the venue with its faithful fans. Their last show in Saratoga Springs was in late April. Montbleau - on top of a stool and grinning with his acoustic guitar under his arm - radiated just as much warmth as he did last spring.

But this time around the band featured its new lead guitarist, Lyle Brewer, who joined last spring, replacing longtime viola player Laurence Scudder. Since then, the band's music has taken on a slightly different character, leaning more toward rock and funk than the rootsy Americana that showcased Scudder's viola playing so well.

But it's hard to pigeonhole Montbleau's music-he embraces styles ranging from jangly Delta blues to reggae. For the most part, his music bounces back and forth between feel-good folksiness and foot-stomping funk, and sometimes it lands somewhere in between the two. But no matter what you want to call it, it's always soulful.

Unsurprisingly, Montbleau drew from a variety of genres, beginning with the song "Inspired by No One", which featured a bouncy solo from organist Jason Cohen accompanied by Montbleau's funky acoustic guitar chords. Bassist Matt Giannaros plunked a head-bobbing riff on his sleek electric upright bass, giving the song the playful vibe of a Jackson 5 song. The soul-tinged popiness of it then gave way to a danceable Americana swing that verged on bluegrass.

The next song was equally lively and sounded like a fusion of funk and rock, thanks to Brewer's gritty guitar playing. This gave way to "Songbird," a thumping reggae tune that brought the crowd closer to the stage. Giannaros switched to his bass guitar, shaking the building with its low notes, while Montbleau's cheerfully lilting voice made the song's title seem appropriate.

Having gained the crowd's attention, Montbleau sang a few folk songs to his rapt audience, accompanied by no more than his own acoustic guitar. He seemed to be just as confident alone on stage as he was with the support of his band and, despite the bluesiness of his songs, he still gave off the same joyful aura.





After returning with beers, Montbleau's band mates jumped into some full-force funk. Ryan set his guitar down, stood up and belted out some far-reaching vocals, sounding more like a '70s soul singer than a young singer-songwriter.

Montbleau brought something for everybody that night, from the people up front dancing to the irresistibly funky bass lines, to those in the back of the crowd, bobbing their heads quietly to his contemplative folk songs. Hopefully he will return soon and once again spread his love for all types of music.

#1.2623171:1840724671.jpg

Montbleau

Gretchen Schwab/Skidmore News



## **Skidmore conference to focus on undergraduate research**

Students and professors gather to share the findings of their research

By Julia Leef

On Fri, Sep 30, 2011

On Saturday, Oct. 1, the college will host the first Undergraduate Research Conference, at which students from seven upstate colleges, including Siena College and the College of St. Rose, will discuss 72 topics of interest.

Such topics include the effects of Facebook on college students, banjo-instruction methods in 19th century America and the potential to create safer schools by increasing teachers' awareness of bullying.

The conference is the largest of its kind to be hosted by any of the participating colleges, and has more than 100 students submitting abstracts on their topics both singly and in teams. One of the events at the conference will be a Taiko drum performance to demonstrate the impact of the West on Japanese culture.

"Our aim is to give undergraduates the experience of presenting at a professional meeting without the high registration fees and travel costs of a professional conference," said Bob Turner, associate professor of government and conference organizer. "These experiences are providing undergraduates with the sort of training and education that typically are available only to graduate students."

This conference will be the first academic project sponsored by the New York Six Liberal Arts Consortium, formed in 2009 by Skidmore College, Union College, Colgate University, Hamilton College, St. Lawrence University and Hobart William Smith College, the last of which is the only college not sending students to this event. Amy Cronin, coordinator for the consortium, predicts it will not be the last conference of its kind.

"Given the fantastic response to the call for presentations for this initial event, I anticipate that it will become an annual fixture in the consortium's activities," Cronin said.

"This conference has the potential to transform both the students and our respective institutions," Turner said. "When students present their research and answer the questions of their peers, it stimulates their intellectual creativity and aspirations as they see how their colleagues analyze different questions using other methods."

