

Students and faculty gather for Undergraduate Research Conference

Students and faculty present and discuss everything from neologisms to garlic mustard

By Julia Leef

On Sun, Oct 2, 2011

On Saturday, Oct. 1, the college hosted the Undergraduate Research Conference, at which students from Siena College, the College of St. Rose, Union College, Colgate University, Hamilton College, St. Lawrence University and Skidmore College gathered to share the results of their research from the past summer. The New York Six Liberal Arts Consortium, formed in 2009, sponsored the conference.

More than 100 students and faculty members from these colleges met to discuss a wide variety of topics, including microfluidic chips, neology and genetic algorithms that can be used to design regenerating robots.

“This is like going back for a day to a great liberal arts college,” said Bob Turner, associate professor of government and the organizer of the conference.

One research team from the college spent the summer pulling and studying 15,000 garlic mustard plants, otherwise known as *Alliaria petiolata*, from North Woods in order to learn about the spread of invasive species.

One of the major aims of the conference was to give undergraduate students a sense of what graduate school would be like. For some, like Colgate biology major Tinashe Nyanhete, it was their first time organizing their results on a poster for the presentation.

“I spent a whole week on it,” Nyanhete said. “It was tough, but fun.”

“This is a great opportunity for students to show off what they did over the summer and to share it with others outside the campus,” said Kristen Fox, associate professor of chemistry at Union and director of undergraduate research.

Due to the success of the event, the conference organizers are already putting plans in place for next year’s gathering, which will either be at Skidmore or another New York Six institution.

Cornell scholar to lecture on campus

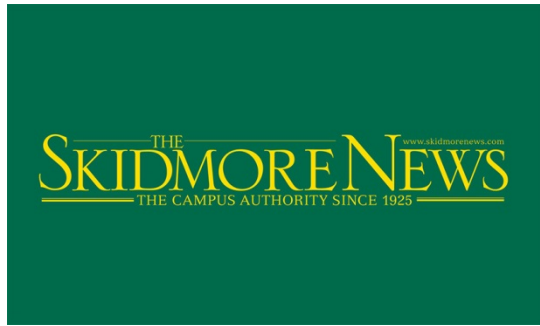
By Sarah Barry, Features Editor

On Sun, Oct 2, 2011

Bernadette A. Meyler, Professor of English and Law at Cornell University, will give the Ronald J. Fiscus Lecture on Constitutional Law on Thursday, Oct. 6. Her lecture, titled "Common Law Originalism: Constructing Constitutional Meaning from Transatlantic Legal Contexts," starts at 8 p.m. in Gannett Auditorium, located in Palamountain hall.

Meyler's articles have been published in several journals and law reviews. She is also currently working on two books, "Common Law Originalism" and "Theatres of Pardoning: Four Chapters on the Concept of Sovereignty from Shakespeare to Hobbes." Meyler received a Mellon Fellowship in Humanistic studies, as well as a Chancellor Fellowship to complete a doctorate in English at the University of California, Irvine. She also clerked for the Hon. Robert A. Katzmann of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit following law school.

The Fiscus Lecture was established in 1991 by the Government Department to honor Ronald J. Fiscus, a member of Skidmore's faculty from 1980 until his death in 1990. Fiscus was instrumental in the development of the law and society minor at Skidmore and was a specialist in constitutional law.



Dr. Frances Kendall presents lecture on bias to Skidmore community

Guest speaker addresses diversity and dealing with bias on campus

By Adrian Appleman, Contributing Writer

On Sun, Oct 2, 2011

At 7 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 26 in Gannett Auditorium, about 200 students and faculty attended the "What Will Move Us to Act?: Understanding and Interrupting Bias" lecture by guest speaker Dr. Frances Kendall.

Kendall has produced books, lectures and run workshops regarding diversity and white privilege. She is known for her hands-on approach to emphasize bias in communities.

Kendall's central message throughout the night was that bias is recognized but not addressed in institutions throughout the country. She argued that despite many efforts to the contrary, Skidmore College had fostered a public space that caters primarily to white heterosexual males.

Mariel Martin, director of Student Diversity Programs was very pleased with the discussion. "I loved how eager the community was to engage in the conversation," she said, "and I loved even more that most folks stuck around."

In the workshop portion, audience members filled out a "stereotype roadmap," elucidating "which side of the track" each audience member was on. Kendall asked how people felt about categorizing themselves.

She then asked for certain people to stand if they had they checked a certain box, which offered a clear picture of the majorities in the room. With this, Kendall introduced the thesis of her presentation: the creation of "Public Space."

This lecture was one of many that Martin hopes to organize for the college community. The reason Kendall came to campus so early in the semester was to kick start the discussion about diversity. "We have to start early, and then keep with it," explains Martin, "because by midterms, people's memory starts to fade."

"A lot of times it feels like we're preaching to the choir," said Martin, "but I did see quite a few new faces, and it felt like folks were listening."

More presentations on bias and diversity will occur throughout the course of the semester. Students and faculty hope that Kendall's presentation will help jumpstart the discussion that will hopefully bring further institutional change to the college.

"It is important, for the sake of our community," urged Martin, "that after lectures like the one Kendall made, we continue to ask ourselves, 'What do we do now?'"

#1.2625543:3257176570.JPG Bias Lecture1

Kendall asks students who participated in the "Everyday Leadership" training to raise their hands.

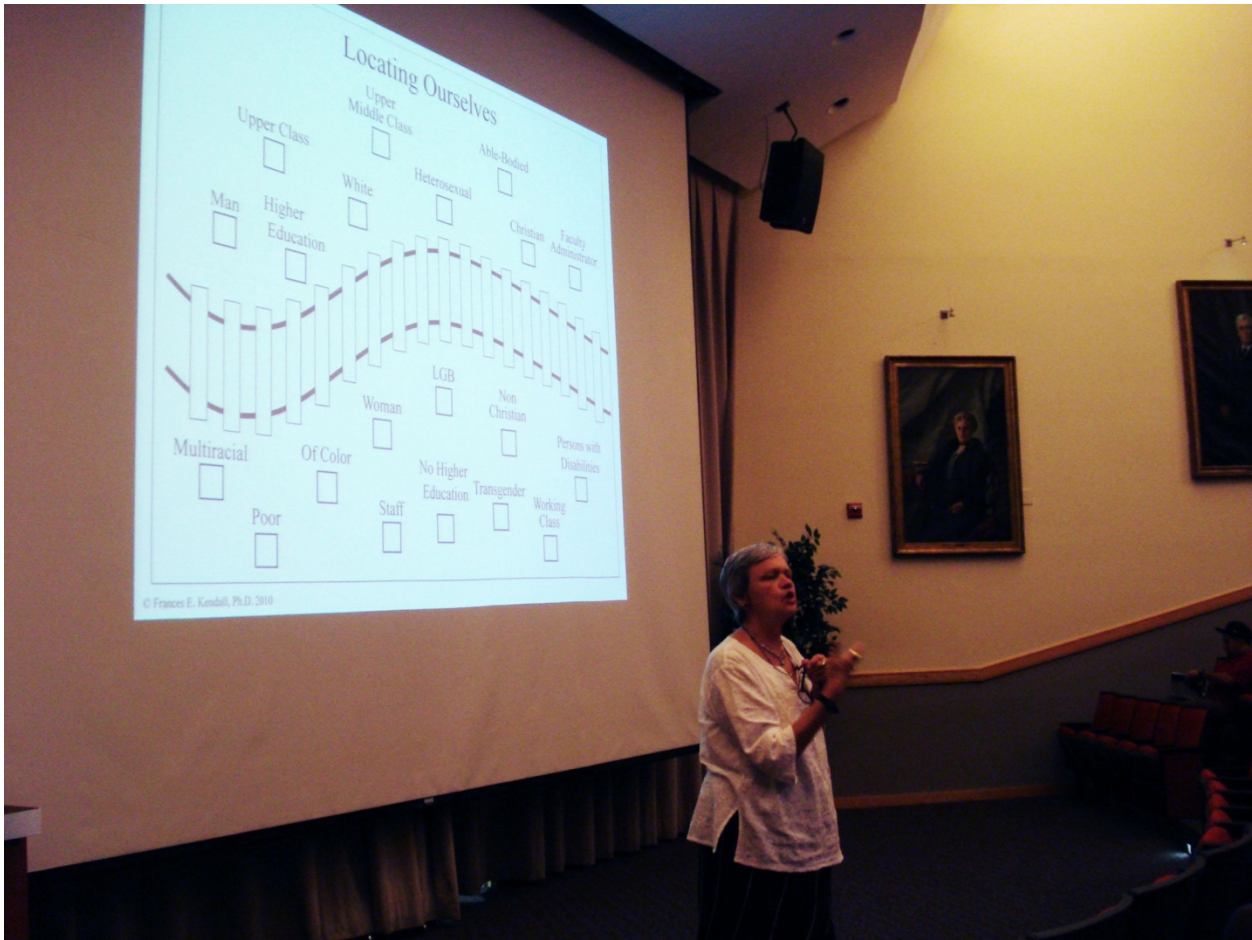
Savannah Grier/The Skidmore News

#1.2625567:930174059.JPG Bias Lecture2

Kendall asks students to mark the social spheres that they most identify with.

Savannah Grier/The Skidmore News





Skott's last second goal lifts No. 3 Skidmore

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 3, 2011

WILLIAMSTOWN, Mass. - Sam Skott '15 scored with no time left to lead No. 3 Skidmore College field hockey team to a 2-1 win, Friday night at Williams.

The Thoroughbreds improve to 9-1, while the Ephs fall to 4-4.

With seconds remaining, Skidmore earned a corner as Jackie Slocombe '12 sent a pass in to Kelly Blackhurst '14 and Skott deflected Blackhurst's shot past the keeper with no time remaining to secure the 2-1 victory.

Emily Jablonski got Williams out to an early lead, scoring at the 11:38 mark to make it 1-0.

Neither team was able to score for the remainder of the first half, but Blackhurst tied it up in the 44th minute with her 12th goal of the season. Slocombe was credited with the assist.

Both teams played a close game for the remainder of regulation before Skott sent the Thoroughbreds home with a victory.

Haley McDougall '15 made two saves in goal for Skidmore.

Thoroughbreds fall to No. 2 William Smith, 3-0

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 3, 2011

GENEVA - The No. 2 ranked William Smith women's soccer team put up three goals in the second half to beat No. 24 Skidmore, Friday afternoon at Cozzens Field.

The Thoroughbreds fall to 6-3 overall and 1-2 in Liberty League play, while the Herons remain unbeaten at 8-0-1 overall and 2-0 in league action.

William Smith kept Skidmore under heavy pressure throughout the match, but struggled to score against goalie Meghan Sleezer '12, who had at least three diving stops among her five first half saves.

The match was still scoreless at halftime despite a 10-1 advantage in shots for the home side. The Herons also took all seven corner kicks in the first 45 minutes.

Chelsea England got William Smith on the board in the 56th minute with a strike from the far left of the box that slid under the crossbar just inside the far post. Just over three minutes later, England notched her second goal of the match, chipping the ball over Sleezer to about the same spot in the cage. Both tallies were assisted by Whitney Frary '12.

The Herons' final marker came off a lucky bounce. Sleezer attempted to play a ball out of the penalty area, but Krista Longo '15 ran in front of her. The ball ricocheted off Longo's face and into the Thoroughbreds' net for a 3-0 lead with less than 12 minutes remaining in the match.

Sleezer finished the match with 10 saves. William Smith senior Amanda Davis and sophomore Chelsea Dunay combined for the shutout without making a save.

The Herons held advantages in both shots (20-1) and corner kicks (9-1).

Stansky goal leads Thoroughbreds past RIT, 1-0

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 3, 2011

ROCHESTER - Elena Stansky '12 scored at 71:46 to lead the Skidmore College women's soccer team to a 1-0 Liberty League road win over RIT, Saturday afternoon.

Stansky scored the game winner for Skidmore in the 72nd minute. Kelsey Yam '13 took a shot that was blocked by a RIT defender. The rebound came right to Stansky and she fired a shot into the top right corner, breaking a scoreless tie.

The Tigers had a good chances late in the second half to equalize; with 13 minutes to play Sierra Kiss gathered a loose ball off a corner kick and fired a shot that was headed for the corner, but Skidmore goalkeeper Meghan Sleezer '12 made the diving stop.

Sleezer finished 10 saves, including seven in the second half for her fifth shutout of the season.

Skidmore improves to 7-3 and 2-2 in the Liberty League, while RIT falls to 4-6 and 1-2.

Thoroughbreds go 2-2 in weekend Liberty League play

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 3, 2011

CANTON - The Skidmore College volleyball team split Liberty League matches in a weekend North Country trip. The Thoroughbreds beat Vassar 3-2 and Bard 3-0, while losing 3-0 to Clarkson and 3-1 to St. Lawrence.

The team is 11-6 overall and 3-2 in Liberty League play.

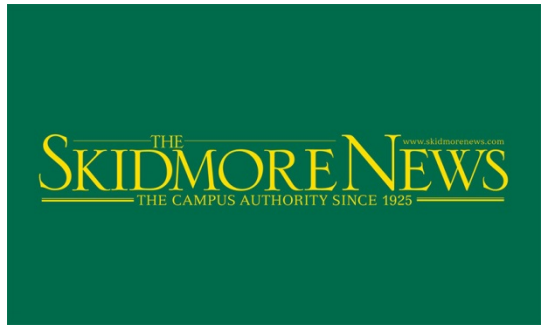
Skidmore opened with a 25-22, 25-10, 29-27 loss to league leader Clarkson. Carolyn Bottelier '13 had eight kills, 11 assists and eight digs, while Sam Friedman '13 added 11 digs.

The Thoroughbreds battled Vassar to an exciting 3-2 (25-22, 14-25, 25-8, 17-25, 15-13) win. Bottelier had 28 assists and 11 digs. Corinne Palmer '14 chipped in 11 kills and three blocks, while Elise Finnerty '14 had 16 kills and two blocks. Mallory Mendelsohn '14 had a double/double with 21 assists and 12 digs and Friedman had 27 digs.

On Saturday, Skidmore had a 3-0 (25-13, 25-10, 25-15) win against Bard. Finnerty had eight kills and two blocks. Brittany Dinger '15 had seven aces. Mendelsohn had another double/double with 21 assists and 20 digs. Maureen Mahoney '13 contributed 15 digs.

The team closed out the weekend with a 3-1 (15-25, 25-19, 18-25, 30-32) loss at St. Lawrence. Bottelier had a triple/double with 12 kills, 26 assists and 14 digs. Kelley Vershbow '12 had 13 kills and 15 digs and Glassman had 10 kills and three aces.

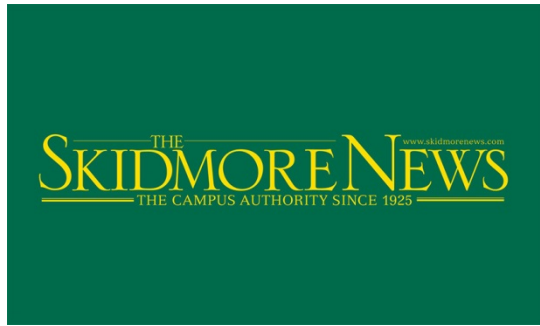
Skidmore will be back in action at Union College on Oct. 4.



Comic: The Bias Monster

By Wyatt Erchak, Cartoonist

On Tue, Oct 4, 2011



Men's soccer falls to Hobart, 1-0

By Skidmore Athletics

On Tue, Oct 4, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - The Skidmore College men's soccer team suffered a tough 1-0 loss to No. 18 Hobart in Friday afternoon's Liberty League matchup at Wachenheim Field.

The Thoroughbreds fall to 4-6 overall and 1-2 in league play, while the Statesmen improve to 8-1 overall and 1-1 league.

Caetano Sanchez scored the lone goal of the contest, putting his team up in the 72nd minute. Sanchez headed a ball put on goal by Taylor Jones past Skidmore keeper Nick Peterson '12 for his first goal of the season.

A few minutes later, the Thoroughbreds tried to answer on a shot from Diego Reinerio '12 that was swatted away by Hobart goalie Charlie Hale, forcing a corner. On the corner, Andrew Blake '14 corralled a loose ball and sent it on goal, but a defender was able to clear it before it crossed the goal line. Skidmore was able to get a few more shots off but couldn't put one on goal as the Statesmen held on for the 1-0 win.

Peterson finished with three saves, while Hale made two.

The Thoroughbreds outshot Hobart, 9-8 but the Statesmen held a 9-7 advantage in penalty corners.

#1.2628974:882431683.JPG mens soccer photo 1

Marcus Goldbas clears the ball

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News



"Drive" is the must-see, piss-your-pants good action movie of the year

Ryan Gosling impresses as venomous stunt driver in new action flick

By Eli Cohen, Columnist

On Wed, Oct 5, 2011

Drive is pure testosterone-gut-wrenching, ball-punching action that somehow manages to hold on to a vague sense of control amidst the chaos. This probably will not be the best movie you watch this year overall, but it will almost certainly be the best action movie.

"Why don't you shut your mouth, or I'll kick your teeth down your throat and I'll shut it in for you."

OK, it may not win an award for best tough-guy line any time soon. It lacks the provocative sass of Mr. Blonde's classic line: "Are you going to bark all day, little doggie, or are you going to bite?" from Quentin Tarantino's "Reservoir Dogs," or the unruffled coolness of Michael Corleone making his enemy an offer he cannot refuse. But still, coming from "The Notebook" heartthrob Ryan Gosling, the message manages to come across crystal clear: do not mess with this pretty-boy.

Drive centers on an (almost comically) brooding, nameless stunt driver who moonlights as a getaway driver for various smalltime crooks. With his monosyllabic dialogue, scorpion-embossed driving jacket and perpetual toothpick hanging from the side of his mouth, the man we see kicking an evil henchman's face in until there is nothing left but pulp is a major departure from anything audiences think they know about Gosling.

In the supporting roles are: a hyper-emotional waitress named Irene (Carey Mulligan, who broke out in 2009s "An Education"), a boisterous, flashy Jewish mobster played by Ron Perlman ("Sons of Anarchy," "Hellboy") and a psychotic, eyebrow-less Albert Brooks. "Drive" takes its audience through a burglary/double-cross/payback gone awry. Brooks, known for his '70s and 80s comedies (and for the voice of Marlin in "Finding Nemo"), shows a hugely different side of his acting ability as Perlman's partner in crime, but manages to bring some levity to an otherwise dark and gruesome film ("My partner is a belligerent asshole, but he's a belligerent asshole with his back up against the wall, and, now, so am I").

Bryan Cranston, better known as Walter White from AMC's "Breaking Bad" (or as the Dad from "Malcolm in the Middle), also makes an appearance and Cranston fans will be astonished to see that this is one character who does not find himself onscreen in the patented Cranston tighty-whities.

The feel of this film is one of wild extremes. Director Nicolas Winding Refn, who directed the bio-pick "Bronson," which looked at the most violent inmate in Britain's history (played by Tom Hardy), is not known for his restraint. Consequently, the violence in "Drive" is gratuitous, Gosling's quietness is almost disconcerting and the gangsters are...well, pretty much how you would expect gangsters led by the shark tooth-grinned Perlman to be.

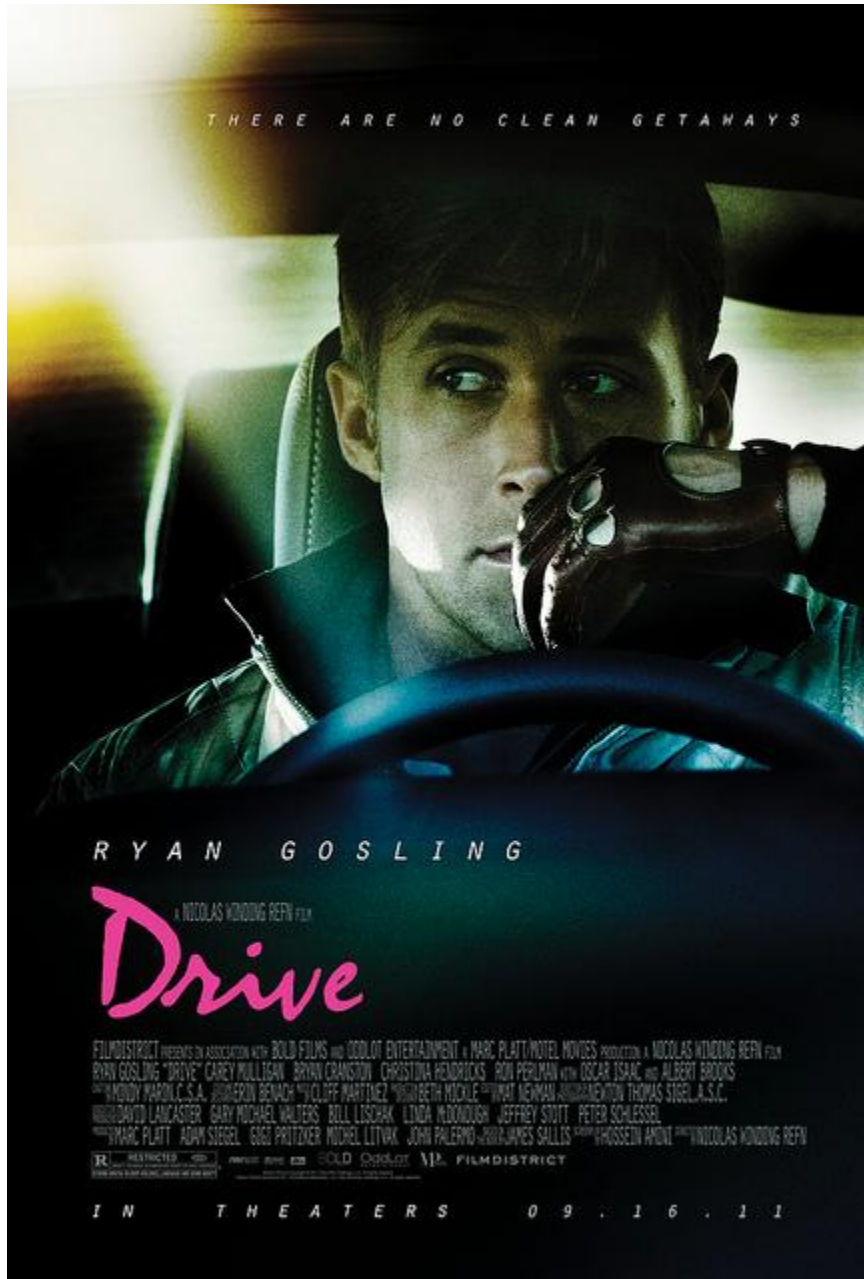
It's true that flashes of the Gosling teenage girls know and swoon over still come through from time to time, like the shy smile that plays around the corners of his mouth, like everything is a big joke and he's the only one privileged enough to be in on it. But this sense is immediately countered by his crippling awkwardness and almost annoyingly precious interactions with Irene (the most charming he gets is when he awkwardly offers Irene's son, Benicio, a toothpick).

While this movie began as a "Fast and the Furious" rip-off for Hugh Jackman, it is clear that Gosling brings a dark edginess that Jackman would have failed to deliver (although people probably said the same of Gosling when he signed on). This movie offers no tearful reunions, only the bare Hollywood minimum happily-ever-after and scarcely the slightest hint of redemption. "Drive" is pure testosterone-gut-wrenching, ball-punching action that somehow manages to hold on to a vague sense of control amidst the chaos. This probably will not be the best movie you watch this year overall, but it will almost certainly be the best action movie. And be thankful that Gosling isn't coming after you with a hammer, a bullet and a pair of weird leather gloves.

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Ryan Gosling

FilmDistrict



Vacancies in SGA cue the start of Willingness-to-Serve elections

SGA members encourage students to run for open positions

By Andrew Shi, Contributing Writer

On Wed, Oct 5, 2011

The Student Government Association website lists 51 open positions on various committees for the Willingness-To-Serve elections. When asked if the vacancies impaired operations, SGA President Jonathan Zeidan '12 said that although there's always room for more members, there is no immediate need for worry.

According to Zeidan, SGA membership has significantly increased compared to past years. In addition, he said there is a healthy pool of students seeking available positions through online applications for Willingness-To-Serve elections. Zeidan believes that about eight to ten people have shown interest in positions at SGA meetings, which take place weekly on Tuesday nights from 8p.m. to 11p.m. in Ladd 307.

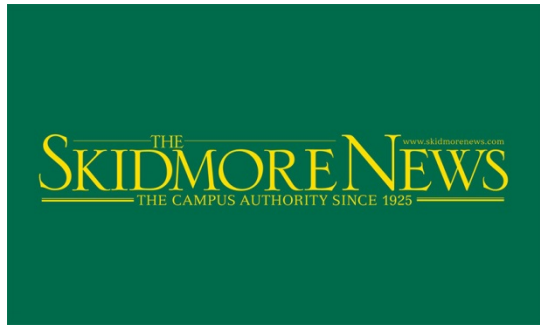
"SGA membership is very comprehensive this year. We have a very involved and intelligent student body who is always looking for ways to get involved," Zeidan said.

All positions that are not filled in the main election at the beginning of the semester become Willingness-To-Serve positions, which students may run for throughout the semester. These positions are approved by the senate at SGA meetings, which elected eight students on Oct. 4.

Raiza Nazareth '12, vice president for communications and outreach on SGA, said interested members of the student body should go to the SGA website and apply for the committee or role upon which they wish to serve. "Last year, we had a website," she said, "but it wasn't always up to date and user friendly. Now we're trying to push it with the new site that students can easily access the forms."

After the application, contenders for positions are invited to SGA meetings to deliver personal statements, reminiscent of smaller-scale election speeches. A panel of student senators then judges the candidates (if there are multiple students seeking an open spot) and votes to elect them onto their respective committees.

"We need to make sure they have the skills to sit on this committee and the experience to be a strong member," Nazareth said.



Zeidan hopes there will be a stream of applicants seeking to serve on the Traditions Committee and the Speakers Bureau, both of which currently have six open positions, as well as the Integrity Board, which has seven available slots.

Zeidan and Nazareth said senators who are required to sit on at least one committee often choose to sit on several, thus filling in some of the empty spots. However, although current senators are able to support the association, additional members would help alleviate the voids in committees the senators themselves cannot address.

Other committees in need of new officials will wage an awareness campaign during the next SGA meeting, and senators will deliberate on the appropriate action needed to reach out to the student body.

“This year, we started a willingness-to-serve fair and really focused on awareness as we know the members of the student body want to be active on campus,” Zeidan said. “The biggest hurdle is oftentimes the logistical issues, not the desire.”

To promote the remaining posts, Nazareth said SGA will continue to email the student body updated newsletters detailing current SGA motions, as well as advertising Willingness-To-Serve elections. Posters on campus also remind students that commitments to taking an active role in their college life can be catalyzed through serving on an SGA committee.

“Additional information booths in the atrium of the Dining Hall, a common promotion tactic used by most student organizations, will not be used until second semester elections,” Nazareth said.

For a full list of the additional vacancies, as well as links for election applications, students should contact Nazareth or visit the [SGA website](http://www.skidmoresga.org).

Volleyball drops Liberty League match to Union

By Skidmore Athletics

On Wed, Oct 5, 2011

SCHENECTADY - Union College won a tight Liberty League volleyball match over SkidmoreCollege, 3-1 (25-21, 22-25, 25-15, 25-22), Tuesday night.

The loss drops the Thoroughbreds to 3-3 in Liberty League play and 11-7 overall. The Dutchwomen are 3-3 and 11-9. With the win, Union earns a season split with Skidmore.

Olivia Glassman '15 had a double/double for the Thoroughbreds with 12 kills and 15 digs. Mallory Mendelsohn '13 had 39 assists and 11 digs, while Sam Friedman '13 had 24 digs.

Skidmore will in the Union Interleague Challenge Friday, Oct. 7 and Saturday, Oct. 8.

Skidmore downs Southern Vermont in OT, 4-3

By Skidmore Athletic
On Wed, Oct 5, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - Diego Reinero '12 scored in the 98th minute to lift the Skidmore College men's soccer team to a 4-3 OT victory over Southern Vermont, Tuesday night at Wachenheim Field.

The Thoroughbreds improve to 5-7, while the Mountaineers fall to 7-4.

The teams put on an offensive show in the first half, combining for six goals. Vermont's Pierre Massena got the scoring started at the 7:14 mark, heading home Erik Argueta's crossing pass from outside the box for his seventh goal of the season. Skidmore's Brock Bakewell '15 answered right back just a few minutes later, scoring on a rebound off a defensive save to tie it up.

Just over two minutes later, Pat Wildes '12 gave the Thoroughbreds the lead after taking a pass from Gildas Girimana '14 in front of the goal, dribbling to himself and finding the back of the net for his first of the season. At the 31 minute mark, Adam Beek '15 sent a pass to Bakewell in the box who chipped it over Mountaineer goalie Connor Anniello for his second of the game, making it 3-1.

Southern Vermont brought it within one at the 38 minute mark on Chris Hansen's first goal of the season, a blast from outside the box that deflected off a defender and in. Ignacio Cervantes tied it up at the 41 minute mark, taking a pass from Brett Clatworthy in the box for his second goal of the season.

Neither team was able to find the back of the net in the second half, despite Skidmore holding a 24-3 shot advantage.

In the overtime, the Thoroughbreds controlled the game offensively, getting off three shots on goal before Reinero blasted home a rebound to earn the 4-3 victory.

Nick Peterson '12 made two saves for Skidmore, while Anniello finished with 12 saves.

The Thoroughbreds held a dominant 45-7 advantage in shots and 14-1 in corners.

Skidmore is at Vassar on Oct. 9.

Art faculty exhibition ruminates on environmentalism in Schick Art Gallery

Faculty pieces reflect desires to return to the natural world

By Kristin Travagline, Contributing Writer

On Wed, Oct 5, 2011

The Selected Art Faculty Exhibition in Schick Art Gallery features a variety of striking individual pieces and a collective cohesion in both appearance and theme. The works contemplate upon humanity's relationship to nature.

Upon walking into the gallery one cannot help but assume that the artists constructed their pieces with the goal of a unified exhibition in mind. Yet, the opposite is true.

Serendipitously, the light green surfaces of professor of art Leslie Ferst's organic sculptures, "Ebb and Flow," play upon the turquoise water of the Columbia River featured in professor of art Deborah Hall's photograph, "Artifacts," across the room, which, in turn, picks up the vibrant green grass displayed in professor of art Robert Parke-Harrison's mixed media image "Bloodroot."

On the center wall of the gallery hangs Parke-Harrison's image, "The Scribe," which depicts a white winter scene, with the faint outline of pine trees in the background. In the foreground, a hand, modeled after Parke-Harrison's, draws a striking line of blood across the pristine landscape. Piano parts, a wasp's nest and medical tubes wrap around the hand, creating a device that paints the red line.

It's like he's trying to draw a line in the snow, as though he's using his own bodily substance and fluid to create art from. This image was based on the extreme difficulty and pain of creating something new, Parke-Harrison said.

The mechanical components of "The Scribe" resonate with professor of art David Peterson's brass sculpture, "Aero II," which is comprised of many small details to present a complex, unified industrial structure that is simultaneously reminiscent of a bicycle, a skyscraper and a satellite.

However, one cannot attribute the rich interplay of these pieces to chance. The gallery director and curator, Peter Stake, took pains to assemble the exhibition in a manner that "brings out the individuality of each piece," Stake said.

Stake manages numerous aspects of the exhibition, including coordinating with the faculty 2-3 years prior to the show to determine which professors' works will be featured.

"We have so many faculty in the department that we decided it would be better to show a few faculty at a time so they can have more pieces in the show and so the students get a better idea of their work overall," Stake said.

Stake aims to exhibit a range of mediums in the show. In presenting the work, he takes into consideration the most advantageous ways for the artwork to be presented, including installation, vantage point, lighting and overall aesthetics.

Across the board, the pieces revealed a common theme and interest the artists wanted to convey: environmentalism. Several of the pieces in the exhibition convey a melancholy desire for a return to nature and nostalgia for humans' lost connection with the natural world.

Hall features three photos, out of a series of 14, taken on the Columbia River during her sabbatical in fall 2010. These pictures were taken at Priest Lake in northern Idaho where Hall visited as a child. She recalled the location being "very remote... very undeveloped; it was peaceful and wonderful and you could just go from this trail, run down, jump in this water and swim. I mean, it was crystal clear to the bottom."

However, when she visited the site last fall she was confronted with a worn in trail and private waterfront properties. Although Hall could no longer access the water from the walking path, as she was not allowed on the neighbors' properties, various welcome signs ironically greeted her along her walk.

Hall said the narrow, vertical composition of the photos reflect the narrow focus of the property owners and the narrow composition of the plots. Hall's photos "Artifacts" and "Percussions" deal with similar concerns about humans' interactions with nature and notions of the possession of nature.

Parke-Harrison's mixed media image, "Mourning," raises prominent questions about humanity's relationship with nature. "We're really interested in concepts of the environment. Over all the years of working, one of the great successes that we've found was when our work was put in the context of the environmental movement, as a voice for artists that address this issue," said Parke-Harrison, who collaborates with his wife, Shana Parke-Harrison, on all of his artwork.

The image depicts a male figure sitting in a prison-like cell with his body and face turned away from the viewer. The cool, blue-grey tones of the piece lend a melancholy mood to the scene. Yet, vibrant butterflies flit into the scene from an opening in the cell and rest upon the man's body, modeled after Parke-Harrison's own figure.

Parke-Harrison said, depending upon how the viewer interprets the image, the man may be either harming the butterflies or gently taking them into his hands. "He's in this kind of cold state of this sort of

modern person out of touch with the natural world, but it's about that combined moment, that magical moment. It's hard to say what would happen next in this image," Parke-Harrison said.

Likewise, Ferst made her series "Ebb and Flow" for an exhibition based on the theme "fragile ecosystems," Ferst said. The pod-like shapes, subdued moss-like colors and inviting textures are reminiscent of coral or even fungi. "These are sort of more tactile, kind of intimate pieces," Ferst said.

The intimacy of the Schick gallery provides a comfortable venue for students and members of the Saratoga community to contemplate the intricate interplay of ideas and images brought alive by these pieces. "I hope that students start thinking about different possibilities, not just appreciating the work that is in the gallery, but thinking about possibilities for their own work. It kind of enlarges their sphere of influence and enlarges their perception," Stake said.

A book that includes the artists' backgrounds, artist statements and brief biographies is available in the gallery. The exhibition will remain open until Oct. 16.

A look at study abroad in Christchurch New Zealand

The aftermath of the earthquake for Skidmore students in New Zealand

By Kelsey Nichols, Staff Writer

On Wed, Oct 5, 2011

The devastating effects of the 6.3-magnitude earthquake that killed more than 65 people in Christchurch, New Zealand in February 2011 were featured on news programs across the globe. The effects of this disaster reached closer to home than many imagined, as some of Skidmore's own students were only minutes from the epicenter of the quake.

Ellie Nichols, '13 an International Affairs major, was sitting in her New Zealand politics class when the quake suddenly hit. "The ground started shaking and I heard a deep rumbling. Papers were falling and tables were shifting. The girl next to me dove underneath her desk and then I did the same thing," Nichols said.

Nichols had been a student at the University of Canterbury through the Institute for the International Education of Students program, or IES, for only one day before life in New Zealand was disrupted. After the quake, aftershocks continued to rattle the town with enough strength to make cars sway on their axles.

Approximately 90 percent of Canterbury's campus infrastructure was completely or at least partially destroyed. There was no clean drinking water, and students were not able to use ATMs, which contributed to a growing sense of chaos on campus.

Nichols was lucky enough to have been traveling through New Zealand for a month before classes started and she had made some friends in Nelson, a city about four hours from Christchurch.

Her friends were kind enough to come pick her up as well as some of her friends. She was brought to an area away from the aftershocks and "housed in a school bus that was filled with mattresses and surfboards," Nichols said.

The IES program was not created to deal with situations of such huge proportions and three days after the earthquake, the University sent out an announcement that there would be no more classes for the semester.

"I was lucky to have an exit strategy with one of my local friends, however I think IES abroad should have handled the situation better. Those who didn't have an immediate exit strategy had to spend one,

maybe two nights in Christchurch while the aftershocks continued. Eventually IES organized an escape to a dude ranch retreat center in the South, but this was quite delayed," Nichols said.

Some students were given the opportunity to transfer to the University of Auckland, but there were limited options besides making the trip home. Skidmore's insurance policy for abroad studies is comprehensive and Skidmore students were fully reimbursed. Other IES students were not so lucky and have not been reimbursed at all.

Jon Reeves '12 was also in Christchurch and faced changes to his abroad experience. "I transferred from Christchurch to Wellington. The curriculum was basically the same, I just had to change a few classes. I had more amenities in Christchurch, whereas I lived in a dorm in Wellington, but the main difference was that I was living with Americans before the move," Reeves said.

"I had to get used to a city where I was starting out later in the semester and only had a few months to be there," said Reeves of the move. "It was difficult networking in a foreign country, finding rides and friends with similar interests."

"Because I wasn't with Americans after the move it turned out to be much more a test of putting myself out there and facing rejection. It was definitely more of a challenge, but also more of an adventure," Reeves said.

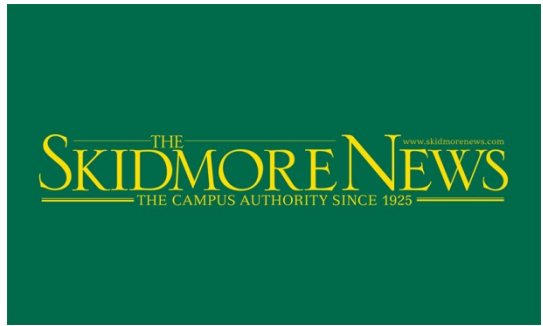
The semester did not go to waste for Nichols, but she decided not to stay in New Zealand. Nichols went back home to Denver, CO and did some freelance fashion work, which culminated in her securing an internship in Paris for a fashion photo production company, Brachfeld-Paris, which was founded by a Skidmore Alumnus.

The natural disaster in NZ has not deterred Nichols from going abroad. She plans on heading to Florence in the spring of 2012.

"Paris was an incredible experience. Although I was bummed to lose my semester in Christchurch, I wouldn't have been able to seize the Paris opportunity if I was still abroad," Nichols said.

Nichols still encourages people to study in New Zealand. "It's just so incredibly beautiful. I mean, it's where the Lord of the Rings is filmed which is pretty awesome."

"One thing to watch is how Christchurch will rebuild its beautiful city center. Some say this might be the opportunity to see what real, sustainable development looks like. It is a rare occasion to be able to rebuild a city with the technological developments of the 21st century and Christchurch may become an example of this high tech development," Nichols said.



Nichols hopes to return to New Zealand someday. "Part of me hopes to plan a fantastic destination wedding there." Evidently, the appeal of New Zealand can outlast even an earthquake.

Harvest Dinner features the best of locally grown food

The Skidmore student garden hosts dinner to promote local eating

By Michael DuPré, Contributing Writer

On Thu, Oct 6, 2011

On Sunday Oct. 6, Skidmore's student garden and the Environmental Action Club hosted its annual Harvest Dinner to promote food grown locally in the Saratoga area and in Skidmore's student garden. Falstaff's was transformed into a dining hall for an evening of locally grown cuisine.

Tables were garnished with locally grown squashes and greens. The recipes were also festive and inspired by the harvest from Skidmore's student garden. The variety of flavors, colors and textures made the meal enjoyable. Student volunteers served their peers and were knowledgeable about the origins of every part of the meal. Falstaffs had a warm, communal atmosphere, and more than 200 students attended.

The Harvest Dinner was free, but a \$5 dollar donation was suggested for those attending.

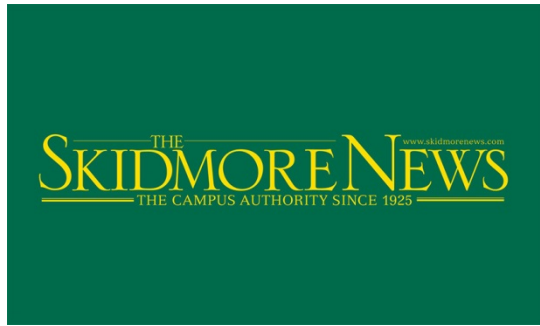
"The purpose of the suggested donation is twofold. We would like students to recognize that eating locally is worth a few dollars and also to support locally grown food," said Gabby Stern '13 manager of the Skidmore student garden.

The donation did not deter student participation. "It is encouraging to see how many students came," Stern said.

The intention of the dinner was to make students more aware of where their food is coming from. A few students cited the expensive cost as a reason why they do not eat more local foods. After the dinner many students interviewed expressed a desire to eat more locally grown food.

Angela Cascone'12 said she appreciated the wider variety of dishes offered at this year's Harvest Dinner compared to those of years past. "I cannot say that I know the origins of every part of my meal, but I'm mindful to include locally grown food whenever possible. If you know where your food is coming from, you are more aware of what it is that you are eating," Cascone said.

The dinner included dozens of tasty dishes, such as roasted acorn squash with beets and carrots, eggplant tomato bake and focaccia with basil spread. For dessert, the guests were treated to apple crisp, spiced with nutmeg, cloves, cinnamon and a touch of lemon juice.



"I would like the garden to grow to the point where it could meet the demands that Skidmore students have for locally grown food," Orli Handmaker '13 said.

Several student bands, including Beard-O, Mugsy Boges and Artifacts played at the dinner. "We are playing for a great cause and our organic rooty sound really lends itself well to the Harvest Dinner," said Josh Speers '14, bassist for Beard-O.

Talia Arnow '13, a leader of the Waste Working Group, informed the diners that all food waste, including that from the preparation, would be placed in the Northwoods compost unit to be reused in the Skidmore student garden. The Waste Working Group is a branch of EA working to reduce waste through composting and other projects.

Members of Environmental Action Club (EAC) and the Skidmore student gardeners went to great lengths to make the evening possible. Students spared no effort to make the evening a success from planting, tending the garden, harvesting the vegetables, cooperating with local farmers and preparing the meal. "I am impressed with how multitalented our students are," Stern said. "I want people to get involved!"

Stern, on behalf of the Skidmore student garden and the Environmental Action Club extended a special thanks to Skidmore's Dining Services. Its concrete support for this dinner and local eating in general continues to be invaluable.

At one point during the dinner, when it became clear that everything had come together as planned, Stern was moved to tears. "This is a very happy moment," she said.

#1.2633111:497171056.jpg Skidmore Student Garden veggies

Skidmore student garden harvest: acorn squash, carrots and tomatoes.

Photo courtesy of Jon Markowitz

#1.2633168:2859246038.JPG The artifacts at the harvest dinner

Skidmore band The Artifacts plays at the Harvest Dinner, Zoe Brecher '12, Leo Cancelmo '12, Jon Wan '12.

Photo courtesy of Jon Markowitz





Skidmore to offer tour of its North Woods and service day for trail maintenance

The college to host events on Saturdays this month

By Julia Leef

On Thu, Oct 6, 2011

On Saturday, Oct. 8 and Saturday, Oct. 22, two community activities will take place in the college's North Woods, a large tract of forested land located north of the main campus. The college will offer a guided tour on Oct. 8 and a community service day to help with trail maintenance on Oct. 22.

The college campus is located on land that was formally known as Woodlawn prior to 1960, which contains mostly forested area with several estate homes, a large lawn and more than 20 miles of carriage trails more than a century old. North Woods is home to numerous native species, supporting a biologically diverse animal and plant population that is used in faculty and student research.

During the tour on Oct. 8, which will be led by Robert Jones, associate professor and chairman of economics, participants will learn about the cultural history of North Woods, following some of the area's historic carriage trails.

Those who are interested may attend an information session in Room 280 of Bolton Hall at 1 p.m on Oct. 8. The walk will begin at 1:30 p.m., starting from the Palamountain Hall lobby. In the event of rain, Jones will show a narrated video tour in Bolton 280 instead. This tour is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

According to a recent press release from the Office of Communications, the service day on Oct. 22 "will offer an opportunity for local residents, along with Skidmore students, faculty and staff, to work together on the trails to help with litter removal, erosion control and other maintenance."

Volunteers will meet at 10 a.m. at Falstaff's, dressed appropriately in long pants, boots and work gloves. Lunch will be provided around noon, and projects will continue into the afternoon. Those who are interested should register by Wednesday, Oct. 19 with Riley Neugebauer, sustainability coordinator, either at (518) 580-5865 or via email to rneugeba@skidmore.edu.

IGR promotes courses for Spring 2012 semester

Interested students attended information sessions this week

By Julia Leef, Contributing Writer-Adrian Appleman

On Fri, Oct 7, 2011

[Editor: When originally published this article incorrectly stated that the IGR courses would be held in the spring of 2011. They will be held in the spring of 2012. The article has been corrected.]

In the upcoming spring semester, students will be able to register for IGR (Inter-Group Relations) classes, which include four peer-led dialogues on race. These courses will be administered by Kristie Ford, assistant professor of sociology and IGR Relations program director; Peter McCarthy, field coordinator in social work; Lei Bryant, assistant professor of music; Nate Richardson, residence hall director; and Michael Ennis-McMillan, associate professor of anthropology.

Approximately 15-20 students from a variety of years and majors attended the information session regarding these courses at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6 in TLC 203. There was another session the previous day at the same time and place. The courses will be capped at 10 students and are peer-led, while the faculty coaches will observe the dialogues and are responsible for grading all student work.

The four courses are composed of two "inter-group" dialogues titled "People of Color" and "White People," and two "intra-group" dialogues, "White Racial Identity" and "Multiracial Identity." They have been offered since the start of the IGR program.

A graduate student at the University of Michigan, while pursuing her doctorate, Ford became involved in an inter-group relations program which has since won several awards. Now, teaching courses in Race & Ethnicity, Gender & Sexuality and Social Justice, Ford brings her experience in IGR to the college.

The IGR program began in 2008 as the result of a sociology course titled "Race and Power" Ford taught. "Students seemed eager to engage in more courses like that," Ford said, "and there weren't a lot of opportunities for dialogue-based learning."

Due to the popularity of the course, Ford said that she was looking to expand the course offerings. "Last semester, we had a wait list of 50 students, and then we stopped counting," she said.

Race and Power serves as the first pre-requisite for students training as facilitators. After completing this course, students may then register for "Racial Identity Theory and Praxis," in which they must earn a B

or higher to be considered as a candidate for facilitating. "Students talk about it as a transformative experience," Ford said. "We're committed to give everybody who wants to be involved the chance."

"I'm a therapist by trade, and this is the safest, most supportive environment I have ever experienced," McCarthy said in relation to the White Racial Identity group, one of the dialogues offered by IGR. "Open yourself up to learning about yourself. How do you learn about whiteness when whiteness is invisible?" McCarthy also teaches "Practicum and Facilitating," a course that facilitators take while involved in a dialogue.

Peer facilitators Josi Orlandella '14, Kali Block-Steele '13 and Regina Ellis '13 spoke about their experiences through IGR courses at the college. "I have less fear of bringing up race outside of the classroom," said Orlandella, "where in the past, I felt I did not have the knowledge or ability to do so."

According to Ford, the main goal for the year is to train more faculty, staff and students to expand the IGR program. There are currently a total of 40 spots available for students for the spring dialogues. The IGR program also offers annual faculty and staff workshops for those who are interested in becoming IGR "coaches."

"It connects to the college's strategic plan of intercultural and global understanding," Ford said.

Ford publishes about the progress of the college's IGR program in academic research journals, which have been used as models for other institutions. She has traveled to other colleges to consult with them about starting their own IGR programs.

#1.2637050:669008378.JPG IGR Photo

Students watch a video of former students and facilitators speaking about their experiences in IGR

Savannah Grier/The Skidmore News



Restaurant Review: Little India

Try a little spice and sizzle off the beaten path

By Tegan O'Neill, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 7, 2011

Although Little India is certainly not the most magical Indian restaurant I've ever been to, it does have its charms. In order to reach its door, you have to walk off the beaten path and into a dreamy part of Saratoga. It looks exactly how you would picture a restaurant called "Little India" to look. The small building nestled on Court Street is emblazoned with the unimaginative yet certainly informative name.