Many of the students attending the conference have spent the past summer working in laboratories with their professors, who also will be attending. Students have been working in a wide variety of areas, including gene replacement and climatology. In addition, some have studied the formation of the galaxies and the human senses, and some have conducted studies on animals and human diseases.

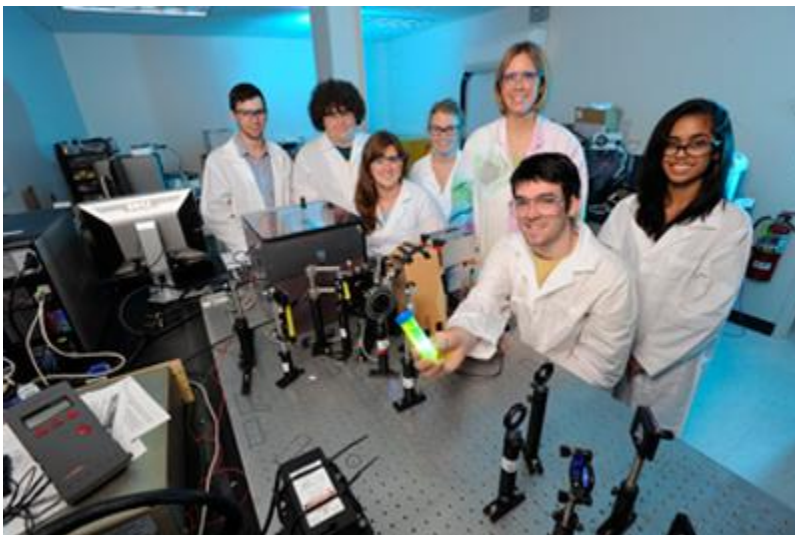
“I hope the conference will identify shared intellectual passions that lead to collaborative research and teaching opportunities among the schools that allow us to tap into our collective expertise in the future,” Turner said.

The conference will start at 9:30 a.m. and is open to the public. The schedule and program can be found on the <http://www.skidmore.edu/~bturner/surc2011.htm> Skidmore website.

#1.2623246:1033137671.jpg Undergraduate Conference Photo

Kim Frederick, associate professor of chemistry, and a team of Skidmore students. (L-R) Aaron Osher '13, Leland Martin '14, Sarah Bashaw '11, Denise Croote (Ballston Spa High School), Prof. Kim Frederick, Ryan Ahern '14, and Brenda Olivo '14. Osher, Martin, and Olivo will report on new techniques they've developed for creating microfluidic chips at the Saturday's conference.

Dan Forbush/Communications



## The SEC Big Fall Show scheduled on Yom Kippur

Campus concert coincides with Jewish holiday

By Julia Leef

On Fri, Sep 30, 2011

This year's Student Entertainment Committee Big Fall Show, featuring the band TV on the Radio, coincides with the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur, both of which fall on Oct. 7, creating controversy with Hillel, a student-run organization under the Office of Jewish Life.

Yom Kippur is the holiest of all Jewish holidays and is a time of fasting and repentance, lasting from sundown on Oct. 7 to sundown on Oct. 8, and welcoming in the New Year with a reflection upon the events of the previous year. According to representatives of Hillel, the nature of the concert conflicts with Yom Kippur.

Hannah Ronson '12, who spoke on behalf of SEC, said that the dates for these concerts are given to the SEC by the administration, and that the choices for the Big Fall Show this year were either the Oct. 7 or Oct. 8. SEC offered these two options to TV on the Radio, who chose to play on Oct. 7. The SEC itself is not given many options regarding the dates of shows.

"It's unfortunate that this happened," Ronson said. "But it really wasn't something that we had control over."

Upon discovering the overlap, the members of Hillel emailed the administration and SEC, and met with SEC on Sept. 26 to discuss possible solutions for this issue.