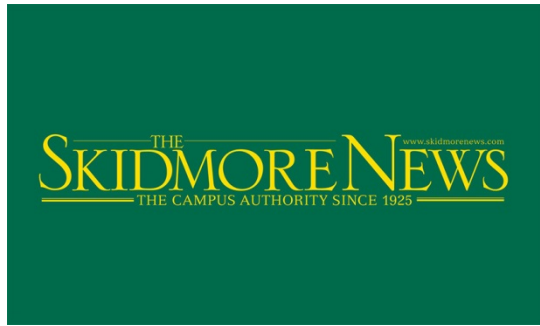
The interior decor is cozy in its gloominess. The dining room's ceiling is spangled with random decorations hanging from the light sockets that make no real sense. The sound level is so quiet that it is practically mute. At the table two away from ours, I could hear the chicken tandoori sizzling on its bed of foil.

As soon as I sit down I think of all the things I would do for a bottomless glass of mango lassi. This yogurt-based drink is mostly dominated by the sweet taste of dairy. It is splashed (not drowned) with the flavor of mango. Little India served their version over ice which was a somewhat unusual approach. It was certainly effective in keeping the drink cold, but the ice made the drink thinner and waterier than one might enjoy.

Placing my order turned into a drawn-out ordeal because I had to ensure a range of ingredients that exhibited a swath of flavors. Our waitress didn't raise an eyebrow as we probed her for advice about what to order from the menu. Upon her recommendation, we decided upon one chicken, one lamb, and one vegetable dish plus two orders of naan. (Obviously, we would have to get naan.) We also ordered a specialty naan just to spice things up a bit.

Our three entrees were served in three little silver pots that did not appear to hold very much. With Indian food, though, looks can be deceiving. The spread looked small, but what was in those pots went a long way when portioned over rice. Looks are also deceiving when it comes to presentation. The entrees all looked fairly similar; they were all portioned into bowls of the same size and their colors were all variations on a theme. The glory of Indian cuisine, however, lies in the spice and the sauce not in the way it has been propped and positioned on the plate.

The naan was so warm that it sizzled in my fingers as I pulled it apart. Its finest attribute certainly was its chewiness. It was fantastic on its own, but it also worked quite well to mop up any remnants of sauce.



The Peshawari Naan (leavened bread stuffed with nuts, raisins, and coconut) was deliciously sweet but slightly disappointing because I couldn't spot any of the advertised nuts or raisins. I did enjoy the generous covering of coconut, though as it paired well with the spices in the rest of the meal. I usually rely heavily on tamarind sauce to offset the spiciness of an Indian meal but sadly, Little India didn't supply our table with any.

Hands down, my favorite of the three entrees was the Chicken Tikka Masala (boneless roasted chicken in a creamed tomato sauce). It boasts a creamy, rich tomato-based sauce that explodes with magnificent flavors. What's not to love? Little India's masala hit the spot.

Granted, the sauce of the Lamb Jalfrezi (lamb cooked with vegetables and Indian spices) was pretty unappealing to the eye. Again, don't be fooled. The taste was actually quite delicate. The dish offered a medley of flavors that I found vaguely reminiscent of Korean food. It was mildly sweet and felt as though it was laced with chili. All things considered, it was unlike most other Indian dishes I have tried.

The Mutter Paneer (flavorful blend of homemade cheese and green peas lightly seasoned with fresh herbs) was neither rich nor spectacularly flavorful like the masala but it was satisfyingly hearty. The eating experience was dominated by the sensation of popping peas. The peas dominated the dish but being frozen peas, their domination was not all too tasty. As for the paneer cheese, it can only be described as looking like and tasting like tofu. Essentially, it lacks its own flavor and thus soaks up the other flavors in the dish.

Dessert at Little India was a laughable proposition. After the meal, I was positively filled to the brim. Then again, I didn't stop eating until I had literally polished every last speck of food off my plate.

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

#1.2638224:2649599025.JPG naan

Looks devceive in Little India, where the most modest of plates keeps you munching past dessert.

Sarah Weitzman/The Skidmore News

#1.2638227:532495328.JPG masala

Sarah Weitzman/The Skidmore News





One month later relief efforts continue

By Elizabeth Hopkins, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 7, 2011

On Sept. 28 and Sept. 29 Skidmore hosted a two-day donation drive for Hurricane Irene flood relief efforts in the surrounding areas. By early Wednesday night many donations were already being made in the lobby of JKB Theatre. The drive was planned for Rosh Hashanah as a way to celebrate the Jewish New Year.

Bernhard Theatre was filled with plastic bags and cardboard boxes sitting in stacks of various sizes and crowded around a whiteboard that read: IRENE FLOOD DONATIONS HERE. Within the bags were various items: foodstuffs, toiletries, cleansers, water and countless other necessities, all waiting to be carted to Cobleskill, a town located one hour and 15 minutes away from the college.

The rabbis leading the service, both from Temple Sinai, are half of the team running this charity, working in partnership with the Giving Circle, an international organization dedicated to providing aid to those in need. In addition, Skidmore Hillel (the Jewish student organization on campus), the Office of Community Service and the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life sponsored the drive.

The small charity is just one of many recent efforts made to counteract the devastation of the flood, which damaged many small towns in upstate New York.

“Cobleskill was one of the worst-hit towns in the area,” said Lollie Abramson, one of the organizers of the drive.

Schoharie County, where Cobleskill is located, was severely damaged by the flood, and many houses and businesses suffered severe water damage. Major roadways that were washed away in the storm are still in need of repair.

In the town of Schoharie, the floodwaters left layers of mud covering everything, from people’s houses to backyards and farms. Fields of corn were destroyed and harvests were too waterlogged to produce profit.

The efforts of local organizations such as the Giving Circle have helped to ameliorate the effects of the hurricane. Even massive corporations such as Dunkin’ Donuts have initiatives to help. The branch in Albany, NY announced on September 20 that it would be collecting charity throughout the region to help the aid efforts through Oct. 2.

The Red Cross has been continually active in helping those in need throughout the area over the past month. In the upstate region alone, 180 people remain homeless even a month after the storm, and the Red Cross continues to support thousands of individuals in need of food and other supplies.

Last week, Proctors Theater of Schenectady hosted a benefit concert, the proceeds of which were sent to the Red Cross to help relief efforts.

Here on campus, the charitable goods will travel to Cobleskill. There, the Schoharie County Committee Action Program will disperse the goods amongst those in need.

Lollie Abramson will still collect donations in room 309 in Case Center for students who are interested in contributing to the relief efforts.

“Anything you can give, whether it be \$5 or a gift card, especially to any grocery stores or places like Home Depot or Lowe’s, would be greatly appreciated,” Abramson said.

Editorial: Big Show-Yom Kippur reflects poorly on effectiveness of community dialogues

By the Editorial Board

On Fri, Oct 7, 2011

Tonight, the SEC's big concert of the year will take place in the Big Gym of the Williamson Sports Center, featuring the "Indie techno fusion band," TV on the Radio. Sundown tonight also marks the beginning of the holiest day on the Jewish calendar, Yom Kippur, a day of atonement wherein those practicing spend the day fasting and reflecting.

By the time the conflict was recognized, rescheduling the concert was impossible. The Student Government Association has formed an ad hoc committee to review event scheduling to prevent such a conflict in the future. However, this does not dispel questions about how this could have occurred.

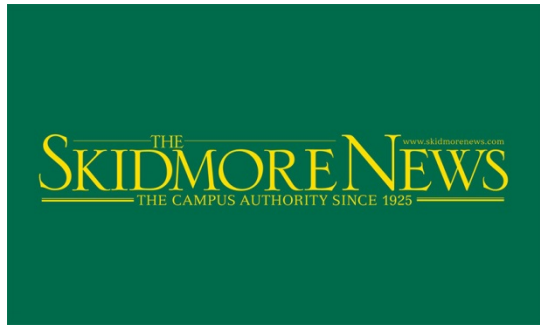
How did it happen? The process of reserving the Sports Center for use began with Megan Buchanan, one of the directors of the facility. She, however, only consults a calendar that shows when the college in session and classes take place in relation to what days the sports center is available for such an event. Although classes are normally cancelled for observance of Yom Kippur, it was not listed this year because it falls on a weekend.

Organizing and setting up for a concert requires more time than just the day of the concert; the process requires several consecutive days. For example, the Oct. 24 was also considered a viable option, but when the request was sent to Interim Director of Leadership Activities Robin Adams he rejected it on the grounds that there were not enough days for preparation.

Essentially, the precedent with events has been to do our best to avoid holiday weekends, said Robin Adams, in an email to The Skidmore News, "but there was no policy prohibiting events. Because the Sports Center is, just that, a sports center for our athletic teams and there are numerous other college events that take place (open houses, etc.) there are precious few opportunities to put on student run events (concerts, dances etc)."

Three possible dates, as determined by Buchanan, then went through Robin Adams to the SEC, who made the final decision.

Orchestrating these huge concerts is enormously complex; that there will be conflicts is generally understood. Nonetheless, in light of the on going dialogue regarding tolerance and minority issues, it

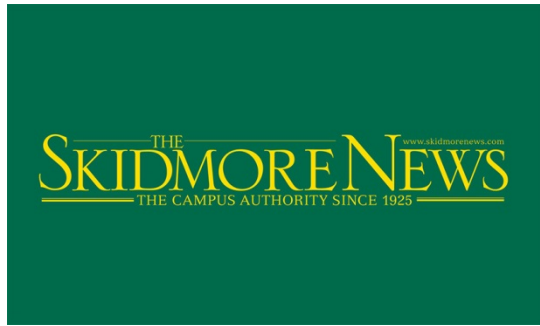


would have been prudent of the college to pay attention to the practices of its Jewish population, particularly on the holiest day of the Jewish calendar.

The scheduling of the event on such a day appeared, to a good portion of the campus, insensitive, regardless of how or why the dates were. Despite the complexities of the scheduling process, it is hardly understandable that Yom Kippur could have been overlooked. Ultimately, someone should have noticed.

However, the issue does not stop as a mere scheduling blunder. It poses a deeper question to our community: does the college practice what it preaches as far as respect for and awareness of diversity? If Yom Kippur were, historically, a holiday not recognized by the college, then this conflict would have been somewhat understandable. But, there is in fact a policy in place that classes would not be held on Yom Kippur were it to fall on a weekday. The college clearly made note of when Yom Kippur would occur when this year's academic calendar was made, yet that attention did not carry over into scheduling further events.

This is particularly an embarrassing gaffe when put into the current context of campus-wide efforts on diversity and inclusion. The college has spent a semester and counting making acceptance and tolerance an ongoing topic of discussion on campus, including a lecture just last week by Dr. Frances Kendall. That the administration has managed, in the midst of these efforts, to marginalize almost a fifth of the college's population, unintentionally or not, we must call the effectiveness of this overarching narrative into question.



String of vandalism hits campus parking lots

Nine cars damaged in side-view mirror theft

By Julia Leef

On Fri, Oct 7, 2011

At 10 a.m., Campus Safety received a report of damage to vehicles parked overnight in Cane Lot, Scribner Village and West Lot. Nine cars were damaged in total, with all the electric driver- and passenger-side-view mirrors removed, including one which suffered from a failed mirror theft.

According to a Campus Safety report, no other damage was done to the mirror housing and no broken glass or pieces of mirror were found, although wires from the electric mirrors were left exposed out of their casing.

"There appears to be no connection to the owners of the cars, only the makes of the cars," said Lawrence Britt, associate director of Campus Safety. Four of the damaged vehicles were manufactured by Honda, two by Hyundai, one by Nissan and one by Volvo.

Campus Safety has contacted local law enforcement agents, as well as those within the county and the state. There have been no similar incidents in recent times.

Students with any information regarding this incident or who witness any suspicious behavior should contact Campus Safety at x. 5566, the TIPS line at 518-580-TIPS(8477) or the Saratoga Springs Police Department at 518-580-1800.

#1.2645135:1230218516.JPG vandalism 1

Wires from the electric mirrors were left exposed out of their casing.

Courtesy of Campus Safety

#1.2645141:4133690229.JPG vandalism 2

Courtesy of Campus Safety





Healthful Hints: College romance

Navigating the highs and lows of the campus dating scene

By Zoe Silver, Columnist

On Sat, Oct 8, 2011

Lust is the air as October graces us with its chilly presence and we become more accustomed to our new schedules and surroundings. Because our level of comfort at Skidmore is growing, some people will have more confidence in the dating arena.

For those of us who are new to college, dating here seems frightening and different from what it was in high school. We now have to navigate sticky situations like how to "sexile" our roommates, balance our workload and relationships and deal with potentially spending a few years in close proximity to an ex. Unlike before, we practically live with our significant others - a characteristic of college life that puts a lot of stress on such relationships and requires strong communication for success.

Moreover, many of us have to consider for the first time the difference between "hooking up" and "dating." Regardless of how much experience we have at Skidmore, this particular aspect of our lives never seems to be easy or flawless. We could all use some healthful hints to aide us in our dating endeavors.

While everything I said above may make college relationships sound frightening and impossible, they are obviously doable and, in many cases, really great. If you are able to be yourself, set boundaries and keep your friends close, you might even "put a ring on it!" When starting something with a significant other, though, it is important to remember that you are at college to learn, meet people and have awesome experiences.

A relationship will hinder your ability to do these things IF you do not openly communicate with your partner and, together, decide on a lifestyle and schedule that works best for both of you. More so, college is a time for exploring who YOU are, and if your relationship is healthy, it can be a great way to help you figure it out.

Some of us enter Skidmore already in a relationship, maybe from back home. Long distance relationships are notoriously difficult to maintain, but once again, totally possible and sometimes great if you put in the hard work that it takes. Remember to clarify your expectations with your significant other before the long-distance starts so that you will both be on the same page about when you can talk, when you can visit, if you are open or exclusive, etc. Also, integrating yourself into the Skidmore

community eases your daily life. By doing so, you create a social network and system of support in case you need a shoulder to lean on.

For those of us who are not dating, there is an entire other culture out there: the "hookup" culture. This is new to some and commonplace to others. Whichever group you fall in, it can be a big part of college life, as I'm sure you've all seen and heard. Like I said above, college is a time for discovering who you are, what you're into and where to go from there. Some people don't want to limit themselves to the confounds of a relationship and, therefore, become involved with others casually instead.

If this is the path you take, all of the advice I stated above still applies. Set boundaries to ease communication between you and your partner so that you are both clear on what your relationship is. Communicate, communicate, communicate. It is so important to know who you are with. This is especially true if you are sexually active. Be safe and ask questions. Don't leave anything up to chance.

And remember that if your relationship or hookup doesn't work out, it's ok to take a while to bounce back and to center yourself. To ease your stress, try spending time with your friends, exercising and maintaining structure in your schedule so that you are kept busy and distracted. Most importantly, continue to believe in yourself. Don't allow this to change how you see yourself and don't put yourself down.

No matter what type of relationship we try out in college, it is highly likely that we will hit some rocky terrain along the drive. But if we keep our heads up and accept that it will take some trials and tribulations to get it right, we can take something positive from every relationship and use it to build our experiences, views of life and views of ourselves. Skidmore is full of interesting people who want to get to know other interesting people. Until next time, stay happy, stay healthy and go mingle!

Daydreams: You don't have to be Jewish

Yom Kippur celebrates values and traditions to which every culture should aspire

By Richard Chrisman, Director of Religious and Spiritual Life

On Sat, Oct 8, 2011

While you were gone for the summer, you undoubtedly had time to reflect about events on campus last year. We on the Skidmore staff certainly did. There were highs to ponder, of course, and hurts.

When you returned, we wanted to address some of those hurts, and so "Everyday Leadership" came about, a training program aimed at empowering students to make appropriate interventions where harmful behavior or hurtful words might present themselves. The 600 students who filled Zankel for the start-up with Duke Fisher and President Glotzbach stayed for the whole day-long experience. That's almost a quarter of the Skidmore student body, so it was a great first step toward changing the climate on campus.

In light of all we had gone through together last year, I had a daydream that what Skidmore could also use was a corporate act of joyous renewal for everybody - students and staff and faculty - maybe something like Yom Kippur, and here it is! For Jews around the world, these holiest days of the year, the Ten Days of Repentance beginning with Rosh Hashanah (last Thursday), are the occasion for a profound spiritual self-examination which culminates in a full day of prayer and fasting a week later called Yom Kippur (Friday and Saturday). In their prayers, they inventory the hurts they have inflicted on others, knowingly or not, and they acknowledge the ways in which they have departed from God. Through repentance and through rectifying matters with any aggrieved persons, relationships are restored and atonement won. I read in the magazine *Tikkun* recently: "Yom Kippur gives us the opportunity to reflect honestly on our lives - to contemplate if we are where we want to be and if not, what we'd like to change. It's an opportunity for a wake-up call without having to go through the kind of catastrophic event that often wakes people up."

How beautiful. And how necessary! The grief of our wrongdoings begs to be put aside, and this annual ritual removes that burden. All cultures recognize this need, and Jewish tradition puts it at the center of community life. Judaism makes the assumptions clear: there is right and there is wrong; wrong will happen; wrongs must be righted. All of which is divinely ordained. We stand before God, and through God's forgiveness, the door to our future is unlocked. Liberation!

We have much to learn from Yom Kippur, and our broad appreciation of forgiveness to thank it for. The message of Yom Kippur, as my Torah commentary puts it, "is not one of national or ethnic loyalty. It

speaks to each human being and seeks to bring each person into harmony with others and with God. Non-Jews might well participate in the worship of the day without feeling alien and without forsaking their own loyalties." Non-Jews in some cases have actually adopted its paradigm, as indeed Christianity did. You don't have to be Jewish to need forgiveness and to ask God for it.

But if we do not have the means of attending Yom Kippur services, or if the level of their discipline daunts us, perhaps we can at least pray with the Jewish community from whatever distance we sit that day. And if we can't exactly pray, we can surely take the occasion to contemplate the respects in which our lives need purification and to do something about it. Wouldn't it be refreshing to be able to do all of this as an entire community - to be able to sit in each other's presence, knowing or just intuiting the ways in which we have let each other down, and saying we want somehow to make amends. What a liberating moment that would be, and how much happier our community might be for it.

I know it's just a daydream. I have them all the time. It's what I do looking out my office window.

Stories I Never Quite Finished, Part 4

By Kevin Kerrane, Columnist

On Sun, Oct 9, 2011

To refresh your memory on the third story I never quite finished, click here.

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.

My last attempt at writing fiction was at the age of 17, when I quit working on a short story entitled *The Old Man, For Whom the Sun Also Rises* or *William Falkner Chews Bubble Gum*.

He walked down the road. The road was dusty. It was hot. He was hot. The humidity was 92.7. A dog ran next to him. He talked to the dog. It is a literary technique.

'Geez,' he said. 'It's hot. It's humid, too. You know that, dog?'

'Damn right,' the dog replied.

'Might cool off later though.'

'You can't tell,' the dog said. 'Can't tell about anything in this rotten world. Sometimes it makes me sick. Sometimes I'd like to write a story about it, or maybe a book, or a play maybe. Geez!'

'Why don't you?'

'I can't. I...'

Criticism

In the last known work of this writer's career, there seems to be a certain amount of reliance on simplicity. In fact, I think it would be very difficult to find a more simple writer. There is notable regression back to the days of the writing of Sir Gawain, and probably even earlier. The author has come full circle, and then gone on a tangent.

I wonder why the dog can't write his book. Maybe he can't write. Maybe he can't spell. Maybe he can't type. Maybe he can write and spell and type, but can't proofread. Maybe he has a neurosis. It makes me pretty sick. Geez!

Lollie Abramson: new coordinator of Jewish student life

By Katherine Cavanaugh, Contributing Writer

On Sun, Oct 9, 2011

Lollie Abramson has just taken up her seat as the new coordinator of Jewish Student Life and Interfaith Programming at Skidmore. Abramson is still in the process of navigating her position, but she hopes "to try to put into place any activity, educational or religious experience that the students want."

The conflict over this year's Big Show falling on Yom Kippur added to the hectic nature of her first couple of months on the job. "The point of Yom Kippur is to re-examine the self and ask for forgiveness," Abramson said. Rather than dwell on the hurt feelings over the date of TV on the Radio's performance, Abramson chooses to see this event as an opportunity for dialogue, and increased understanding and awareness among all different groups on campus.

Abramson is focused on creating and sustaining an environment of mutual respect and tolerance, and she complimented the way that the student body chose to respectfully discuss the issue with the help of Fight Club. "Talking is good, but listening is even better," Abramson said.

Abramson is impressed by Hillel and Shabbat dinners on campus, but she does hope to make changes to Jewish life on campus. Two specific ideas since her arrival include a birthright trip to Israel for Skidmore students and a program for Skidmore students to study abroad in Israel. "The interest is there," said Abramson, "it will take some time." There are budgeting and organization issues at this time, but there are already some ideas in the planning phase.

Before arriving at Skidmore, Abramson worked for 32 years as a public educator for the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities. When she started there in the '70s, there was a great deal of resistance in society to the idea of mainstreaming, or integrating, people with disabilities into the community. Through a variety of education programs, such as skits, puppet shows and presentations for students of all ages, Abramson strove to help people better understand different disabilities and overcome stigma.

Abramson was tempted from retirement by the opportunity to combine her passion for increasing acceptance, her love of her Jewish heritage and the prospect of working in an "invigorating" college environment. Although she loves college students and living near a college town, you aren't likely to run into Abramson at a restaurant in downtown Saratoga Springs. It's not because she doesn't support her local economy (she frequently attends concerts at SPAC), but simply because she's a very good cook.

Abramson's other interests include gardening in the summer, quilt making in the winter and reading all year round. As a resident of Schuylerville and a member of the greater Saratoga community, Abramson appreciates Skidmore's presence. She's attended many lectures on campus and worked part time in admissions. When she used to interview potential Skidmore applicants, Abramson would ask them the names of their three favorite books. "It's come full circle," she said, "I'm asking Skidmore students for book recommendations again."

Abramson is interested in any ideas about enhancing Jewish life on campus, or a book recommendation. "I am here and available," Abramson said. Her office is located in Case 309.

"Celebration of the New" flute and piano concert showcases Artists-in-Residence talents

Jan Vinci and Pola Baytelman combine unique skills to present original works in Zankel

By Olivia Powers, Contributing Writer

On Mon, Oct 10, 2011

On Oct. 2 the college's Senior Artist-in-Residence Jan Vinci and Distinguished Artist-in-Residence Pola Baytelman combined their talent to enliven Ladd Concert Hall of the Arthur Zankel Music Center.

With Vinci on flute and Baytelman on piano the aptly named "Celebration of the New" concert featured six works from a variety of American composers. This concert was the second stop in a three-part series, which the duo is performing at three venues in the Capital Region.

The concert began with a playful piano piece composed by Joseph Fennimore, who attended the show. "An Old Soft Shoe" harkened back to the lively tap dancing of the previous century. One almost expects Fred Astaire to shuffle onto stage, called from the grave by the spirited notes.

The music took an experimental turn as Vinci took the stage in a black evening gown to perform "Crow's Nest," a flute solo composed by professor of music Mark Vinci, who is also her husband. The audience was instructed to imagine a shipmate perched above the water and the view that met his eyes as he looked out over the ocean.

"I asked [him] to write something more upbeat as flute solos are often very somber," said Vinci to the audience.

The concert continued with pieces by Katherine Hoover, Lowell Lieberman, George Crumb and Jennifer Higdon. The performers carried on, demonstrating their expertise by employing extended techniques that enhanced their instruments.

Vinci sang into her flute while she played and Baytelman reached into the piano to pluck at the strings. These skills added to the unique performance.

However, this experimental music style may have been the reason that few Skidmore students were in attendance. The concert was free and open to the public, something of which elder Saratogians took

advantage. While the audience was dominated by the 60 and over crowd, the Skidmore music students in attendance were appreciative of the opportunity to see such acclaimed artists perform.

"As a developing flautist I found the concert inspirational," Filene Scholar Katie Murphy '14 said. "As a contemporary concert, it featured a lot of extended technique, skills that I am learning."

The two musicians showed an undeniable chemistry as they took the stage together and wove the notes of their respective instruments seamlessly into a rich tapestry of sound. The aspiring professional musicians in the audience admired their craft.