"I think that we all got to speak our minds, which was a good way to communicate, and especially in a controlled environment, so that there was no bad air. It's still a work in progress, though," said Rebekah Page '14, co-president of Hillel.

SEC and Hillel decided that both events would take place on the same day, and that students would choose which one they wanted to attend. "It was established that there's no student life policy or anything prohibiting shows from happening on Yom Kippur or any other religious date," Ronson said.

"It came down to the fact that they recognized the effect that it had on us and we reached a point where we're forming a committee to either create a policy change in event planning or to create a sort of checklist, not just for this holiday but for other ones as well," said Zoe Silver '14, publicist for Hillel.



Members of SEC, Hillel and the Student Government Association will be co-writing a joint statement to the college community explaining what happened and the outcome of their discussion.

Hillel will still strive to prevent this kind of conflict in the future, saying that they want to retain religion as an important aspect of college life. "We need to make people aware so that people will be sensitive to religion," Page said. "Our big issue for us was that it's just known that college students take a step back from religion when they're in college."

"I think I'm maybe disappointed that I don't know if this has gotten out to the general public enough," said Erika Wohl '14, co-president of Hillel, "and because the mediation discussion was closed, it probably didn't get publicized enough. I don't know if people will understand the extent of this situation from that."

Silver said that she found a college policy from a few years back that stated there will never be classes held on Yom Kippur, and looks to bring attention to this as well as to other aspects of the college-religion relationship.

Students who are interested in attending the Big Fall Show should purchase tickets in Case Center, where members of SEC will be selling them up until the date of the concert. Tickets are \$8 for students with their college IDs and \$25 for the public. The concert will take place at 8 p.m. in the Williamson Sports and Recreation Center. More information can be found on SEC's Facebook page and [a href="http://skidmoresec.wordpress.com/">blog</a>.](http://skidmoresec.wordpress.com/)

Those who wish to attend service on Oct. 7 can go to the Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater at 8p.m. for an evening service held by Hillel with co-rabbis Linda Motzkin and her husband Jonathan Rubenstein of Temple Sinai. There also will be a morning service on Oct. 8 followed by a nature walk in North Woods, and an afternoon service at 4 p.m. followed by Yizkor, Ne'ilah and breakfast. More information can be found on the [a href="http://www.skidmore.edu/studentorgs/hillel/Home.html">Hillel website</a>.](http://www.skidmore.edu/studentorgs/hillel/Home.html)