"I think that it's excellent that [Skidmore] provides students with the opportunity to see what being a professional musician is like," Filene Scholar Laura Pendleton '14 said. "It opens our eyes to the fact that being a musician is not easy. It takes a lot of practice, perfection and hard work, and we see that through watching [Vinci and Baytelman] perform so elegantly."

The concert concluded with Jennifer Higdon's "Flute Poetic" (2010), which the duo presented the world premiere of last fall. Higdon, a Pulitzer Prize winner, composed the first movement of the three-part sonata specifically for Vinci and Baytelman.

"The concert gave students an opportunity to hear music that they might not have otherwise been familiar with," Murphy said.

The college is attempting to carry this education beyond Sunday's performance. Katherine Hoover, composer of the Medieval Suite performed by Vinci and Baytelman, is scheduled to return to campus to guest teach the college's flute students.

Extra Credit: Bookmarks

The best places to read online

By Siena Tugendrajch, Columnist

On Mon, Oct 10, 2011

In arguably my favorite movie, the 1995 flick "Empire Records," Liv Tyler's character Corey says there are 24 usable hours in a day. As a sophomore, though most of my time is spent in class, writing papers, studying, pursuing extracurricular activities, eating and sleeping, I like that idea.

Despite these commitments, I usually end up with some extra time for myself. You may be wondering how I achieve this feat, or, like most of my friends, you may want to hit me. Know that with a few alterations to your daily routine, you, too, can find yourself with some time on your hands.

The first step is to always think of the big picture. Plan ahead and learn to love your syllabi! Invest in a planner and make a few To-Do lists. Then, once you find out how great it feels to check things off these lists, figure out where and how you do your best work. I personally read novels in my window seat, drag my laptop to the third floor of the library for analytical papers and make tactful excuses (i.e. I'm late for a fictional Sanskrit class) to avoid working with people who will distract me. Follow these recommendations and soon you may find yourself with some hours to spare.

Now that you have some of this elusive, mystical free time, how should you use it? This week, I say read! I often worry that we young people, specifically stressed out college students, stop appreciating the joy and satisfaction that comes with reading for pleasure. Luckily for us, the magical interweb has made reading (like so much else) incredibly easy. There are countless websites dedicated to contemporary short fiction, poetry, essays and more. Don't be overwhelmed just yet. I can help.

For original short fiction, I love fiftytwostories.com. This lovely website showcases a new story each week and encourages its readers to submit their own work. What a wonderful concept. I also recently stumbled upon corpse.com, the website for The Exquisite Corpse, a self-proclaimed journal for letters and life. The Exquisite Corpse, although badly organized and not as aesthetically appealing as Fifty-Two Stories, has some of the most unique and compelling writing I've seen in a long time. There are also tons of literary journals online, of which I will recommend rkvry.com. Why R-K-V-R-Y? Because the website is brilliantly constructed and has well written work. Hard to beat.

I also dabble in non-fiction, though I should warn you that 98 percent of what I read comes from New York-based publications. The New Yorker, at newyorker.com, rarely disappoints me. Granted you need a

subscription to view certain articles, but somehow I can always find something interesting, from the politics of attending college, to the psychology of Facebook, to current movie reviews.

I will also admit that I'm somewhat obsessed with New York Magazine, available at nymag.com. New York puts its entire magazine on the web, which is why I was able to read a six-page feature on Zooey Deschanel and also find out that, at long last, my subway station is getting cell phone service! If you need to ease in to this whole reading for pleasure thing, start with New York's hilarious and informative Approval Matrix, an illustrative weekly guide to everything it prints ranging from despicable to brilliant.

My least academic suggestion is Rookie, found at rookiemag.com, a magazine that caters to teenage girls. I stumbled upon this gem while figuring out how best to become Aubrey Plaza, who was interviewed by a 15-year-old from this online publication. Other Rookie highlights include a "Mean Girls"-inspired playlist and a guide that teaches you to transform your life into a coming-of-age movie.

This semester, as we all work hard like the good college students we are, I hope you'll join me in making room for the rest of life and taking advantage of the time we're able to set aside. Future topics will include volunteer work, creative ways to work out in your dorm room, my obsession with Tumblr, Skidmore events, spelunking and more. That's all for now.

Siena Tugendrajch is a Sophomore working on a double major in Psychology and English.

Men's soccer battles to 0-0 tie at Vassar

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 10, 2011

POUGHKEEPSIE-- The Skidmore College men's soccer team and Vassar played to a 0-0 tie in Sunday afternoon's Liberty League matchup.

With the draw, the Thoroughbreds are now 5-7-1 over and 1-3-1 in the league, while the Brewers are 7-3-2 overall and 2-1-1 in league play.

In the 110th minute, Vassar had a long throw in and the game's final shot, but neither of the attempts converted into goals and the game ended in a tie. With 15 seconds remaining, forward Logan Matheney launched a long ball into the box that bounced around until it was cleared away just before the buzzer.

The Brewers were aggressive from the outset, and nearly scored in the 9th minute when Matheney headed the ball just high off a sharp cross from defender Jake Rabin. Vassar maintained steady pressure throughout the half, and held an 11-3 shot advantage as well as a 5-1 corner kick edge going into the second half.

The Brewers carried their aggressive offense into the second half, and racked up nine shots to Skidmore's five, as well as four corner kicks. However, Skidmore nearly found the game winner in the 90th minute as forward Gildas Girimana '14 went one-on-one with a Vassar defender and fired a shot to the upper right corner that Vassar keeper Ryan Grimme knocked away to send the game into overtime.

The Brewers nearly broke the stalemate when, with just seven minutes remaining in the second period of overtime, midfielder Rob Manukyan blasted a left-footed shot just wide of the post from six yards out.

Grimme made two saves for Vassar, while Skidmore keeper Nick Peterson '12 made five saves.

The Thoroughbreds are at Oneonta at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 12.

Thoroughbreds clinch playoff berth with 2-0 win at St. Lawrence

By Skidmore Athletics
On Mon, Oct 10, 2011

CANTON-- The Skidmore College field hockey remained perfect in Liberty League play with Saturday afternoon's 2-0 win over St. Lawrence.

The 5th-ranked Thoroughbreds improve to 4-0 in league play and 10-1 overall, clinching a spot in the Liberty League Tournament. They have now won 18 straight against Liberty League opponents. The Saints fall to 1-2 in league and 7-5 overall.

The Thoroughbreds controlled the majority of the offense throughout the game, but especially in the first half where the visitors outshot St. Lawrence 15-2. Only 1:16 into the first half, Skidmore took a 1-0 lead on Kelly Blackhurst's '14 13th goal of the year. Annie Rosencrans '12 centered the ball in front of St. Lawrence goalie Nicole Matos where Blackhurst was able to slap the ball into the cage for an early lead.

Skidmore would strike again at 18:46 on a pretty goal by Ceilidh MacNeill '13 to give the visitors a 2-0 lead. Sam Skott '15 sent a pass in front to MacNeill, who re-directed the ball beautifully past Matos for her fifth goal of the campaign to cap the game's scoring.

St. Lawrence would have several quality chances in the second half, including a pair of penalty corners, but were unable to solve Skidmore goalie Haley McDougall '15. Matos made several excellent stops to keep her team in the game, but St. Lawrence would eventually fall by the 2-0 margin. Matos closed with 14 saves in the game, while McDougall made four stops. Skidmore held a 22-7 advantage in shots and a 12-3 advantage in penalty corners. The Thoroughbreds host Utica on at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 12.

Skidmore shuts out Bard 2-0

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 10, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS-- The Skidmore College women's soccer team moved closer to a Liberty League playoff berth with a 2-0 win over Bard College, Sunday afternoon at Wachenheim Field.

With two league games to play, the Thoroughbreds are 4-2 in conference and 9-3 overall. Bard drops to 0-4 and 3-9.

Skidmore pressured the Bard defense from the start, Morgan Governale '15 getting the Thoroughbreds on the board with her first collegiate goal at 28:21. Michelle Finan '13 worked her way down the right side, crossing to Sarah LaBella '13 who one-timed it to Governale who headed it past Raptor goalie Amy Strawbridge.

Skidmore made it 2-0 when Elena Stansky '12 scored her team-high fourth goal of the season at 76:52. She fired home a rebound off of Kelsey Yam's '13 shot that went off the cross bar.

The Thoroughbred defense stymied the Raptors. Bard's first shot came when Kim Larie took a free kick from 20 yards out in the 65th minute that Gab Lawrence '14 made a routine save on. It was the only save Lawrence needed to make for her second and the team's eighth shutout of the season.

Skidmore had a 25-2 shot advantage, with Strawbridge making eight saves for Bard.

Skidmore will host Middlebury College at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 12.

Skidmore shuts out Vassar, 1-0

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 10, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS-- The Skidmore College women's soccer team picked up a 1-0 Liberty League victory over Vassar, Saturday afternoon at Wachenheim Field.

The Thoroughbreds improve to 8-3 overall and 3-2 in league play, while the Brewers fall to 6-5-1 overall and 1-2-1 in league.

Neither team was able to get on the board in the first half, with Skidmore holding a 10-3 advantage in shots. The Thoroughbreds best scoring opportunity came in the 40th minute when Ali Evans '12 was able to corral Lauren Madden's '12 shot off the post, but had back to back shots turned away by Vassar goalie Lily Lanier.

Skidmore controlled the tempo in the second half and was able to break the scoreless tie in the 48th minute on Kelsey Yam's '13 third goal of the season. Christine Bellotti '14 sent a perfect cross from the wing that Yam headed past Lanier for the game's lone goal.

Meghan Sleezer '12 made two saves to record her sixth shutout of the season, while Lanier finished with eight saves on nine shots.

The Thoroughbreds outshot Vassar 8-0 in the second half and 18-3 for the game. Skidmore also held a slight 3-1 advantage in corners.

Golfers 10th after Golfweek first round

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 10, 2011

SANDESTIN, Fl—The Skidmore College golf team got off to a slow start in the Golfweek Division III Fall Invitational being played at the par-71 Raven Golf Club at Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort.

The Thoroughbreds shot an opening round 307, 17-strokes off leader Guilford College. The 54-hole event features 18 of the nation's top NCAA Division III schools.

Texas Tyler is second with 291, five ahead of third place Rhodes College. Illinois Wesleyan (298) and St. John Fisher College (297) round out the top five.

Guilford's Noah Ratner is the early leader with a five-under 66.

Anthony Dillisio was Skidmore's first-round leader with a three-over 74, one stroke ahead of Garrett Colgan '13. Zack Grossman '15 (77), Scott '14 (81) and John McCarthy '13 (87) round out the Thoroughbred scoring.

Solid weekend for Thoroughbred volleyball

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 10, 2011

SCHENECTADY-- The Skidmore College volleyball team completed a perfect 4-0 weekend with a pair of easy wins at the Union College Interleague Tournament.

Skidmore College volleyball coach Hilda Arrechea picked-up career wins 399 and 400 Friday night at the Interleague Invitational at Union College.

Arrechea has compiled an impressive 400-200 record over 17 seasons at Skidmore. Among active NCAA Division III coaches, she ranks No. 25 in wins and No. 42 in winning percentage.

After a 2-0 Friday, the Thoroughbreds won the tournament championship with a 3-0 (27-25, 25-23, 25-21) win over Oneonta and a 3-1 (25-10, 25-27, 25-15, 25-8) win over Kean.

Against Oneonta, Carolyn Bottelier '13 had a double/double with 12 kills and 10 digs. Kelley Versbow '12 had 18 kills and Kylie Deutschman '15 had three service aces and seven digs.

Bottelier had another double/double in the Kean win with 15 kills and 12 digs. Vershbo added 17 kills and nine digs, while Mallory Mendelsohn '13 had 42 assists.

Skidmore (15-7) is at Middlebury tomorrow, Oct. 11 for a 7 p.m. match.

EAC plans events for Fall 2011 semester

Events involve guest speakers from Green Umbrella and local elections

By Ani Lordkipanidze, Contributing Writer

On Tue, Oct 11, 2011

The Environmental Action Club (EAC) is planning a series of events for the upcoming semester, several of which focus on the current issue of hydrofracking.

Four hundred people are on the mailing list of the club and about 30-40 people generally attend the weekly meetings. The first part of the meetings is devoted to announcements from the clubs leaders and audience members about upcoming events.

After announcements, club members split into four groups to discuss issues concerning real food, transportation motilities, group energy resources and waste products. Discussions involve different projects and solutions to various problems regarding them.

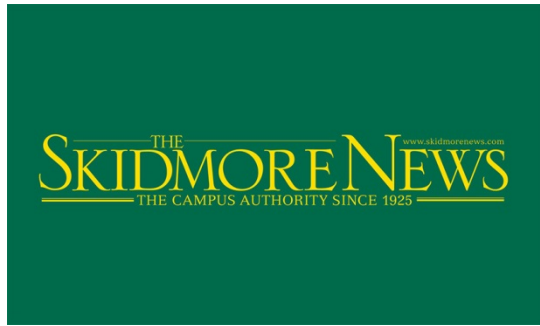
Discussion then moved to the several upcoming events sponsored by the EAC that will take place this semester.

Michelle Madigan, running for Saratoga Springs commissioner of finance in the local elections, will be coming to the EAC meeting next Monday, Oct. 17 to discuss hydrofracking, a drilling process that threatens to contaminate drinking water, public health and habitats.

Green Umbrella is a network of New York youth activists, which aims to create social change by focusing on economical, social and environmental inequalities. The current issue at hand is hydrofracking, which will be discussed at the convergence with the college on Oct. 22.

Finally, on Friday, Nov. 14, the EAC is putting the student garden to bed and cleaning it up until the spring semester.

EAC meets every Monday at 9 p.m. in Ladd 207 to discuss events and issues concerning its involvement on campus.



Local 291 Union strikes outside of Skidmore College

Workers protest wages and benefits

By Andrew Shi, Contributing Writer

On Tue, Oct 11, 2011

On Tuesday, Oct. 11, Carpenter Union members from the Local 291 Union picketed the Broadway entrance into the college for a second time.

The union was first seen protesting from approximately 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 22 in the same place. The purpose of this demonstration was to publicize grievances the Local 291 has with Niatrust Drywall Inc., the private corporation contracted to renovate North Woods and to construct housing in Scribner Village.

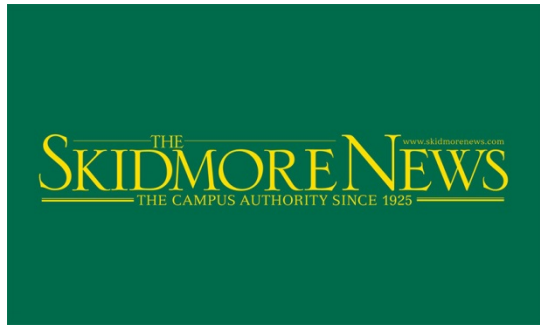
The benefits Local 291 claims Niatrust is denying its workers include health benefits and pensions, which comes to an average of \$15.84 per hour. In addition, Niatrust isn't paying the standard wage (\$27.22 per hour) as standardized by the union, picketers say. The New York Department of Labor maintains this wage as standard, but only has the authority to enforce it in public projects.

Todd Banks, representative of Local 291 and leader of the picketing effort, said because Niatrust is a non-area standards contractor, meaning it is not bound to standards embodied by Local 291, it is not only undermining the union's work but is also depriving its employees of benefits and appropriate salaries.

A spokeswoman for Niatrust defends the company.

While she concedes that Niatrust pays less than the standard wage, she says the company does provide its workers with benefits. In addition, unlike union workers, she said, employees of Niatrust are at least kept busy and are able to provide for their families. She labels the union's defamation as "propaganda," and claims the union is only "interested in its own coffers."

While Banks said "the carpenters are fighting to maintain and improve the standard of living for all trades people whether or not they are affiliated with a union," the Niatrust spokeswoman believes they are only interested in ascertaining new members and protecting projects they think should be contracted to them, not non-area standards contractors. With a poor economy the union is becoming exacerbated as the members need to pay taxes, she said.



On April 5, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, the national governing body for all Union carpenters and locals, decided to merge the Empire State Regional Council of Carpenters and the New Jersey Regional Council of Carpenters into the current entity known as the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters. As a result, Albany Local 370 and Plattsburgh Local 1042 combined to form Local 291.

This merge upset several of its members who left the union as a result.

One of these members is Richard Dorrough, who has created a new local union, Carpenters Independent Local One, to compete with Local 291. Dorrough claims that Local 291 holds corrupt and undemocratic practices and is responsible for the mismanagement of funds that led to its losses in the Madoff scandal.

Banks, however, assures that his union is solely focused on protecting and improving the rights and standards of living for all carpenters. He says that Dorrough has no factual evidence to back up his claims, and that he has been known to resort to violence when challenged. "He makes a lot of claims and backs them up with nothing but heresy," he said.

Banks also recognizes that Niatrust is a private company, but disagrees with its noncompliance with the New York Department of Labor's standards. As he justifies it, "same work, same pay."

As of now there has been no compromise or resolution between Niatrust Drywall Inc. and the Local 291 Union. As for further information picketing, Banks said "they do plan additional action at Skidmore as well as various sites where Niatrust and other non-area standards contractors are doing work." No specific dates were given for these events.

#1.2642927:3702923115.JPG Carpenter's Strike1

Local 291 Union workers protest outside of the Broadway entrance of the college

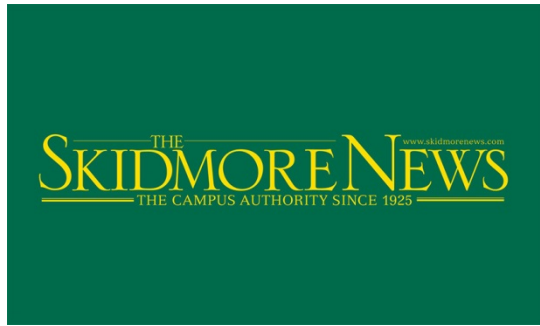
Savannah Grier/The Skidmore News

#1.2642934:2601936315.JPG Carpenter's Strike2

Worker signs claim Niatrust does not pay standard wages and benefits

Savannah Grier/The Skidmore News





Skidmore Democrats host Meet-the-Candidates night for Democrats running in local elections

Students and Saratoga community meet with candidates to discuss local issues

By Michael DuPré, Contributing Writer

On Wed, Oct 12, 2011

Six Democrats running for various positions in New York introduced themselves to students on Tuesday night to share their platforms and connect with the student body.

About 20 Skidmore students and Saratoga Springs residents attended the meeting.

John Silvestri, running for the supreme Court of New York's Fourth Judicial District, touted his 30 years of litigation experience in the Fourth District. If elected, he will strive to be an impartial justice who grants all constituents equal standing before their government.

Brent Wilkes, a candidate running for mayor of Saratoga Springs, spoke to audience members about his life working in public administration. If elected, he promises to make the city's government more transparent and to negotiate new contracts with the police and firefighters unions.

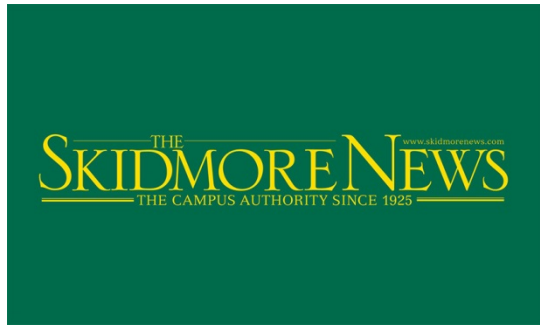
When asked about considering a citywide ban on hydrofracking, Wilkes said he had concerns about the practice and had yet to see evidence of any positive aspects of it.

Wilkes also stressed the need to consider all forms of transportation when new road construction occurs, and insisted that he is committed to sustainability, as part of the Cool Cities Initiative.

Chris Mathiesen is vying for public safety commissioner on the Saratoga Springs City Council and expressed his desire to keep Saratoga Springs a vibrant and safe community. One of his biggest tenets involves moving the last call in Saratoga Springs drinking establishments from 4 a.m. to 3 a.m.

Mathiesen said he believes Downtown Saratoga Springs becomes dangerous in the early morning, and making the last call earlier would reduce the cost of policing the area. He also supports defraying the policing costs by raising revenue from bars that choose to stay open late.

Michele Madigan, who is running for commissioner of finance, pledged a commitment to an accurate budget. If elected, she promises to properly manage the city's budget and to reduce the number of line transfers in the budget and create a three-to five-year budget plan.



Joanne Yepsen is running for re-election for her fourth term as the Saratoga County supervisor. She thanked students for their collaboration with sustainability groups and encouraged them to vote for all of the Democratic candidates present at the meeting.

Students responded positively to the efforts candidates made to address issues important to the student body. "I think that it is important that the candidates acknowledge that Skidmore is part of Saratoga Springs," Roz Freeman '12 said. "I appreciated Joanne Yepsen's openness and how much she clearly wanted to work with Skidmore students."

Emma Kurs '12 was also appreciative of the chance to hear the candidates' personal stories and plans. "I like that some of the candidates proposed holding office hours and informal conversations with constituents, and generally increasing transparency in the governing process. It was great to meet the candidates in person and hear directly from them because there is not much information online," Kurs said.

"It can be difficult at times to interest students in local politics," said Bryn Schockmel '12, president of Skidmore Democrats, "so it was really nice to have so many students come, and ask the political candidates important questions about the environment and other issues."

Students who are registered to vote in Saratoga Springs can participate in the next general election on Tuesday, Nov. 8. Registered voters will be able to vote at the Case Center polling from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Registrations must be completed by this Friday, Oct. 14, in order to vote this November. Vote registration booths can be found in the Atrium.

#1.2645376:247337830.JPG Brent Wilkes

Brent Wilkes, running for mayor of Saratoga Springs

Lily Reinhold/The Skidmore News

#1.2645378:963625439.JPG Chris Mathiesen

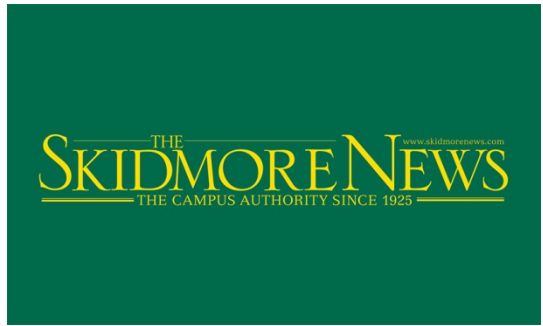
Chris Mathiesen, running for public safety commissioner on the Saratoga Springs City Council

Lily Reinhold/The Skidmore News

#1.2645380:370835670.JPG Joanne Yepsen

Joanne Yepsen, running for re-election for Saratoga County supervisor

Lily Reinhold/The Skidmore News



#1.2645385:3940173900.JPG John Silvestri

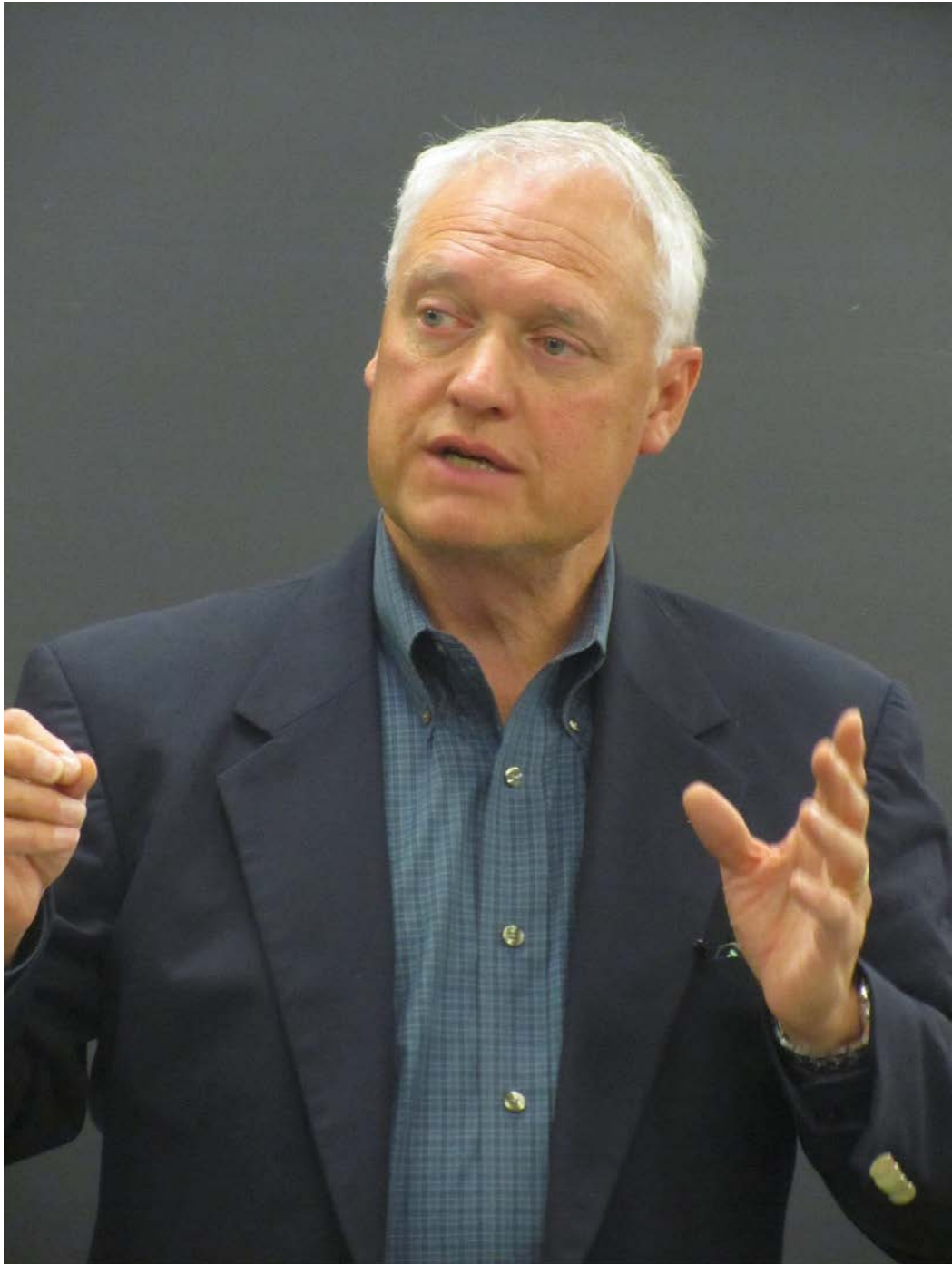
John Silvestri, running for supreme Court of New York's Fourth Judicial District

Lily Reinhold/The Skidmore News

#1.2645389:2753356967.JPG Michele Madigan

Michele Madigan, running for commissioner of finance for the Saratoga Springs City Council

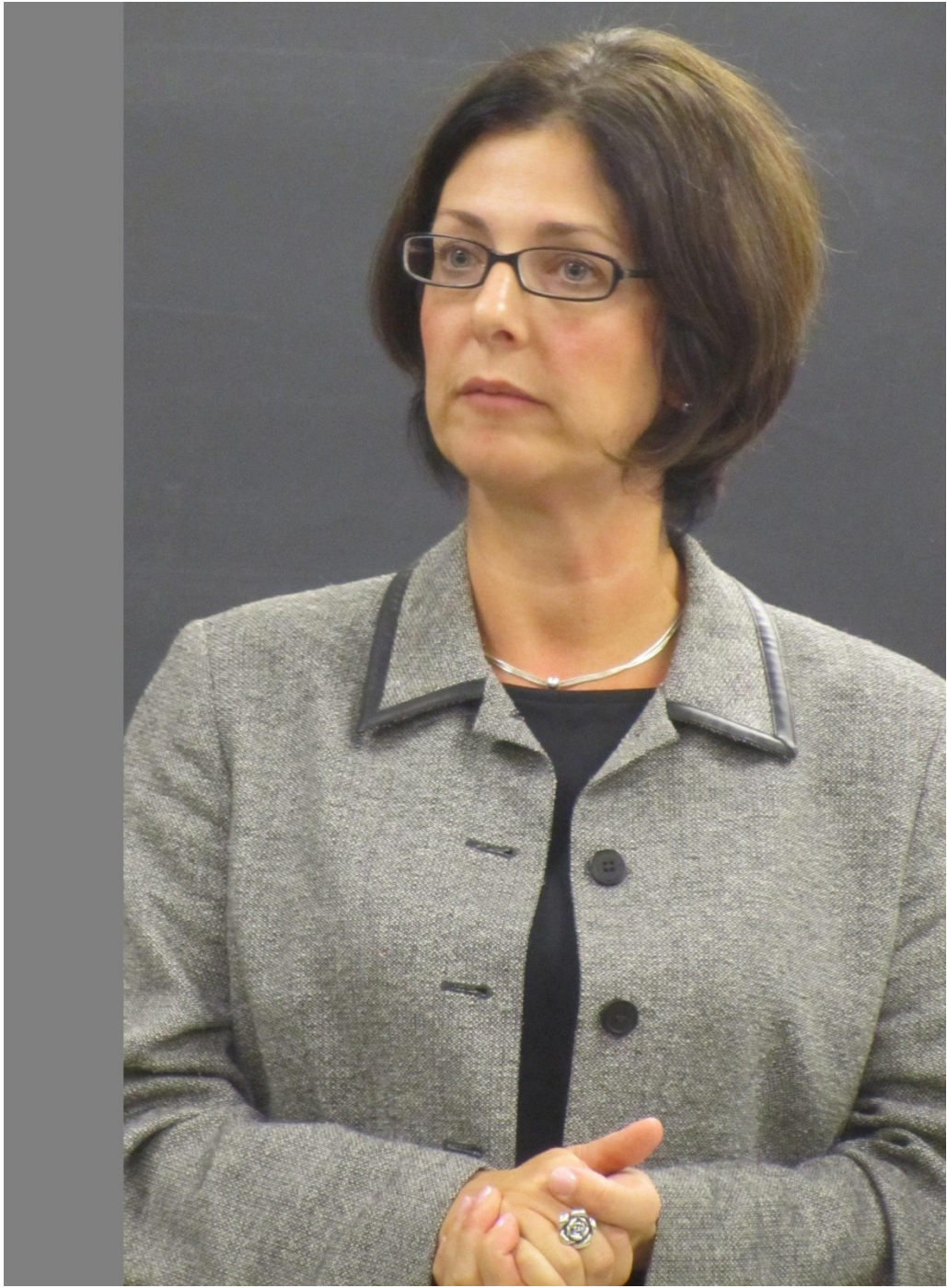
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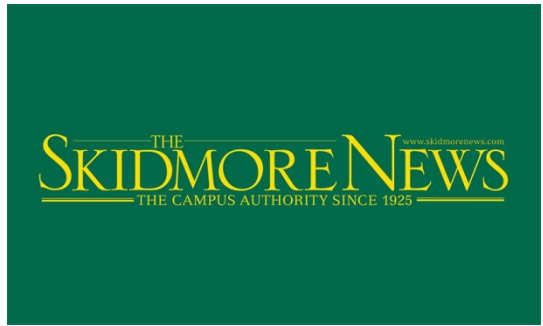












Comic: Paper-free paper

By Wyatt Erchak, Cartoonist

On Wed, Oct 12, 2011

Skidmore finishes 11th in Golfweek Invitational

By Skidmore Athletics

On Thu, Oct 13, 2011

Despite Anthony Dillisio's '13 final round 67, the Skidmore College golf team finished 11th in the Golfweek Division III Fall Invitational being played at the par-71 Raven Golf Club at Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort.

Sandestin, F.I.- Despite Anthony Dillisio's '13 final round 67, the Skidmore College golf team finished 11th in the Golfweek Division III Fall Invitational being played at the par-71 Raven Golf Club at Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort.

The Thoroughbreds shot 307-308-295--910. Guilford led from start-to-finish, winning with 290-296-288--874. The tournament featured 18 of the nation's top NCAA Division III schools.

Texas Tyler (291-304-288-883) and Illinois Wesleyan (298-297-288--883) tied for second. Oglethorpe (303-305-278--886) and Rhodes College (296-313-292--901) round out the top five.

Guilford's Noah Ratner also lead the entire way, shooting a 9-under-par 66-69-69--204. Dillisio moved to fifth with his final-round 67, finishing 3-over with 74-75-67-216. He had seven birdies, including two on par-threes.

Anthony continues to improve and impress, Skidmore coach Josh Cupp said. " He treaded water the first couple days and scored adequately in adverse conditions. When the conditions improved he seized the opportunity and went low. A top-5 finish in an event this strong is quite an accomplishment."

Also for the Thoroughbreds, Zack Grossman '15 (77-79-77--233 tied for 53rd. Garrett Colgan '13 (75-81-78-234) tied for 56th. John McCarthy '13 (87-74-74-235) tied for 60th and Scott Pinder '14 (81-80-77-238) tied for 69th.

The Big Show: TV On The Radio impresses students and Saratogians alike

Brooklyn band's art rock brings crowd to their feet

By Dale Obbie, Staff Writer

On Thu, Oct 13, 2011

Starting the first weekend of October on a high note, Brooklyn-based art rock band TV on The Radio performed one of the most well attended Big Shows of the past few years at the College. Austra, a dance rock band from Canada, opened the much-anticipated show in the Sports Center's big gym.

The opportunity cost of the act was beyond the check Student Government Association wrote for the Student Entertainment Committee, the club responsible for organizing the show, because there will be no Big Show spring semester. Ticket prices for Skidmore students were \$8 and \$25 for non-Skidmore students.

Despite the higher price, students were not the only members of the audience. There seemed to be just as many Saratoga residents dancing, clapping and singing along.

One of the highlights of the night was "Golden Age," for which Kyp Malone stepped up to sing the playful staccato lyrics. Lead singer Tunde Adebimpe joined Malone during the choruses in uplifting harmonies, and both of them smiled as they sang about "the joy resounding." When they sang "clap your hands if you think you're in the right place," the crowd's immediate response made it clear that they were right where they belonged.

As a pleasant surprise, the band played an energetic cover of Fugazi's "Waiting Room," showing the band members' love for punk rock. The crowd seemed to share the love. People thrashed around, and at one point, several began crowd surfing.

Another highlight was the closer "Wolf Like Me," one of the band's most well known songs. Adebimpe paced back and forth on the stage and let loose howling vocals, while David Sitek's thin guitar tone echoed his tormented singing.

As soon as the song ended, the crowd burst into applause and began chanting for "one more song." Not long after, the band returned to the stage - smiling and gracious - and played a final two songs, ending the night with the spacey "Satellite."

#1.2647781:1937393857.JPG TVOTR

Lily Reinhold/The Skidmore News

#1.2647783:168183668.JPG TVOTR2

Lily Reinhold/The Skidmore News





Middlebury wins non-conference volleyball showdown

By Skidmore Athletics

On Thu, Oct 13, 2011

MIDDLEBURY, Vt. - The Skidmore College volleyball team lost a 3-0 (25-12, 25-18, 25-22) match to Middlebury College, Tuesday night.

The loss drops the Thoroughbreds to 15-8, while the Panthers improve to 11-5.

Mallory Mendelsohn '13 registered a double/double for the Thoroughbreds with 20 assists and 10 digs. She also had two service aces. Kelley Vershbow '12 had eight kills and six digs and Elise Finnerty '14 added five kills and four blocks (one solo).

Skidmore returns to Liberty League action at 7:30 p.m. on Friday when the team travels to RIT to take on Bard.

"The Trip," the summer's hidden gem, will soon be on DVD

British comedy delights despite absence of plot and drama

By Eli Cohen, Columnist

On Thu, Oct 13, 2011

"The Trip," a hilarious quasi-documentary film starring British comics Steve Coogan and Rob Brydon, is witty and endearing.

In light of the summer film season - a season dominated by the likes of Michael Bay and Ryan Reynolds - "The Trip," a hilarious, quasi-documentary film starring British comics Steve Coogan (from "The Other Guys," "Tropic Thunder") and Rob Brydon, best known to American audiences as the traffic warden in "Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels," received meager attention.

However, that's not to say it was not well received. The comedic styles of the two actors are perfectly in sync, both with each other and with director Michael Winterbottom. This chemistry likely resulted from the trio's working together in the similarly hilarious "Tristram Shandy: A Cock and Bull Story."

"The Trip" follows two comedians as they tour the finest restaurants of England. Initially meant as a get-away trip for Coogan and his girlfriend, Coogan is forced to invite Brydon when his romantic relationship fails. The two men share a like-despise relationship. Coogan chases after women and flaunts his success, while the less well-regarded Brydon spends the trip doing impressions and pissing Coogan the hell off. And yet, for every socially inappropriate, over the top Michael Caine, Al Pacino or Bond villain impression that Brydon does (brilliantly), Coogan feels the need to one-up him, or at least match him.

The insecurities of Coogan's character (a vastly exaggerated view of himself) shine through constantly. This is especially true when Brydon is recognized at a small hotel and Coogan, most egregiously, is not.

And of course, when the trip is over, Brydon goes back to his loving family, while Coogan is left to listlessly float around his impressively large city flat in what turns out to be a surprisingly gentle and touching ending.

The Trip is to posh British food what "Sideways" was to California wine snobs. Like Paul Giamatti and Thomas Haden Church, it soon becomes clear that neither Coogan nor Brydon has any idea what they're talking about when it comes to food. The most astute observation made about the cuisine is that the tomato soup is, in fact, quite tomato-y. But the actors seem to care about the food they're eating about as much as they care about the audience (which does not exist). Instead, the real focus of the film is on celebrity, success, friendship and, of course, how to pull off the perfect Michael Caine impression.

Adapted from a six-part BBC miniseries, "The Trip" does not have the action and excitement of American summer movies. It has no drama or suspense (except the occasional possibility of Coogan actually murdering his companion), and very little plot of which to speak. Yet, it is the perfect hidden gem of the summer. The performances are spot on: witty and profound, annoying and endearing. And, of course, the impressions are fantastic, as is the competition to see who can sound the most like a Bond villain while simultaneously sipping Cognac. This is a must-see movie - a true delight in a season of recycled storylines and plot-replacing visual effects.

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IFC Films



Students and parents gather for Celebration Weekend

The Office of Alumni Affairs & College Events sponsors events for the weekend

By Julia Leef

On Thu, Oct 13, 2011

As students and parents gather together for the upcoming weekend, they will have the opportunity to attend a variety of programs sponsored by the Office of Alumni Affairs & College Events that make up the annual Celebration Weekend, which takes place from Oct. 14 to 16.

Families will be able to see the college's facilities through events, open houses, interactions with the administration, performances at the Arthur Zankel Music Center and the SGA Club Fair.

"This is our opportunity to really showcase the great things at Skidmore that don't necessarily show every weekend," said Megan Mercier, associate director of Alumni Affairs & College Events, who will be in charge of Celebration Weekend for her fourth year. "It's a great way to engage parents in the life of the college."

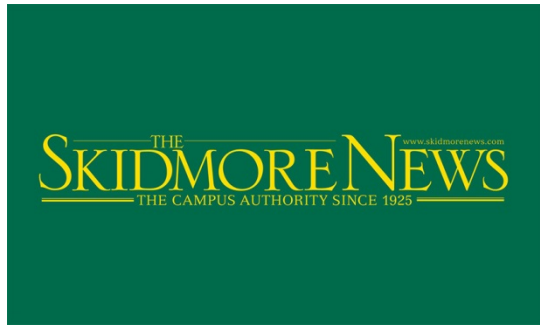
Mercier said planning for Celebration Weekend begins in January with making reservations for space on campus to host events. In April, initial callouts are sent to faculty members for participation in MiniCollege, a program that allows families to attend lectures featuring a variety of professors and topics.

These lectures include "Your Brain Is Not a Computer and Your Mind Isn't Computation" with Flip Phillips, director of the neuroscience program and professor of psychology, and "The Beatles 'I Feel Fine'" with Gordon Thompson, professor of music, and are available from Friday to Saturday.

"We have found over the years that people really enjoy our schedule," said Mercier, citing feedback surveys from families in attendance from previous years.

From April until August, the Office of Alumni Affairs & College Events finalizes the details for Celebration Weekend, working with various facilities to set up events. One such facility is the Williamson Sports Center, which will host "Under the Big Top," an event that allows student performers to showcase their talents, which will take place on Saturday. Advanced reservations are strongly recommended.

Mercier said the Office of Alumni Affairs & College Events tries to make as much use of the college's resources as possible in order to control costs. "We do our best to use our resources carefully to showcase what the college is about," she said.



The Office of Alumni Affairs & College Events advertises for Celebration Weekend all year long. It informs parents and students about the many events of the weekend through announcements in Scope Monthly, an online news publication, "Save-the-Date" cards sent to parents of the incoming first-year class, handouts given to families at registration and other media outlets, such as Facebook and Twitter.

"It's a real pleasure to work on this weekend," Mercier said. "It is nice to see it all come together, and it's a wonderful time to show off the best of the college."

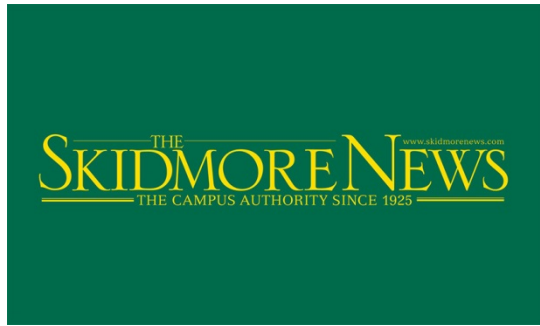
A full schedule for Celebration Weekend, with information on events, facilities and a campus map key can be found [here](http://cms.skidmore.edu/celebrationweekend/loader.cfm?url=/commonspot/security/getfile.cfm&pageID=769977). Tickets for events may be picked up at the Welcome Desk on the second floor of Case Center.

#1.2647824:2227323767.jpg Celebration Weekend photo

The changing of the leaves marks the arrival of parents for Celebration Weekend

Public Domain





Career Services sponsors third Career Jam this Friday

Programs give students the opportunity to learn more about careers and networking

By Julia Leef

On Thu, Oct 13, 2011

This week, Career Services has hosted a variety of programs for students concerning jobs and graduate schools, culminating in Career Jam, an event that allows students to connect with parents and alumni who work a wide variety of careers.

The College played host to many visiting graduate schools, including Fordham University of Education, Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University and Albany Law School. These schools have had booths set up in Case Center, where students may speak with them and learn more information about their programs.

There were also two information sessions on Oct. 5 and 6 concerning the job-shadowing program, which students must apply for by Oct. 28.

On Oct. 14, students will have the opportunity to speak to volunteers from many different industries, allowing them to make connections and learn more about their fields of interest. An informational meeting on how best to capitalize on this networking event, "How to Get the Most Out of Career Jam," took place on Oct. 13.

The event is a collaboration between the Parents Council, the Alumni Association and Career Services, said Deborah Loffredo, director of Career Services. "We reach out to recruit volunteers who are parents, alumni and friends of the College to come network with the students so that they can learn about careers within a diverse set of industries."

Participants in Career Jam come from a wide variety of fields, including the military, advertising, the performing arts, business entrepreneurship, psychology, medicine and cell biology.

Students will be provided with short volunteer bios, suggested questions to ask and networking tips. Volunteers are encouraged to promote job openings and shadowing opportunities, and to aid students in their career pursuits.

Loffredo suggests that students follow-up with the volunteers with whom they speak, and to keep in touch in case a position opens up sometime in the future. For other opportunities outside of Career Jam,

she suggests visiting Career Services for counseling and checking out its website for a list of upcoming events and opportunities, including a Living the Liberal Arts workshop at 6 p.m. Oct. 17.

Career Services encourages all students of all years to start networking at an early stage. "It's never too early to start thinking about internships," Loffredo said.

Career Jam will take place from 3 to 5 p.m. Oct. 14 on the second floor of the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall. Students are advised to dress professionally.

#1.2649419:3951810398.JPG Career Jam Group Shot

Students gather at Career Jam to meet volunteers from various professions

Savannah Grier/The Skidmore News

#1.2649433:3541135589.JPG Career Jam Alumnus Photo

Aviva Ariel '10, now working in the field of psychology as a counselor

Savannah Grier/The Skidmore News

#1.2649442:95000755.JPG Career Jam Seniors

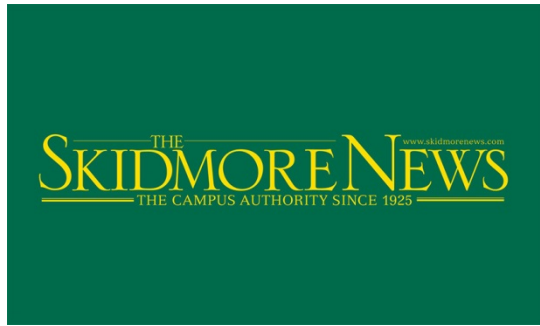
Seniors Nick Eng (left) and Max Drascher (right) at Career Jam

Savannah Grier/The Skidmore News









SGA Senate holds elections, discusses Scribner Library renovations

By Ani Lordkipanidze
On Thu, Oct 13, 2011

The SGA Senate had the Willingness-to-Serve elections this week. Students ran for positions on the Speakers Bureau, Club Affairs Committee, Committee on Academic Standing, Class of 2012 Secretary, Class of 2015 Secretary, Integrity Board, Skidmore Shop Advisory Committee and Committee on Academic Freedom and Rights.

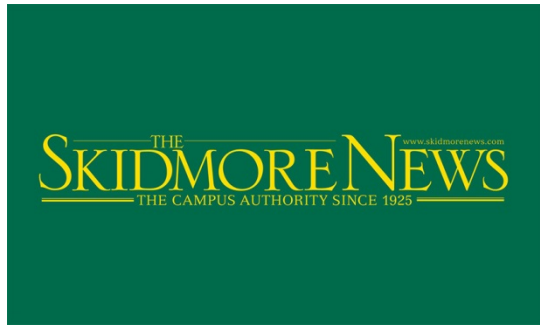
Every candidate came to the stage and delivered a brief speech, followed by questions from the audience.

Next followed a conversation with Justin Sipher, chief technology officer, and librarians and architects, who talked about the ongoing renovations to the Lucy Scribner Library. According to them, the changes made in the library were based on students' wishes, such as the café, which was recently incorporated into library.

The changes in the library include additional study rooms, works stations, recording rooms and power outlets. Study rooms will operate on a reserve mechanism, so that students may reserve a study room in advance to guarantee a place to study.

Members of several clubs, who are seeking funds from SGA to sponsor their activities, also presented at the meeting.

Senate meets from 8 to 11 p.m. every Thursday in Ladd Hall 307.



Middlebury holds off Skidmore 1-0

By Skidmore Athletics

On Thu, Oct 13, 2011

SARATOGAS SPRINGS- An early goal was all Middlebury College needed in a hard fought 1-0 win over Skidmore College, Wednesday night at Wachenheim Field.

The Thoroughbreds are 9-4, while the Panthers snap a two-game losing streak to go to 7-3-1.

Skidmore came out strong with two shots on goal in the first five minutes, but the Panthers settled down and created their own chances. In the ninth minute, Middlebury's Scarlett Kirk rifled a shot toward an empty net for her team's first scoring opportunity, but Skidmore defender Caty Sheridan '15 quickly moved in to clear the ball off the line.

The Panthers kept the pressure on, getting on the board first at 19:11 when Amy Schlueter fired home a rebound from two yards out. The play started with a Devin Perkins header that Thoroughbred goalie Megan Sleezer '12 knocked down right to a waiting Schlueter.

The second half featured end-to-end play with both teams creating chances, but unable to finish.

Skidmore held a 15-11 edge in shots, while Middlebury had a 5-1 corner advantage.

Sleezer had five saves for the Thoroughbreds. Jocelyn Remmer and Elizabeth Foody combined for the shutout with Remmert stopping five shots in the first half and Foody making two saves in the second.

Skidmore is at Utica College at 1 p.m. on Sunday

No. 5 Skidmore downs Utica, 3-1

By Skidmore Athletics

On Thu, Oct 13, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS- The 5th-ranked Skidmore College field hockey team won its 25th consecutive home game, defeating Utica 3-1 on Wednesday afternoon.

The Thoroughbreds improve to 11-1, while the Pioneers fall to 8-5.