#1.2622825:39734794.jpg Big Show Poster

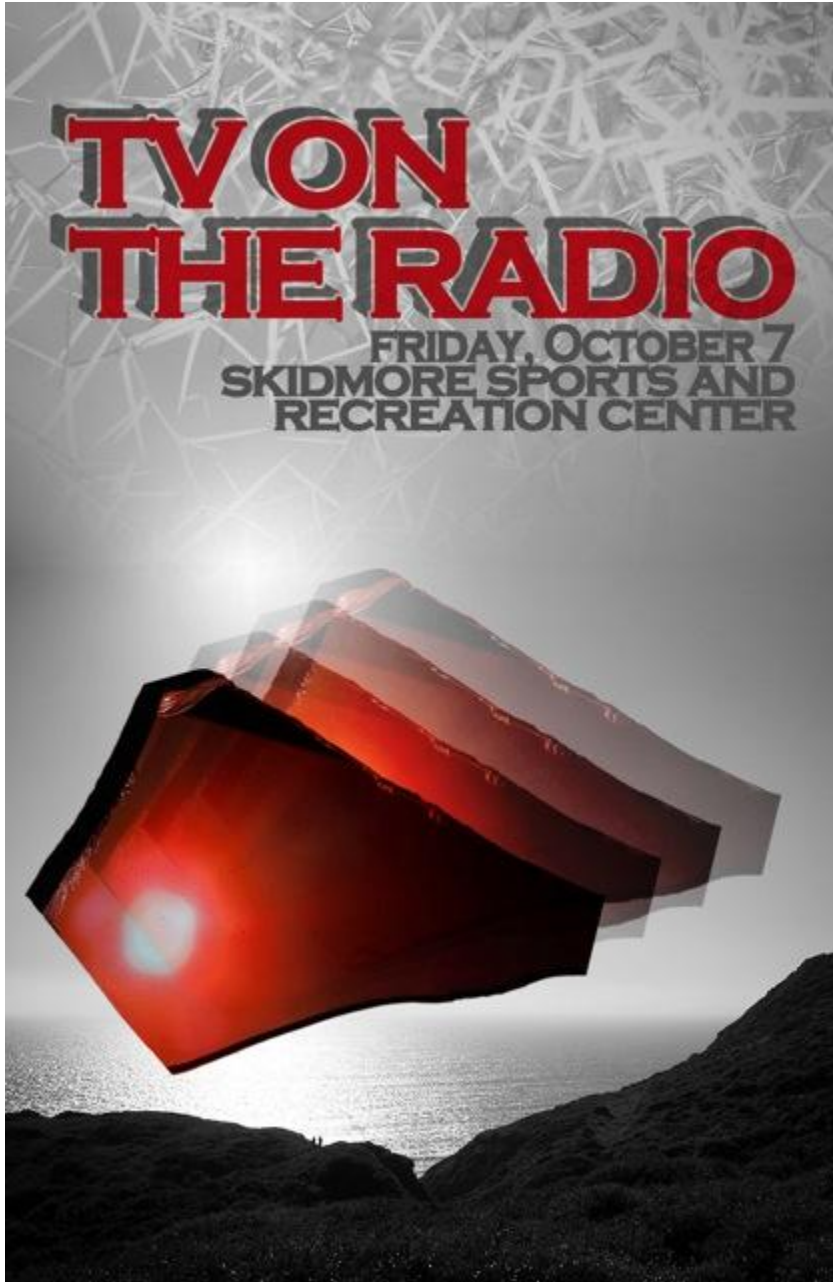
TV on the Radio will perform next week at the college

Student Entertainment Committee

#1.2622826:2261232411.jpeg TV on the Radio

Members of TV on the Radio, the band playing on Oct. 7

Student Entertainment Committee





## **Editorial: Make composting a campus-wide effort**

By the Editorial Board

On Fri, Sep 30, 2011

Thanks to the efforts of the college's Environmental Action Club (EAC) Skidmore's residential areas have remained on board for one of the easiest and most gratifying ways to reduce waste on campus. Perhaps one of the more immediate benefits of this practice is the soil quality of the Skidmore Garden, which through the use of compost is more fertile and productive. The wider purpose, of course, is to reduce our waste production, amassed not only through scraps of food but also landfill space.

Last Friday each resident of Northwoods and Scribner Village received a knock on their door and a bucket for the corner of their kitchen. The composting season has begun.

The contribution of the apartments is impossible to ignore. A subcommittee of the EAC has kept track of how much waste Northwoods Apartments produced last spring: 945 pounds of waste, about 24 pounds on average each week, was created by each apartment building.

So the buckets in every house, taken to the nearest composting bin and left for volunteers to pick up, have already demonstrated their potential to push Skidmore closer to an ideal environmental policy.

The next logical step, then, would be to institute composting in the college's nexus of food and waste production, the Dining Hall. According to Riley Neugebauer, Skidmore's sustainability coordinator, the college is currently looking into a smaller pilot project for some of the waste from the Dining Hall.

Why, in the wake of the impact of composting in the residential villages, might we be taking this kind of gradualist approach? The project under way is certainly better than nothing, but it is by no means obvious why the college shouldn't throw its full weight behind an initiative that would reduce so much waste and potentially save money.

One reason, and the one most cited by students, is the less than enthusiastic reception of Dining Hall composting after an audit was conducted last year. This test-run, one must admit, was not perfect in its execution. A table of only four composting bins were simply propped in front of the standard tray accumulator and made the expected lines much longer. It comes as no surprise that students felt any new composting system might bring about a clumsy and clogged dining hall experience.

But the kinks in the audit that gave way to such doubts are easily fixed; the fact is that Dining Hall compost stations can work, and are working elsewhere in the country. For some competitive context,





we might take into account the progress made by other colleges on this front. Connecticut College, only a year after the idea was proposed, has eliminated 35,000 pounds of waste a year from two of its campus dining halls.

Cornell, having perfected its vast system for years, eliminates 850 tons of pre and post consumer waste from the dining halls each year. Schools such as Oberlin, Vassar, and Tufts are all joining in and making strides toward an impressive policy.

The details of Skidmore's new dining hall project are still being determined as the college gathers more information and talks with those who have done large-scale composting for years such as state municipalities and the New York Department of Environmental Conservation. Hopefully the planning and execution of this initiative will match the relevancy and importance of its purpose.

#1.2623856:1707623538.JPG Compostbin

EAC volunteers erect a compost station last spring.

Eirik White



## Stories I Never Quite Finished, Part 3

By Kevin Kerrane, Columnist

On Fri, Sep 30, 2011

I wrote the third story that I never finished (I guess you've figured out by now that I've never finished any of them) when I was 15-3/4. It's a bawdy drama called *Stogie Road*, a play about the poor Southern sharecroppers.

*To refresh your memory on the second story I never quite finished, <a href="http://www.skidmorenews.com/pulp/stories-i-never-quite-finished-part-2-1.2604166#.ToZNhHGWFal">click here.</a>*

I have *tried* writing fiction - everything from vignettes to the great American novel. But I have - fortunately, perhaps - been found lacking. This article is one in a series of several stories, of one type or another, that I never quite finished - usually because I had neither the energy nor the heart to do so. After each story a short criticism follows. The criticism is offered to me, but of course you may profit from it too.

You may notice, incidentally, that in some cases the criticism is longer than the actual story reprint. This conclusively proves what has been a major contention of mine for some time now: namely that critics make things grow. How? I think that any farmer knows what makes things grow.

### ***Act III, scene 6:***

*Punky: Where aire ye, Pa*

*Pa: Yo!*

*Punky: Hey, Pa!*

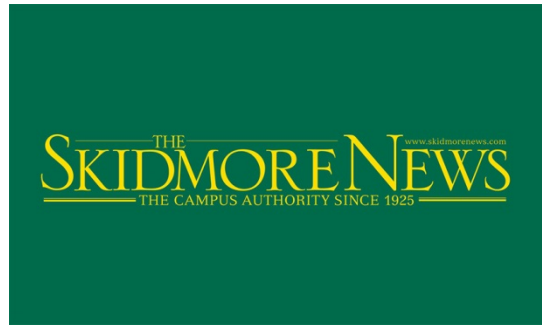
*Pa: Yo!*

*Punky: Ah wants ta ast ya sompin.*

*Pa: Yo!*

*Punky: You seen my yo-yo?*

*Pa: Yo-yo?*



*Punky: Yo!*

*(Both exit as audience throws rocks)*

### **Criticism**

The fact that the first two acts and sense of the play are not extant and may, in fact have never been written might have something to do with the relative effectiveness of the scene. Perhaps Punky's yo-yo is some sort of Freudian symbol. Maybe it's the family heirloom. Then again, if we assume that *yo* means yes, *yo-yo* would mean yes-yes, and the sentence would read as *You seen my yes-yes?* How does that sound?

The author has, at least, progressed to the drama as a means of expression, but he may, as he approaches the burdensome age of 16, be taking somewhat of defeatist attitude in his stage instructions to the actors. Then again, it may be one of those *Our Town* type things where the audience gets into the act, so to speak. I wish I could remember.