Annie Rosencrans '12 got the scoring started for Skidmore, taking a pass from Caylyn Sullivan '12 on the wing and sending it home at the 7:13 mark. The Thoroughbreds controlled the game offensively through most of the first half but at the 31-minute mark, Utica's Mallory Mariano lifted a shot that appeared to be going in before Hilary Cranston '13 made a defensive save on the goal line to help take a 1-0 lead into the half.

Skidmore made it 2-0 at the 40:29 mark on Kelly Blackhurst's '14 14th goal of the season. Sullivan sent a pass to Blackhurst in the circle that she corralled and beat Utica goalie Monica Storms. Sam Skott '15 pushed the lead to three goals at the 52:36 mark, redirecting a shot from Rosencrans for her fourth goal of the season.

Louise Steele-Norton was able to get the Pioneers on the board late in the second half, deflecting home a pass from Rebecca Corsones, but that would cap the game scoring, giving the Thoroughbreds the 3-1 victory.

Haley McDougall '15 finished with two saves to pick up her 10th win of the season, while Storms finished with six stops for Utica.

Skidmore outshot the pioneers 21-4 and held a 14-4 advantage in penalty corners.

The Thoroughbreds host Wheaton at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 16.

Skidmore drops 2-1 OT decision to Oneonta

By Skidmore Athletics

On Thu, Oct 13, 2011

ONEONTA- Oneonta scored 50 seconds into the second overtime for a 2-1 non-league men's soccer win over Skidmore College, Wednesday, Oct. 12.

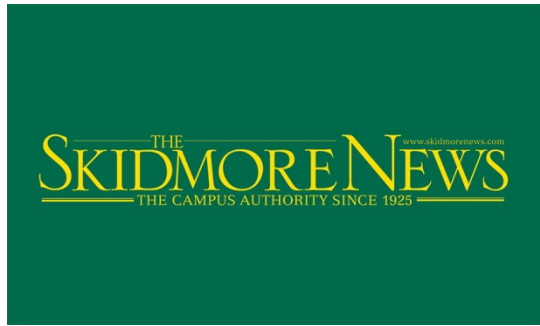
The loss leaves the Thoroughbreds at 5-8-1. The Red Dragons are 9-2-2.

Oneonta scored first when Nicolas Lange converted a penalty kick at 62:25. Skidmore tied it at 83:02 when Diegeo Reinerio '12 connected from 30-yards out.

Nicholas Gregg got the winner on a header off a corner at 100:50.

Nick Peterson '12 had four saves in net for the Thoroughbreds, including two in the overtime. Oneonta had a lopsided 19-5 shot advantage, but only managed five shots on goal.

Skidmore is home at 2 p.m. on Sunday against Utica College



Hitler, Stalin, Mussolini... Oh my!

Professor Flagg Taylor discusses new book on totalitarianism

By Kelsey Nichols, Staff Writer

On Sun, Oct 16, 2011

Flagg Taylor's new book, "The Great Lie," is a selection of 36 essays that address the power and scope of totalitarianism, a phenomenon that dominated the 20th century.

The volume aims to make the writings of these notable political authors more accessible and manageable. The work is a hefty piece of reading at around 600 pages and is arranged in six different subsections to help its readers grasp the complex political, philosophical and moral dilemmas detailed in the book.

One of Professor Taylor's favorite sections is titled "Seduction." It emphasizes the allure of the utopia that attracted so many followers. Taylor feels it can be difficult for a generation that did not experience the propaganda of totalitarianism to understand this allure. The most prominent leaders of totalitarian regimes are names that will not soon be forgotten - Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin to name a few. Each leader found multitudes of followers who were seduced by the promise of a better world.

Taylor has always been interested in political science, but it wasn't until he wrote his dissertation about 10 years ago that he found himself overwhelmed by the works of 20th century political dissidents such as Aleksander Solzhenitsyn and Vaclav Havel. In 2005, Taylor had the opportunity to teach a summer class called "Dissident Political Thought," which has since become a regular course offering at Skidmore. After teaching this class, Taylor recognized the need for the creation of a neat compilation of some of the best and brightest authors on this subject.

Taylor's dedication to creating the compilation was prompted by his desire for present and future generations to remember the power of totalitarianism.

"Most of the authors that I collect in the book are either dead or getting old," Taylor said. "We, especially in America, have no direct connection to the experience of what it was like to live under those regimes... [therefore] each generation has to take it upon themselves to learn about political evil and the temptation of ideologies."

Taylor hopes that information about the citizens under these past regimes can prevent the totalitarian temptation from taking hold again. "Evil does not come knocking at the door promising evil. It is attractive and promises good," Taylor said.

Taylor and former Government Professor Carl Scott are currently working on another book of essays that touches on these themes about the award winning German film, "The Lives of Others," a film about life in East Germany under Communism in the 1980s.

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Flaggtaylor

Courtesy of the Intercollegiate Studies Institute



THE GREAT LIE

Classic and Recent Appraisals
of Ideology and Totalitarianism

F. FLAGG TAYLOR IV

EDITOR

EAC composting initiative in Northwoods

Environmental Action Club lessens food waste in student apartments

By Andrew Shi, Contributing Writer

On Mon, Oct 17, 2011

In the spring semester of 2011, Talia Arnow '13, chairwoman of the Environmental Action Club's (EAC) Compost Subcommittee, created the compost initiative, which is now active in the Northwoods apartments.

A food waste audit Murray-Aikins Dining Hall last semester to determine how much food the college wastes on a weekly basis. The results came out to nearly half a ton of wasted food per day in pre- and post-consumer food, totaling 6986.50 pounds in one week. The Compost Subcommittee has now moved the initiative to Northwoods, and hopes to eventually expand the system to the rest of the college.

"The residential composting initiative has been very successful and has met [EAC] expectations," Campus Sustainability Coordinator Riley Neugebauer said.

At the beginning of the semester, each apartment is given one white two-gallon pail, and a pamphlet explaining what can be composted. During the week, residents are expected to put scraps of uneaten food into the bucket and then, when the bucket is full, dump the waste into a larger grey bucket situated outside each building near the laundry room.

Every Friday afternoon, EAC volunteers take these grey buckets to a large, four-part compost bin in Scribner Village. There, the compost is converted through several steps into the fertilizer used for the Student Garden.

The original cost of the compost initiative, Neugebauer said, was approximately \$2,200-2,300. These funds were allocated mostly for the purchase of the large compost bin, the smaller buckets, lids, shovels and other tools. However, composting now "costs nothing to maintain per month because it is being handled [by] volunteers in EAC," Neugebauer said.

As to how much the compost initiative has saved the college, "it is not likely to be saving a lot of money currently, if any, because it isn't affecting the number of times that Springer Waster [the company hired to remove the college's waste] has to haul waste offsite from campus as of now," Neugebauer said. The amount of waste composted by Northwoods is, in respect to the total amount of waste by the college, too small to financially benefit it, although not insignificant.

Neugebauer said the current initiative is partially experimental, and, depending on any issues that arise, the project may be expanded to Scribner Housing and further. Neugebauer said that the EAC members will most likely "consider expansion once we are confident that there are enough people to handle the workload, and decide whether another bin is needed to handle the additional waste."

Neugebauer says current Northwoods resident participation in the compost initiative is at 17 percent. She adds that most residents were satisfied and excited about the initiative. Annie Wu '12, a Northwoods resident, agrees with this consensus. "I like the idea of it, but there is a concern that it attracts and breeds flies."

Lids for the buckets were included this semester to help ward off the flies, but this still seems to be an issue that the EAC will have to deal with.

This project is an important step in creating a more environmentally geared and conscious campus, Neugebauer said. "The more we can tie conceptual information from the classroom to real-world projects, the more accessible, practical and possible sustainability will be." Arnow said that she supports all the information provided by Neugebauer, adding that she believes the initiative has been a great success for EAC and volunteers.

Neugebauer said that "it is necessary to look at the larger scope of waste and how we can reduce the waste stream in multiple ways... which in total has the potential to reduce costs and reduce emissions and be more sustainable." The compost system is only one method employed to reduce waste. Students are encouraged to lessen waste in the dining hall, in their apartments and dorms, and to be environmentally mindful every day.

#1.2651179:2512428522.JPG Compost Photo

Student place food waste in white, two-gallon pails before emptying them into larger containers.

Savannah Grier/The Skidmore News



Daydreams: Have we forgotten?

We cannot let domestic crises overshadow awareness of our foreign wars

By Richard Chrisman, Director of Religious and Spiritual Life

On Mon, Oct 17, 2011

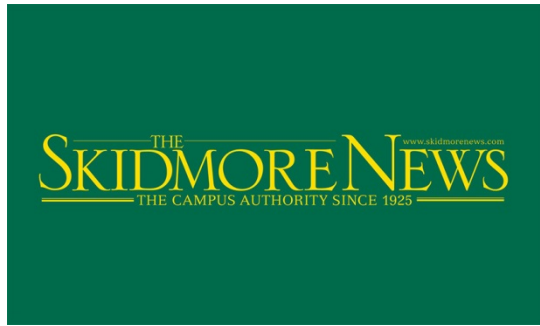
"Houston, we have a problem." Everybody knows that line. Two-thirds of the way to the moon the three-man crew of Apollo 13 experienced a mission-ending explosion in one of the lunar module oxygen tanks. Their craft had already entered the moon's gravitational field, so turning around at that point was impossible. They certainly did have a problem. How would they ever get home again safely?

I bring up this event because it seems like the U.S. hadn't been in a pickle like that since then, until the Afghanistan war. We went in. Disasters struck. Now the mission can't be attained but, being two-thirds of the way there, we can't turn back. If our troops are to return safely, it's going to take some very ingenious maneuvering.

The analogy is far from perfect because our present situation is already an advanced tragedy. Vastly more than a small space crew has been mortally involved, and vastly more money. Not to mention the fate of another entire nation and its people, particularly the women who are vulnerable to reprisal. But the analogy makes the point well enough. We might as well be almost 200,000 miles from home. And since the original goal is clearly unattainable according to all professional and popular accounts, people across the country unhelpfully call for some kind of strategy that goes both forward and back.

The geniuses at the Houston Space Center devised a strategy for escape using simple physics and 1st generation computers - plus immense personal fortitude on the part of the crew and support personnel. I don't think that's in the cards for America now. For one thing, the disasters in Afghanistan have translated themselves to the homeland where explosions have ripped apart Wall Street and Main Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. This time our decision-making centers have been disabled - that didn't happen in Houston.

Let's not spend any time debating the merits of the war policy and how we got into it. Worthy or not, the war effort is nevertheless the root of our financial crises today. What we need is a national consciousness and effort that is the "moral equivalent of war." When William James coined this phrase, he was inciting us to challenge the universally accepted assumption that "War is, in short, a permanent human obligation." Do we just want to cave in to this assumption? If we do, war will remain our default position for lack of a voluble critique. So where is the critique? Where are the voices calling out, "By the



bowels of Christ, bethink yourselves that ye might be WRONG?" That was Oliver Cromwell's plea when Charles I was about to be beheaded in 1649.

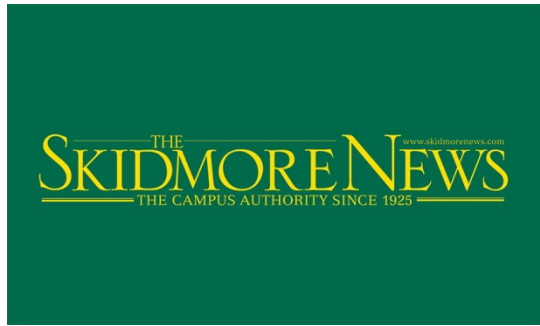
Let's inventory the voices questioning war. Notice that the subject has not come up once in the Republican presidential candidates' four debates (nor did it in the 2010 elections). Notice that there is no discussion about it in Congress or at the White House. And, apart from Ralph Nader, Ron Paul, Dennis Kucinich and a few signs at the Occupy Wall Street protest saying, "Stop the War," the silence is deafening. The religious communities are silent on this as well. But, you know, it is pretty silent around campus, too. Most people think there is nothing to discuss and leave it to our proxies on MSNBC, CNN and FOX News to do what talking there is. How uncharacteristic of the academy that will study and talk about almost anything!

Shouldn't we be worried that, as we go from one crisis to another, the country might completely forget we are running a war this week? It's like leaving the house and forgetting to put the screen over the fireplace!

I once learned from Thomas Hardy that, "If a way to the better there be, it requires a full look at the worst." We need an on-going, spiritual acknowledgement of the very reality faced by Apollo 13 - they had enough consumables (electricity, power, oxygen) for two men for two days, but they were three men who had to go four days with their lives on the line. Would they get back at all? Will our troops? Will they be coming back to the same country they left? They will only do so if the costs of war become present to our spirits, by some emotional or symbolic means, through art, or dialogue or (even) prayer.

What commitment can we a Skidmore make to keep this subject before us, lest we forget that death is ordered every day in our name while we sift through the the playlists on our iPods?

Richard Chrisman is the Director of Religious and Spiritual Life on campus. He enjoys looking out at Skidmore through his office window.



Thoroughbreds cruise past Wheaton, 6-1

By Skidmore Athletics
On Mon, Oct 17, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - Eight different players recorded a point as No. 5 Skidmore defeated Wheaton, 6-1 in Sunday's non-league field hockey matchup at Thoroughbred Field.

The Thoroughbreds improve to 12-1, extending their home winning streak to 26 games, while the Lyons fall to 7-7.

Just over five minutes in, Ceilidh MacNeill '13 got the scoring started with her sixth goal of the season. MacNeill redirected a shot from the top of the circle by Annie Rosencrans '12 to make it 1-0. At the 24:40 mark, Skidmore made it 2-0 with another redirection, this time by Kelly Blackhurst '14 with the assist to Molly Gile '13. The Thoroughbreds made it 3-0 with 25 seconds remaining in the half on Blackhurst's second goal of the game. Rosencrans sent a perfect leading pass to Blackhurst, who was able to sneak it past Wheaton goalie Ellie Massengill.

Skidmore remained in control in the second half as Rosencrans pushed the lead to four, scoring on a corner for her ninth tally of the season. Lauren Tobias '12 and Hilary Cranston '13 assisted on the goal. At the 51:10 mark, Blackhurst sent a lift in to the circle that Sam Skott '15 was able to control and score on to make it 5-0. Tobias capped off Skidmore's scoring at the 61:22 mark, when she redirected Alison Frey's '12 pass from outside the circle for her 10th goal of the season.

The Lyons were able to get on the board late, Emily Asack sent a shot on goal that was saved by Haley McDougall '15, but Carmela Luzi got the rebound and put it in to avoid the shutout.

McDougall made two saves in 64:54 of action and Amy Beck '15 finished the game in goal for Skidmore, not facing a shot over the final 5:06. Massengill finished with 14 saves for Wheaton.

The Thoroughbreds outshot the Lyons, 27-5 and held a 12-3 advantage in penalty corners.

Skidmore resumes league play on Oct. 21 at Union.

#1.2651595:1687947764.JPG field hockey pic blackhurst

Kelly Blackhurst drives the ball forward

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News



Women's soccer wins big at Utica, 5-0

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 17, 2011

UTICA - The Skidmore College women's soccer team rolled past Utica to a 5-0 win, Sunday afternoon at Charles A. Gaetano Stadium.

The Thoroughbreds improve to 10-4, while the Pioneers fall to 3-10.

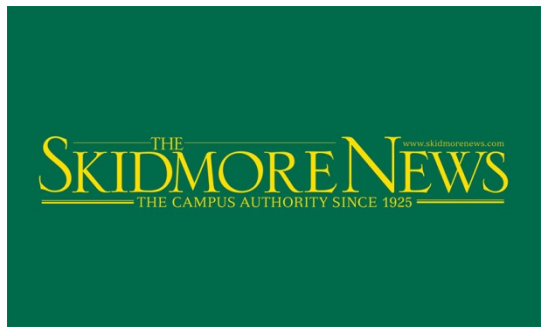
Skidmore was in control from the start as Kelsey Yam '13 put home a rebound in the eighth minute for an early 1-0 lead. Abby Benton '12 made it a two goal lead in the 16th minute, scoring off a rebound for her second goal of the season.

With a 2-0 lead at half, the Thoroughbreds came out just as strong in the second half, putting up three goals in the period. Sarah LaBella '13 took a pass from Christine Bellotti '14 and chipped it in from 20 yards out in the 69th minute. At the 71:00 mark, Katie Rasche '12 put home her first collegiate goal with an assist from Elena Stansky '12 and Yam capped off the scoring with her second goal of the game, putting home a pass from Michelle Finan '13 in the 86th minute.

Meghan Sleezer '12 earned the win, facing no shots in the first half, while Gab Lawrence '14 played the second half and made four saves. Samantha Glockling finished with 12 saves for Utica.

Skidmore held a 27-4 advantage in shots.

The Thoroughbreds are at Clarkson on Oct. 22.



Skidmore falls 1-0 to Utica

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 17, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - The Skidmore College men's soccer team dropped a 1-0 non-league contest to Utica College, Sunday at Wachenheim Field.

The Thoroughbreds are 5-9-1, while the Pioneers move to 7-5.

The game's lone goal came in the second half when Utica's Jonathon Peterson sent a cross from the right side to the head of Jeffrey Cupka who connected for his second goal of the year at 70:31.

Skidmore had a narrow 12-10 shot advantage. There were only four corner kicks in the game, with each team taking two.

Anthony Caruso had four saves in goal for the shutout. Nick Peterson '12 had four saves for the Thoroughbreds.

Skidmore returns to league action on Wednesday night at 7 p.m. with a home match against Rensselaer.

Thoroughbreds go 3-0 at RIT

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 17, 2011

ROCHESTER - After a 3-0 win over Bard on Friday, the Skidmore College volleyball team posted a pair of 3-1 wins over Vassar and RIT on Saturday to go 3-0 in Liberty League play this weekend at Clark Gymnasium.

The Thoroughbreds improve to 6-3 in league play and 18-8 overall.

In the win over Bard, Corrine Palmer '14 had 10 kills, while Mallory Mendelsohn '13 and Emma Wilberg '14 each finished with 12 assists. Wilberg came into the game at a critical point and gave the Thoroughbreds the extra spark they needed.

Against Vassar, Carolyn Bottelier '13 had a double-double with 10 kills and 14 digs. Kelley Vershbow '12 added a match-high 16 kills and Sam Friedman finished with 15 digs.

After dropping the first set against RIT, Skidmore rallied to win the next three and finish the weekend a perfect 3-0. Mendelsohn recorded a double-double with 36 assists and 11 digs. Bottelier finished with 21 digs, while Vershbow finished with 13 kills and Palmer had 10.

The Thoroughbreds return to action on Oct. 21 against RIT at Union.

Skidmore claims five of nine NY State tennis titles

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 17, 2011

ROCHESTER/MOBILE A.I - The final count was Skidmore five and the rest of the state four as the Thoroughbreds won five of a possible nine NY State Division III Women's Tennis titles on Sunday at the Mendon Racquet Club.

The amazing part of the dominating performance was that two of the team's top players were in Alabama competing in the USTA ITA national championships.

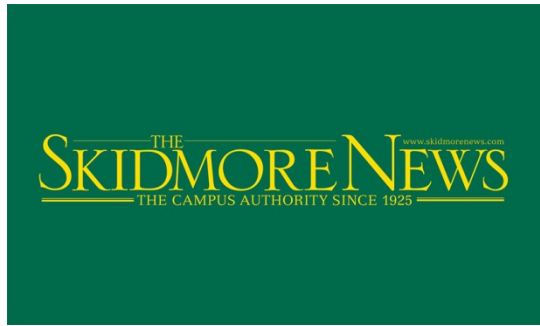
The Skidmore College doubles team of Nataly Mendoza '13 and Lee Ford '14 finished fourth at the USTA ITA National Small College Championships at the Copeland-Cox Tennis Center in Mobile.

In the New York State tournament, Skidmore had players in all six singles finals. Winning were Tory Engros '12 at No. 2, Alex Smith '15 at No. 5 and Zoe Valella '15 at No. 6.

Engros beat Elkie Vandenbeemt of St. Lawrence 6-0, 6-0. Smith won in three over Anisha Kurien of Vassar 6-4, 3-6, 10-4 and Valella beat Megan Moore of NYU 6-1, 6-0.

The number two doubles team of Robyn Baird '14 and Smith won 8-2 over Lindsay Kantor and Hannah Van Demark of Vassar, while Melissa Hirsch '14 and Yumi Karlshoei '15 beat Melanie Horn and Kurien of Vassar 8-6.

Hirsch lost to Maitevera Antelo of RIT 4-6, 6-2, 10-4 in the number one singles championship match. Baird was unable to complete her number three singles championship match and Molly Nolan '14 lost to Lindsay Kantor of Vassar 6-2, 6-2 in the fourth singles championship.



Opinion: Liberating Skidmore

SGA's unilateral endorsement of Occupy Wall Street brings home our lack of intellectual diversity

By Michael Kraines, Columnist

On Tue, Oct 18, 2011

In an [email](https://docs.google.com/document/pub?id=1p5HldW8MFyhxmCYZ4U15xhUZGsP40SkKS3FYf4o8Fg8&pli=1)

<https://docs.google.com/document/pub?id=1p5HldW8MFyhxmCYZ4U15xhUZGsP40SkKS3FYf4o8Fg8&pli=1>

sent last Wednesday night titled "Occupy Skidmore" in bold green and yellow letters, student body President Jonathan Zeidan invited all students to participate in a "passive protest" to be held in Case Center the next day, in coordination with the Occupy Wall Street movement and nearly a hundred schools across the country. The protest has not yet taken place and according to Student Government representatives will be rescheduled for a date in the near future.

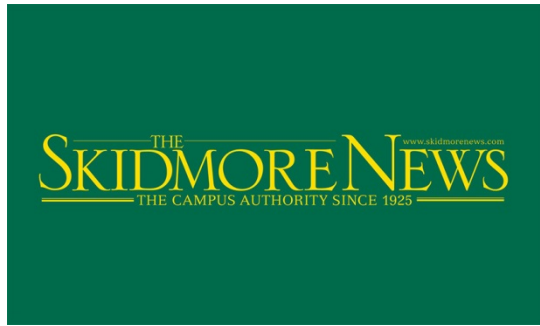
This endorsement of the so-called Occupy Wall Street movement by Student Government betrays a lack of intellectual diversity that is endemic to our college campus.

At first glance, the ideas behind this protest appear reasonable and universally appealing: across the nation the recession has left students swimming in a pool of debt and has mired our futures in uncertainty. Surely all of us want to close the achievement gap in education. But beneath the veneer of our common concerns the Student Government has endorsed and aligned itself with a movement that is ideologically progressive.

In a [recent piece](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/can-occupy-wall-street-give-liberals-a-lift/2011/10/11/glQA8GyCgL_story.html)

in the Washington Post, George Will summarized some of the demands posted in Occupy Wall Street's name. These include "guaranteed living wage income regardless of employment," a \$20-an-hour minimum wage, ending the fossil fuel economy, and among other ideas, opening the borders so "anyone can travel anywhere to work and live."

Representing as it does all of the student body, and not merely those who endorse the movement, the Student Government should not have aligned itself with the Wall Street protests nor provided materials for picket signs with money that is funded by the college.



If we discuss these initiatives on their own terms, the titles "Occupy Wall Street" or "Occupy Skidmore" suggest ending deliberation about the issues and imposing ideas on the entire community. Why must ideas be imposed? Why must the call for change amount to an occupation? Such intolerance is characteristic of protests generally and antithetical to the notion of diversity that is dear to Skidmore and critical to attaining a genuine liberal education.

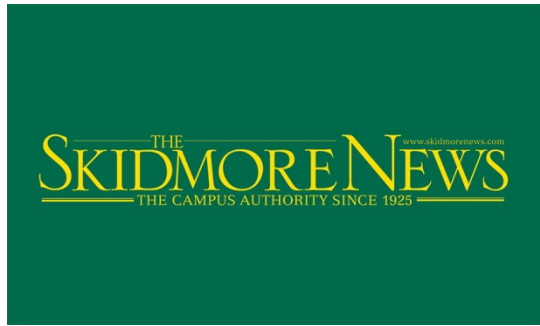
Thankfully, the protest intends to be "passive" and students have been told not to miss class to participate. President Zeidan cautiously reminds us that "this will not be a protest against Skidmore but rather a movement for a better future."

But what is unsettling about the Student Government's endorsement and extension of the Wall Street protests, suffused as they are with political ideology, is its implicit assumption that we all agree on what is good for us or on what is "better for our future."

I suspect that this article will come as a surprise to our student reps who undoubtedly have the best intentions. But their silence about the specific demands of the protest is curious. Either they are [unaware](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wrPGoPFRUdc&feature=channel_video_title) of the politics motivating the Wall Street protests or are under the impression that the students all agree on the desired policy changes and therefore need not speak of them. The latter possibility would cast doubt on the existence of genuinely diverse opinions on campus. Diversity emerges, after all, not from a consensus regarding our afflictions but from our differing antidotes.

The email speaks to those who wish to "make their voices heard." Here is another indication that the protestors are not interested in debating the issues but are merely "making a statement." In the *Politics*, Aristotle argues that our uniquely human capacity for speech allows us to reason about the good and the bad - the just and the unjust - and distinguishes us from animals that can only voice pain and pleasure. Awareness of this distinction between speech and noise is what is missing from the Occupy Skidmore initiative.

If indeed we are most fully human when engaged in rational deliberation about politics as Aristotle says we are, then we ought to seriously engage one another rather than simply "make our voices heard" under the assumption that we alone know what it is best. This will be the beginning of moral and political seriousness.



Rough finish for Thoroughbred golfers

By Skidmore Athletics

On Tue, Oct 18, 2011

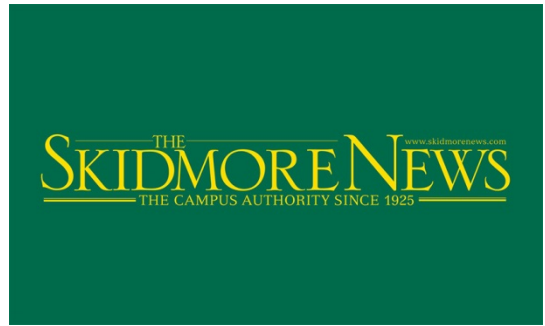
CROTON-ON-HUDSON - The Skidmore College golf team ended the fall season with a disappointing fourth place finish in the six-team M Manhattanville/NYU Fall Classic, held on Sunday, Oct. 16 and Monday, Oct. 17 at the challenging Hudson National Golf Club.

The No. 17 ranked Thoroughbreds shot rounds of 321-319-640 to finish 18 strokes behind winner Manhattanville College (314-308-622). Middlebury was second with 319-312-631, followed by Farmingdale in third with 324-315-639. NYU was fifth (338-321-659) and Stevens sixth (349-346-695).

Manhattanville's William Tischler was first with 72-79-151. Scott Pinder '14 was the top Skidmore player, tying for sixth with 79-79-158. Anthony Dilisio '13 (85-76-161) and John McCarthy '13 (82-79-161) tied for 11th. Zach Grossman '15 (76-86-162) was one stroke back in 16th. Garrett Colgan '13 (84-85-171) tied for 24th.

Skidmore will resume play in the spring, working toward a 26th straight NCAA Division III tournament bid.

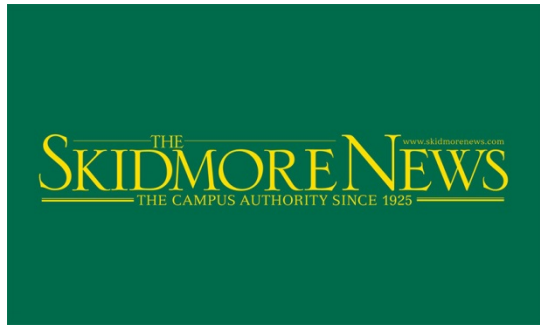
http://skidmoreathletics.com/news/2011/10/17/MGOLF_1017113813.aspx>Skidmore Athletics



Comic: Autumn

By Wyatt Erchak, Cartoonist

On Wed, Oct 19, 2011



Skidmore graduate murders family before killing himself

By Brendan James, Editor-in-Chief

On Wed, Oct 19, 2011

CROSS RIVER - In the midst of a divorce Sam Friedlander, 50, a graduate of Skidmore, fatally beat his wife and shot his two children in Lambert Ridge, an affluent suburb of Cross River, New York, according to police.

A divorce proceeding had been scheduled for this Thursday, according to state police. Friedlander had reportedly been acting differently for weeks and remained living in the same house with his family as his behavior became more erratic.

On Tuesday the bodies of 8-year-old Gregory Friedlander and 10-year-old Molly Friedlander were found in their beds. The children were shot by their father and then placed under the covers. Friedlander's wife Amy had struggled before he bludgeoned her with a leg of furniture on the floor of the master bedroom. Friedlander killed himself with a 12-gauge shotgun in the basement of the house.

A full report may be found at [a](#)

<http://www.saratogian.com/articles/2011/10/19/news/doc4e9f0f6655619271056581.txt?viewmode=fullstory>>The Saratogian.

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Friedlander

AP Photo/The Journal News, Frank Becerra, Jr.



EAC discusses trip to D.C. to join protests

Students may join protests against hydrofracking and Keystone XL

By Ani Lordkipanidze, Contributing Writer

On Wed, Oct 19, 2011

Members of the Environmental Action Club (EAC) met to discuss the upcoming protest against hydrofracking and Keystone XL that will take place in Washington, D.C.

The protests are against hydrofracking, a form of drilling that, while financially beneficial, threatens to pollute drinking water and endanger public safety.

Thousands of people will likely protest against hydrofracking and the Keystone XL Pipeline Project outside of the White House from Nov. 5 to Nov. 6 as part of a series of protests that have occurred in the past few months.

The Keystone XL Pipeline Project is a proposed system to transport petroleum from the Athabaskan oil sands of Alberta to refineries in Texas. This pipeline would pass through the Sand Hills of Nebraska, a Great Plains prairie ecosystem.

At the meeting, the EAC proposed traveling to Washington, D.C, to join the protests. Students are welcome to attend this event through buses provided by the EAC. Participants will stay at St. Stephen's Church overnight.

Transportation and housing will be free, although a \$5 donation to the church is encouraged. Students will leave on Saturday, Nov. 5 and return on Sunday.

The EAC also discussed future lectures and debates on campus that will be hosted by guest speakers and will focus mainly on sustainability.

From 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 20 in Gannett Auditorium, Transportation Alternatives Executive Director Paul Steely White and author James Howard Kunstler will invite the public to debate the need for a sustainable future, and whether change is possible in light of modern conditions.

Jeff Olson of Alta Planning & Design will moderate the debate, and there will be a meet-and-greet session an hour before the lecture.

The Environmental Studies Program is sponsoring this debate.

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 22, EAC will meet in Falstaff's to clean up compost buckets from every apartment in Northwoods. Volunteers are welcome.

The Environmental Action Club meets at 9 p.m. every Monday in Ladd Hall 207.

Gunshot wound at Falstaffs revealed as false alarm

Police and Campus Safety respond to a drug-fueled call for help

By Andrew Shi, Staff Writer

On Thu, Oct 20, 2011

At 10:30 p.m. last Wednesday students near Jonsson tower overheard an unexpected commotion as several police squad cars and an ambulance rolled into the parking lot. The authorities were responding to a call about a man said to have been shot at Falstaffs.

The caller was the girlfriend of the man but police have abstained from disclosing the names of either.

According to SSPD Lt. Gregory Veitch the man who claimed he had been shot called his girlfriend who then called police. Lt. Veitch did not know if the girlfriend was a Skidmore student, and she was not present at the scene when police arrived.

When the officers arrived and talked to the man, they found that he had smoked some type of substance and suffered from hallucinations that he had been shot in the leg, Veitch said.

Director of the Department of Campus Security Dennis Conway who helped direct the police and emergency personnel to Falstaffs says that police found the man alone in his vehicle.

The man, 25, is a former Skidmore student according to Conway. He received medical treatment but was not arrested.

In New York State in order for someone to be arrested for falsely reporting an incident they would have to have the intent of causing a public alarm by making the false report. "In this case the officers were unable to prove that the person intended for a large emergency response to be initiated," Lt. Veitch said. "Although that did in fact happen, the intent was missing."

As to what caused the hallucination, Veitch says that "we believe that he had been smoking bath salts." Bath salts are banned in New York.

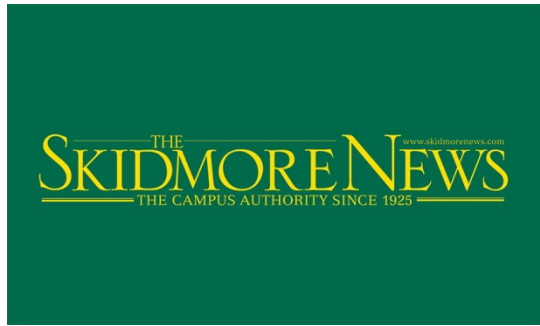
The banned bath salts - not be confused with mineral bath salts used for bathing - contain MPDV, a psychoactive drug and is compared to synthetic marijuana.

Although no arrest was made, according to Conway there may very well be consequences from the school for the man. Conway and several other school officials are currently deliberating the situation. According to Conway they are in talks about banning the former student from Skidmore.

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police





RPI wins Liberty showdown 2-0 over Skidmore

By Skidmore Athletics

On Thu, Oct 20, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - Rensselaer kept its Liberty League men's soccer playoff hopes alive with a 2-0 win over Skidmore College, Wednesday night at Wachenheim Field.

The loss drops the Thoroughbreds to 1-4-1 in Liberty League play and 5-10-1 overall. RPI is 2-3-2 and 6-4-3.

Julian Coy got the Engineers on the board first with his second goal of the season at 22:40. The play started when Will Mignon moved past two Skidmore defenders for a breakaway, but Thoroughbred goalie Nick Peterson '12 was able to come out to make the initial save. Coy then put the rebound home for the 1-0 lead.

Adam Updegrove added an insurance goal for RPI with 3:41 to play in the game. He gained possession in the midfield, made two quick moves and found the net from 23 yards out.

Skidmore was whistled for 18 fouls to six for the Engineers. RPI had a 16-9 shot advantage, including a 12-2 difference in the first half.

Peterson finished with seven saves, while Rob Dewald had one save in net for his third shutout of the season.

Skidmore will host Clarkson at 2 p.m. on Saturday. Rensselaer is at Bard at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

http://www.skidmoreathletics.com/news/2011/10/19/MSOC_1019111241.aspx Skidmore Athletics

Flip Phillips works toward the resolution of the arts and sciences

By Jake Mitchell, Contributing Writer

On Thu, Oct 20, 2011

Flip Phillips's presented his research on visual perception for "The Resolution of Art and Science, lecture series" on Oct. 4.

His presentation consisted of an overview of his research, the significance of his findings and the impressive technology he uses. The research connects artistic ability to the research of science.

As an undergraduate, Phillips was an architecture student, which Phillips said "was a nice melding of art and engineering." He didn't finish architecture school and instead earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts in computer graphics in 1986. "Back in the day, Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator were still 10 years away. We had to make our own tools or find people to help us," Phillips said. To make interesting forms using computer graphics you also had to have some sophistication in engineering.

Also as an undergraduate, Phillips pursued brain-imaging research. He worked with psychiatrists and neuroscientists on taking pictures of the brain and putting them together in 3D. The research was performed at the same time that the first MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) was developed. "I was working with science guys on engineering problems in the art school," Phillips said. He also worked seven years at Pixar Animation Studios, where he developed and used his wealth of computer knowledge. After Pixar, Phillips went on to graduate school for psychology to continue his education.

So how does art help science? "We're trying to understand how the generic human mind works. Artists are able to depict the visual world in a specific way that we can interpret. We have to take advantage of these people who are good at that and try to figure out what information they are depicting and use it to help understand the generic problem of seeing," Phillips said.

Phillips is interested in how an artist transcribes his or her visual perception to art. How do artists have different visual perceptions than non-artists? "They [artists] know how to apply visual perceptions to depicting the world; people are different at figuring these kind of things out," Phillips said.

"Painting isn't necessarily optically correct - there's a lot of cheating and slop going on. How much slop can they get away with? That depends on what your brain is doing with the information. If your brain is tolerant to slop, then the artist can get away with not depicting things correctly," Phillips said.

In other words, an artist can get away with an unrealistic depiction of an object if the viewer can still understand what he or she is looking at. People judge distance differently but not enough to make a difference in art work.

Scales, such as measurements of distances, speeds, etc., have been made so that there is a consistent and universal understanding. Without scales, there would be no mutual agreement of distance because people perceive the world differently. When people see more or less depth it is called a scaling error. Phillips said that scaling error is not completely random; when we see a painting we can distinguish what's in the background and what's not, or what's light and what's dark. Humans perceive the visual world similarly enough so that we can function as a society.

When we see a painting, "we make up the 3D visual space, it doesn't exist" Phillips said. "You can go to the other side and see it. You're making it up and it turns out we're reasonably consistent in what we make up in terms of that depth, otherwise art wouldn't work." Our vision is consistent enough so that we basically see the same features.

To help himself and his students' research, Phillips has a 3D scanning system as well as a 3D printer. The scanner reads objects as if it were a MRI. The machine sends red horizontal and vertical lines all over the object to perceive its height, width and depth, and transcribes that to the computer.

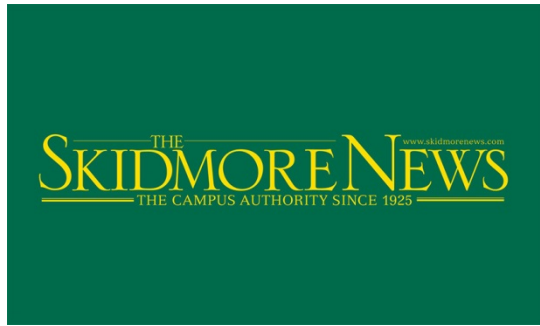
On the computer you can manipulate the object any way that you want, testing your visual ability. The 3D printer prints objects made out of plastic and glue. Phillips uses these objects to see people's ability to remake the model out of clay, and see how close they come to the original object. Artists strive for this ability. They perceive and transcribe the visionary world as closely as possible, which is the meaning of "The Resolution of Art and Science."

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Professor Flip Phillips

Photo by Emma Dodge Hanson





Skidmore College's Facebook page receives its 5,000th 'like' this month

Communications works to expand the college's online presence

By Adrian Appleman, Contributing Writer

On Thu, Oct 20, 2011

On Oct. 3, the college reached a landmark 5,000 "likes" on its Facebook page.

With 5,055 "likes" as of Oct. 20, the page is steadily growing in popularity. Though the Skidmore College Facebook page is the College's primary social media outlet, it is not the only social networking page affiliated with the college.

The College has been actively building its online presence since the summer of 2010, and Daniella Nordin, the college's online community manager, says there is still more to follow.

Through online efforts, the College has been able to connect with about one-sixth of its core audience, including alumni, staff, faculty, students and "friends."

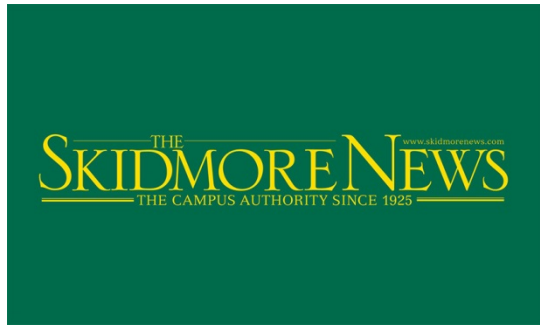
The College has more than 20 Facebook pages affiliated with it, ranging from pages for academic departments to different sports teams. Nordin offers workshops titled "The Social Media Hour" for faculty and staff interested in becoming a part of the network on Fridays throughout the semester.

The College also has been branching out to other social networking sites, including Twitter and LinkedIn, as well as exploring new ground with Cappex and Zinch, two social networks geared toward connecting prospective students to colleges.

Hired in Feb. 2010, Nordin's main concentration is to spearhead recruitment efforts beyond simply inciting interest among prospective students, though her efforts do concentrate on that audience as well. She also works to achieve goals like the milestone reached a few weeks ago to recruit more fans and to obtain more "hits."

"Since I'm the first person to hold this position, I can really make it my own," Nordin said, "I'm planning on doing everything from cradle to grave, so to speak."

Although the College's Facebook page was around prior to the formation of Nordin's position, there has been a noticeable spike in the College's online success and presence since she came to campus.



"Since Daniella arrived, it's been a steady growth," said Dan Forbush, executive director of communications. "We're one of the first colleges to have a social media manager, and, since making that decision, our online ratings have increased."

Forbush said he values social media as a platform for creativity. It can be used to showcase student creativity, and has been through postings of student films, music and photography. Also, the College's current "Creative Thought at Work" campaign originally grew out of a discussion board on the College's Facebook page.

This campaign has since been a recurring theme in communications. "Our goal is to try to generate as much student and alumni content as possible," Forbush said, "You can't fake someone's actual Skidmore experience."

Part of Skidmore's approach to online communications is to ensure there is a personal presence within all of the social media outlets managed by the College. Skidmore was one of the first colleges, Forbush said, to hire a student, Joe Yanks '11, to represent the College on a social media page.

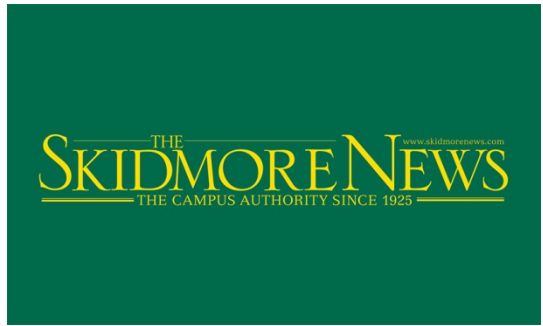
"What we do is try to connect students," Nordin said, "It only makes sense, then, to have there be a presence, not just a social media abyss."

This online human presence manifests as both Nordin herself as well as a staff of student bloggers who answer questions submitted by prospective students. The new Skidmore Student-to-Student program helps put those curious about the college in direct contact with online student ambassadors.

The students also administer the Facebook communities for current students, acting as a live resource for questions to be answered, which Yanks started in 2007. "Why it's so exciting is because it's a whole new way to get a conversation going," Nordin said, "It's a whole new way to actually get a slice of Skidmore life."

"It's great that I get to be a part of something that is already having a successful impact on prospective students," said Emmeline Taylor '14, one of the student social media assistants. "The fact of the matter is that social media is very prevalent amongst the younger generation in our society, and it is how they find out a lot of information. If we can encourage more incredible young minds to look at Skidmore simply because they saw us on a social media site then that is excellent!"

Connecting is the primary reason the College has chosen to focus so intently on social media. "We want to engage our audience," Nordin said, "everyone from alumni to 'friends of the college' who live in Saratoga. It's difficult to pinpoint the payoff, but if there's a student who makes a connection of any sort, that's what I'm interested in."



The connections are also beneficial to the assistants. "My course load is extremely difficult this semester and it has been easy for me to feel disappointed with Skidmore at moments," Taylor said, "But then when I start answering questions for prospective students I realize why I chose to be here in the first place. This job is a great reminder of how lucky I am not only to have the privilege to go to college, but also to have the privilege to go to a college like Skidmore."

#1.2658973:3663204677.png Skidmore Facebook photo

The college has over 5,000 'likes' on its Facebook page.

Julia Leef/The Skidmore News

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Skidmore College

Community Page about Skidmore College · Saratoga Springs, New York






Wall
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Skidmore College

"Pilgrims of the Night" opens tonight for a week of performances. Alma Becker directs.



Pilgrims of the Night opens Oct. 20 in the Black Box Theater

cms.skidmore.edu

"Pilgrims of the Night" is set at a ferry landing on a stormy night. A rag-tag group of strangers arrives and to pass the time, each one tells or invents a story. Each story gets stranger and stranger. In Jenkin's personal style, this play revolves around a group of people in an extreme situation. ...

Like · Comment · Share · 8 hours ago

4 people like this.

Write a comment...



Skidmore College

Are we facing 'the long emergency'? Find out tonight when two scholars will consider the future of America's cities in a talk moderated by transportation expert Jeff Olson.

Experts to debate, discuss the future of cities

cms.skidmore.edu

"The Long Emergency vs. NYC's Resurgency: A Debate about the Future of Cities" will feature Paul Steely White, executive director, Transportation Alternatives, and author James Howard Kunstler. Jeff Olson of Alta Planning & Design, a Skidmore faculty member, will moderate. Free and open to the publi...

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Melissa H. Pearlman Miller likes this.

Write a comment...

Career Services discussion and Student Government elections held at SGA meeting

Director of Career Services receives feedback from SGA member, followed by SGA elections

By Ani Lordkipanidze, Contributing Writer

On Thu, Oct 20, 2011

On Oct. 18, Deborah Loffredo, the newly hired director of Career Services, came to the Student Government Senate meeting to receive feedback from SGA members.

Loffredo is new to the college, and wanted to hear ideas from SGA members about improving Career Services, as well as its relations with the student body. She asked SGA what level of involvement Career Services usually has in students' lives, as well as whether or not this involvement is enough.

SGA members suggested that Career Services become more involved with first years and sophomores. One of the ways in which this could be done would be placing the PowerPoint presentations that representatives of Career Services show to first years in their first semester online for later viewing.

In other business, elections followed the Career Services discussion for Willingness-to-serve positions. Candidates delivered speeches to the Senate, including William Romano '13 (Integrity Board), Sibon Gama '15 (First-Year senator), Laura Venner '14 (Speakers Bureau), Arissa Fram '14 (Parking Court and Traditions Committee) and Chantal Moore '15 (Traditions Committee). All candidates who spoke at the meeting were elected to their desired positions.

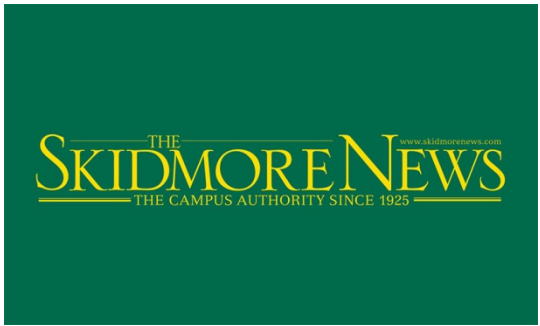
Student clubs addressed the Senate, requesting finances to sponsor activities. The Hispanic Awareness Club's President and Treasurer Jovany Andujar '13 asked for money to sponsor a comedian from New York City, who will perform at 10 p.m. Nov. 11 at the Spa.

Senators Raiza Nazareth '12 and Amanda Seres '14 presented changes made in Willingness-to-serve codes, which were amended to reflect current practices, as well as to provide more detail on the job of the Willingness-to-serve coordinator and to further clarify the Willingness-to-Serve process.

Student Government meets at 8.m. Thursdays in Ladd Hall 307.

#1.2658945:4196583742.jpg SGA Meeting photo

SGA President Jonathan Zeidan '12 leads the meeting on Tuesday.



Ani Lordkipanizde/The Skidmore News



Mountain Quickstep brings country music to Zankel

Unique band delivers an energetic performance in Ladd Concert Hall

By Olivia Powers, Contributing Writer

On Thu, Oct 20, 2011

On Oct 13, Mountain Quickstep transported Skidmore to another time and place during their performance at the Ladd Concert Hall of Arthur Zankel Music Center.

The band combines elements of old-time bluegrass and influences of early country music from the Adirondack, Appalachian, and Smoky Mountain regions to create a folksy sound that melds the old with the new. The band members, who include Sarah Milonovich, Greg Anderson, and faculty members John Kirk and Trish Miller, were natural performers. They brought the country atmosphere to Zankel by telling stories of Louisiana fiddle camp and using words like "folks" and "fellas" with a slight country twang.

"[The band] is very good at keeping the old styles alive, but putting a new spin on them," said fiddle student Leland Martin '14.

Music wasn't the only thing brought to the stage. Kirk and Miller both broke out their dancing shoes and displayed an energetic performance of quickstep as the other two band members continued to play. Their enthusiastic smiles, impressive high kicks, and fast feet inspired the audience to clap, and even sing along at times. In a way, the music made a community out of the unacquainted audience members as they laughed together and raised their voices in a single chorus.

The performance was a special kick-off concert to celebrate Mountain Quickstep's selection for the "Rhythm of the Road: American Music Abroad" program. The tour will take the band to Eastern Europe in November. Put on by Jazz at Lincoln Center and the US Department of State, the tour will allow the group to introduce their traditional American sound to international venues.

"We're so lucky to be able to take this tour," gushed Miller. "We're going to be able to go around the world and make some friends."

The band is excited for the opportunity that the tour will give them in becoming more active world citizens.

"We'll go very close to the Middle East and hopefully meet some people there who will be able to say 'we are friends with some Americans'," Miller said.

The audience responded to this hope with a resounding cheer.

The concert ended as the band brought student musicians from the College and Bennington College on stage to play two final songs. Kirk and Miller coaxed the students closer to the microphones, displaying the burgeoning talents of the younger generation in recalling a past time.

When the band returned to stage for a final encore, Kirk thanked the college's music department for supporting smaller instruments, like the fiddle and banjo, which are inherent to folk music. The audience's boisterous applause confirmed its gratitude as well.

For photos and videos of Mountain Quickstep's tour fans can visit the band's blog at www.mountainquickstep.com

#1.2658947:3126038679.png Mountain

Courtesy of Mountain Quickstep



The Long and Winding Road to Beatlemore Skidmania

The decade-old gig draws near and takes shape

By Brendan James, Editor-in-Chief

On Thu, Oct 20, 2011

Few events at the College stir as much anticipation as the annual tribute concert to Britain's Fab Four, Beatlemore Skidmania. This year's program has been published and preparations are under way for the shows on Nov. 11 and 12 in the Zankel Music Center.

From artistic direction to integration of new media, this year's concert will feature a host of new approaches toward bringing the Beatles' music to life. As always, Dr. Gordon Thompson of the music department oversees the organization of the concert, having founded and managed the show since its inception in 2001.

Thompson assigns his MU 344 Beatles seminar the task of organizing the concert. "I gave them as much of a say as I could in the planning," Thompson said. Because the seminar meets at 9:10 a.m., this has been the smallest group he has ever had, but he stresses their ambition to pull off a lively and complete show.

"It has been challenging to say the least," said Jonathan Duennebier '13, one of the seminar students. "However, with only six students in the class, we all feel very closely involved, and are taking a great deal of pride with the process." Duennebier and his peers sat through 12 hours and 50 acts with a view to narrow them down to 20 for the program.

The interpretations of the Beatles catalog at the show are historically unique and diverse. One year saw two turntable artists with drums and bass backing a spoken-word version of "Being for the Benefit of Mr. Kite" another saw a rap version of "Give Peace a Chance."

"This year, we'll have the same kinds of diversity and yet still have something new," Thompson said. "You will hear interpretations of Beatles songs unlike anything you have ever heard in the past."

A novel aspect of the show's preparation has been the line of T-shirts and posters designed by Professor Deb Hall's "Communication Design II." Thompson brought the designs by Hall's class back to the Beatles seminar, which then spent more than an hour choosing the designs for Beatlemore Skidmania.

"In the end, we selected a great poster by Samantha Shneyer ('12) that we will print in proper poster size, along with the wonderful three runners-up. These we will raffle off at the end of the concerts," Thompson said.

"It's a very special, vibrant event, and with every year the buzz seems to grow. Judging from the acts we've selected, I think everyone will be blown away by the concert. We still have a lot of work to do, but it should be an incredible night," Duennebieer said. "Who doesn't love The Beatles?"

Over the past decade the show has risen from obscurity to become a staple of the college's culture.

Thompson began leading a Beatles seminar in 1996, but in the fall of 2001 his students asked for the opportunity to actually perform the music they had studied. "The first event ran way below the radar. We held it on a study day in December, we invited friends and we did no advertising," Thompson said.

As years went by the concert swelled in attendance until the hall was full at every show. People drove from Boston and Newark to see the concert. Last year's concert in the 600-seat Filene-Ladd Hall of Zankel sold out of the non-student tickets in minutes, prompting Thompson to schedule a second show.

Thompson reflects on the surge in popularity: "No longer is this a small, in-house concert with music students and faculty getting together to play music. Now, lots of people want to be in the show. I've tried to preserve the idea of student ownership of the event, but much is new. For example, we're exploring a webcast in the hopes that we can give even more people access to the event."

Now that his project has grown from a small recital to a sold-out event, Thompson remains pleased with the originality that Skidmore students bring to the arrangements and spirit of the music.

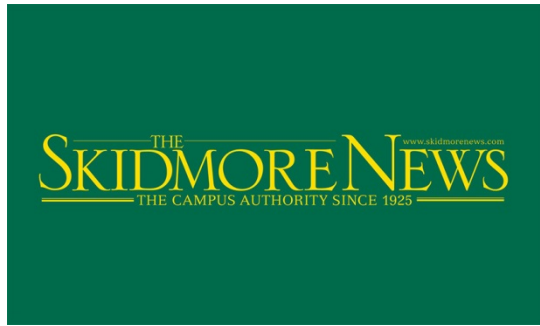
"This is our event and it's unlike anything else out there that I know," Thompson said.

#1.2659333:468209829.jpgbeatlemania

Beatlemore Skidmania continues to sell out halls and attract contributions from Skidmore's artists and musicians.

Samantha Shneyer '12





Skidmore Shop continues to host local restaurants

Esperanto and Plum Dandy to hand out free samples to students

By Max Siegelbaum, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Oct 21, 2011

Esperanto, the downtown restaurant known best for its brick of cheese and crust, the doughboy, and local frozen yogurt shop, Plum Dandy, will be handing out free samples of its products at the Skidshop this week.

Esperanto will be visiting on Friday, Oct. 21, from 5 to 7 p.m., while Plum Dandy will visit Saturday at the same time and location.

These visits are part of a larger ongoing promotional program established by Bob Carlton, technology sales and social program administrator of the Skidshop, and the rest of the staff at the store. For the past two years, Carlton has opened the doors to local restaurants, stores and community organizations.

"Last year we had an event for the golf team," Carlton said, "we cleared out the store and set up a driving range." Along with the driving range, the team sold related products as well as provided golf instruction and various prizes. The team used the event to promote its existence and raise money for travel and other expenses.

"We try to showcase the restaurants as well as promote the later hours of the Skidshop," Carlton said. The participating restaurants receive publicity with minimal costs, while the Skidshop receives higher foot traffic at the slower, later hours of operation.

The program was largely created to publicize the Skidshop's late hours of operation. The shop extended its Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday hours from 9:15 a.m. to 7 p.m., a change Carlton said would provide students with an opportunity to pick up any last minute materials they may need.

"We understand that most students do their work later in the day. Students working will realize that they need something, but will be unable to purchase it. Longer hours give these students an opportunity to purchase what they need to finish their work," Carlton said. He added that the shift in hours is directed toward art students, in particular.

Carlton intentionally chooses establishments that have a close relationship with the college, "All restaurants that visit the store take the Skidcard. Once they register with the college, we approach them

and invite them to the shop. It allows them to promote their product without having to spend money on something like an advertising campaign," Carlton said.

A schedule of upcoming food vendors can be found on the store's website.

Upcoming vendors include Spring Street Deli, Legends Café and Pizza Works. All events will feature free samples and will take place from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

#1.2660346:2348581134.jpg:Esperantos Logo Photo

Representatives of Esperanto will visit the Skidshop on Friday.

Public Domain

#1.2660349:2681017373.jpg:Plum Dandy Logo Photo

Plum Dandy will hand out free samples to students on Saturday.

Public Domain



Union workers no longer demonstrating at Skidmore College

By Julia Leef

On Fri, Oct 21, 2011

At a meeting this week between the College's construction services management firm and the union leaders from the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America-Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters, the union leaders revealed that there will be no further action at the college, said Mike West, vice president for finance and administration.

West said that the management firm provided carpenters with additional information regarding their contract with the College, and he hopes that this will help to resolve the differences between Local 291 union and Niatrust Drywall Inc., the private cooperation contracted for the construction projects in Northwoods and Scribner Village.

More information on the union's previous protests at the college can be found here.

Todd Banks, leader of the picketing effort for Local 291, confirmed that, for the time being, the union would cease demonstrations outside of the College. "For the time being, we're going to hold off there as part of a good faith effort," he said.

However, Banks said that the union still has issues with Niatrust, as well as other non-area standards contractors, such as Commercial Interiors and Landmark Flooring.

"Our agreement to not do action up there [at the college] has nothing to do with our disagreement with Niatrust," Banks said. He added that the union will continue to protest wherever Niatrust is employed, so long as it continues to pay substandard benefits.

"We're just moving forward and doing what we have to do when companies like Niatrust come around," Banks said.

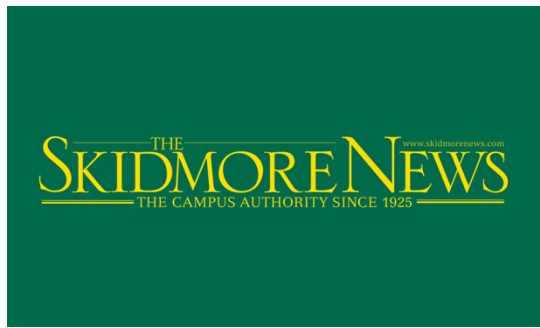
Banks said that if the College contracted a non-area standards company for future work, whether Niatrust or another company, the union would demonstrate again.

State #1.2660551:2601936315.JPGCarpenter Strike Photo

A previous Local 291 protest outside of the Broadway entrance of the college.

Savannah Grier/The Skidmore News





Swim team has high expectations for new season

By Jesse Shayne, Sports Editor

On Fri, Oct 21, 2011

After last year's seasons that would look sub-par on paper to most, Skidmore's Men's and Women's swimming and diving teams are looking to improve this year.

The men's team went 2-6 last year, beating Vassar and Utica, while the women's team went 1-7, beating Utica. However, the records do not show the whole story.

"The team has always been more focused on the championships and end of season times. Dual meets are more of a stepping stone...If you look at the record and see 2 and 7 you think it's not very good, but we lack depth and a core foundation and we are working toward that," Peter Quattromani '14 said.

Skidmore's teams lacked quantity last season, and while they did not lack quality, having such small teams made it difficult to compete against larger schools.

"There are some teams that are huge so no matter how well we swim we could not beat them, especially at the big meets where there are so many teams. We try to compete against teams that are similar to us," said captain Carrie Kosch '13, who was the women's team MVP last season.

While the dual meet records may not indicate success, the teams did set a lot of records and improve on times.

"I think swimming is an individual sport so we are looking for as much progress as an athlete can make over the season...[last season's] dropoffs were outstanding and the college breaking 15 records shows our hard work paying off," said Coach Jill Greenleaf, who will be entering her 10th season at the helm of the Thoroughbreds.

Only one senior graduated from the women's team last year and two from the men's team. This season the women's team has seven new members, six freshmen and one sophomore, and the men's team has five new members, four freshmen and one sophomore.

While Head Coach Greenleaf is returning to complete a decade at Skidmore, the diving team has a new coach. "Our old diving coach retired last year, so that made it hard to recruit new younger divers," Coach Greenleaf said.

Neither diver from the men's team will be returning this year because one graduated and one is away for the year. While there are no freshmen divers joining either team, Doug Pilawa '12 will be returning from a year abroad to improve upon his 2009-2010 season in which he was the Liberty League diver of the year and qualified for nationals, and Kristen Stearns '13 and Krista Pelton '14 will be returning for the women's team after successful seasons last year.

"All three will be able to compete at the top of the conference this year," Greenleaf said.

Both teams have an identical schedule to last year. They will be starting out against St. Lawrence tomorrow, Saturday Oct. 22, and finishing the dual meet season against RPI Jan. 28.

Editorial: Preoccupied with occupations

By the Editorial Board

On Fri, Oct 21, 2011

It was hardly surprising that nothing much came of last Thursday's aborted effort to "Occupy Skidmore". The planned demonstration was a confused and muddled attempt at youthful rebellion.

None of the slogans on the picket signs or in SGA's complimentary email explained exactly why Skidmore is part of the (also undefined) big problem, why the college itself must be occupied, or why our Student Government was organizing a political rally from the top down.

There is, however, something worth salvaging from the demonstration: we as a college must look out from the Skidmore bubble and engage in the wider political arena.

Amidst an economic malaise, with a divided government that tussles over any and every new piece of crucial legislation, those of us fortunate enough to attend college cannot afford to waste our civic efficacy while Rome burns. Last Thursday happened to be an example of how not to organize politically, but perhaps we might start discussing the ways in which effective engagement in national politics is possible and achievable.

The first thing to emphasize is that we at Skidmore have the resources not only to organize politically but also to do so in an educated way. As it happens, what sounds good on a picket sign is not necessarily a well-informed, sound argument, as last week's attempted occupation showed. But what better place is there to achieve a firm grasp of social, economic or artistic questions than an institution of higher education?

Rather than simply shoo everyone over to the quad with a couple of banners and a vague sense of indignation, like-minded students can meet regularly to deliberate, debate and then finally articulate their stance on matters political in the form of an organized event. A tight grasp of the issues at hand is the difference between a disciplined picket line and Speakers' Corner.

One cannot rely, then, on nebulous consensus for legitimate organization. If indeed most students here sympathize with the wider 'Occupation' movements cropping up around the nation - as SGA seemed to presume in their email advocating the protest - then the handful of demonstrators were clearly on friendly soil rather than enemy territory. Despite its contemporary misuse, the adage "preaching to the choir" connotes a pointless rather than a satisfying exercise.

Anti-war types don't demonstrate outside of Susan Sarandon's mansion; not many environmentalists choose to picket Ralph Nader's office; and so far this year the Tea Partiers have left the parking lots of Koch Industries alone. So what were the "occupiers" doing on the green? Even if our mad-as-hell peers could not make it to Wall Street, a trip downtown into conservative Saratoga Springs would have been enough.

For a positive example of Skidmore protesting where it matters, we need only look to this past February, when a group of students traveled to New York City to join the "Rally to Stand Up for Women's Health." From their own pockets in cooperation with Family Planning New York, the students organized the trip to protest the legislation threatening funding for "Title X."

Students read up on the nature of the conflict between the Planned Parenthood programs and the legislative agenda of Congress, initiated a grass roots movement on campus (think back to the filming and circulation of the "I Have Sex" video) and actually took themselves to a venue where their voices would be heard and perhaps challenged. Nothing could be further from the arbitrary noisemaking that SGA was trying to help "facilitate" last week.

Which brings us to what is arguably the most important aspect of real student organization: it is self-determined and spontaneous. SGA President Jonathan Zeidan said that the Student Government only intended to provide a space for anyone interested in the occupation movement. But when he told the Skidmore News, "I do not think it is the place of SGA to take sides on political issues," he tacitly admitted that this top down approach created obvious confusion about whether this was SGA fronting or supporting a specific political movement.

There is precedent for SGA having some involvement in political movements - both the Skidmore Democrats and the Skidmore Young Republican Assembly receive funding in the annual budget. Nonetheless, an SGA-organized protest is misguided. Encouraging community members to become involved in issues beyond the boundaries of our campus is a worthy goal, but such plans must be enacted judiciously. Protests ought to be held where they will be heard, not safely ensconced in a supportive college bubble.

"Occupy Skidmore," though well intentioned, was a conceptual failure. It presents, however, a valuable opportunity to reconsider how our community involves itself in external issues, both locally and nationally. There is a time and a place to protest, but as a college community we are uniquely privileged with the facilities to learn and to teach. These are our most potent tools in this tumultuous era. They should be used to their fullest extent, for the sake of our campus and the world at large.

Skidmore's Distinguished Visiting Scientist speaks to student body

Lecture addresses issues of world hunger and biodiversity

By Julia Leef

On Fri, Oct 21, 2011

More than 100 students, faculty and community members attended Distinguished Visiting Scientist Wilhelm Gruissem's lecture, "Can We Still Feed the World in 2050?" at 8 p.m. on Oct. 19, in Gannett Auditorium.

Gruissem is one of the world's leading plant biotechnology experts, and has served as a plant biotechnologist in the Department of Biology at ETH Zurich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology) since 2000.

The lecture addressed issues of global food security, water availability, bio-energy and climate change. "A Bio-Based Economy must be a part of the solution!" the title page of his presentation stated.

With the growing world population and rising cereal demand (MMT), humans must produce more food than ever before. But, we are producing less food than we did 20 to 30 years ago. More than one billion people in the world are suffering from starvation and increasing malnutrition, and, despite previous predictions, this number has steadily risen.

"We have to produce food where it's needed," Gruissem said. "We have to come up with solutions to help those people who develop agriculture in a way that it is sustainable and can support their lifestyles."

Gruissem also discussed the surge in cereal and oil prices, as well as the major bottleneck that sustainable food security faces. Humans have cultivated 7,000 plant species since the beginning of agriculture. However, only 10 plant species are cultivated today to provide 95 percent of food and feed.

"This spreading monoculture is another major threat to food security," Gruissem said. He proposed his own solution to the issue of biodiversity, saying that a select number of genotypes (roughly 10,000 per crop) should be taken from a crop share of more than 100,000 ancestral genotypes per crop. These select genotypes should be characterized and studied at \$1 million per genotype. He estimates that the cost of the entire operation would be \$30 billion, which is \$2 billion less than the 2010 budget of the National Institute of Health.

Much of the lecture promoted the use of gene manipulation technology, such as phenotyping (measuring allelic variation) and marker-assisted selection (MAS) to breed new varieties of plants and to identify those genes that are best suited to maximize yield gains.

Several requirements for this method of improving crops, Gruissem said, include being cost effective and sustainable, as well as making no net contribution to greenhouse gasses and avoiding directly increasing food costs.

“The true benefits of genetically modified technology are often either unknown or misrepresented to the public,” Gruissem said. European consumers are especially opposed to GM technologies, and certain non-government organizations have declared gene technology a danger, and have even attacked private property. Gruissem’s own home has been graffitied.

Several newly improved crops in the market include Anthocyanin-enriched GM tomatoes, which can reduce the high risk of coronary heart diseases, and Beta-carotene enriched Golden Rice, which can reduce vitamin A deficiency.

Gruissem’s own lab is working to increase iron concentration in polished rice grains in order to aid the two billion people who suffer from iron deficiency. Currently, his lab has increased the iron concentration with gene technology to 55 percent of the recommended daily intake, and is looking to improve it further.

He also stressed the importance of making plants resistant to environmental stress and able to combat such parasites as the African Cassava Mosaic Virus (CMV), which is responsible for a 24 percent loss of the total production of cassava in Africa each year.

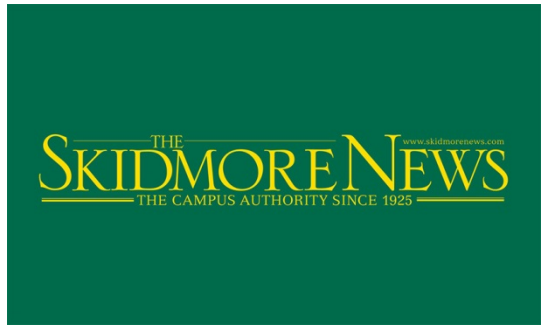
Gruissem concluded by stressing the importance of breeding new crop varieties with a high and stable yield and improved nutritional qualities in order to create a sustainable agriculture. He encouraged using innovative research, efficient breeding and gene technology to ensure a phenotypic diversity of crop plants.

“We have to make sure that we grow food where it is needed,” Gruissem said.

Gruissem will remain on campus to meet with members of the college’s science faculty and to present to several biology classes this semester.

#1.2660387:1891663947.jpg Gruissem Photo

Wilhelm Gruissem, the college’s Distinguished Visiting Scientist for the fall semester.



Courtesy of Communications



Restaurant Review: The Wine Bar

By Tegan O'Neill, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 21, 2011

The Wine Bar has the opulence of Saratoga Springs stamped all over it. Diners sip from glistening globes of wine in a dark and warmly lit dining room. A strand of lights twinkles like fireflies in the large bay window overlooking Broadway. It feels like the town of horses and money that the postcards of Saratoga purport it to be.

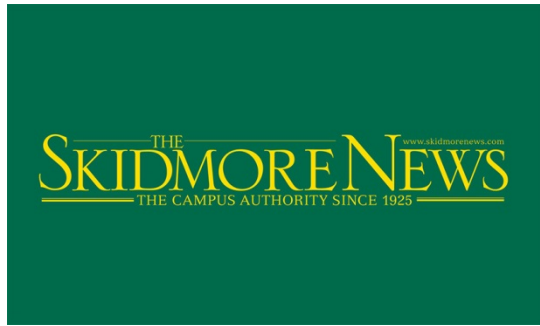
All three sections of the Wine Bar's menu - earth, land, sea - offer intriguing selections. The option to order either a small or large portion of many of the entrées exists, and, in the interest of saving money, it is wise to take advantage of this choice.

From the earth, we chose the pizza with Gruyere, onion confit and roasted pumpkin. The Gruyere strung beautifully from the pizza as we divided its slices. A thick layer of succulently sweet onions glazed the crust. The pumpkin was wonderful and autumnal - its rich, orange pigmentation bestowed a beautiful color to the pizza. The crust, however, was no match for the toppings. It lacked both structure and flavor and came off tasting rather flat.

Ordering the wild boar bolognese with fresh pasta rags was an opportunity too tempting to pass up, but unfortunately upon trying it my hopes came crashing down. I expected a dish that would snarl back at me. I envisioned a snout covered in coarse bristles of fur. Instead, the plate of wild boar bolognese was disappointingly tame. I would not have guessed that the mild meat sauce was something other than beef.

The oil poached halibut with squid ink risotto and fennel purée blew the other two dishes out of the water. Each bite was a thrill - the halibut was light and fresh. Equally refreshing was the fennel purée pooled upon the plate. It tasted like it came out of a spring garden. The squid ink risotto did nothing to enhance the dish other than to provide visual contrast. Albeit appealing to the eye, it had little flavor and no memorable taste.

The rich, juicy duck was utterly superb. The brussels sprouts, turnips and carrots served with the confit leg seemed superfluous. How can you care about eating carrots when the succulent meat of duck awaits your palate? Additionally, the drizzling of apple mustard gastrique also seemed nonessential. The duck was the shining star of the dish and it did not need any backup dancers. I wish the chef had just left the duck to steal the show.



Speaking of stealing the show, the chocolate cake deserves some time in the limelight. The Wine Bar's chocolate cake was the best chocolate dessert I have had in a very long time. It was rich without being too rich and sweet without being too sweet. The texture of the token-shaped dessert was hard to pin point; it was almost chalky yet also almost moist. A simple scoop of sweet vanilla ice cream atop was a perfect compliment to the slight bitterness of the dark chocolate cake.

The portions at the Wine Bar leave you wanting just one bite more. Not because they are too small, but because they are too good. I wouldn't mind having just one more gnaw at the duck or another nibble of chocolate cake. I guess that means I'll have to go back.

Read More of Tegan O'Neill's outings at her <http://tegan-and-sarah.blogspot.com/2011/10/wine-bar.html>>Blog

Features #1.2660127:1730499417.JPGwine bar halibut

Oil poached halibut with squid ink risotto and fennel purée

Sarah Weitzman/ The Skidmore News

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The Wine Bar's duck confit leg

Sarah Weitzman/ The Skidmore News





Healthful Hints: Self-esteem

Staying positive through the Skidmore Winter

By Zoe Silver, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 21, 2011

It happens to the best of us: we wake up in the morning and try on five different outfits before we find the one that will work, we look enviously at the girl with the great hair or the guy with the bulging biceps and we diss ourselves for our appearance, grades and so on.

Because bouts of low self-esteem are unavoidable for most of us, we have to pay special attention to ensure that we care for ourselves and don't stay in a "funk" for too long. On occasion, it is important to look in the mirror and think, "I love myself for who I am; I accept my body, I am confident and I will succeed."

But this doesn't come easily to everyone. I know it can feel silly to think those things about yourself, but low self-esteem can be detrimental to your mental and physical health, so it is important to develop some tactics to avoid it. If talking to yourself in the mirror isn't your cup of tea, try taking a day to focus on the positive. Make a list of what is going right in your life and what you like about it. Set goals for yourself and try to achieve them one by one. Accomplishing each of them should give you a great sense of encouragement and confidence.

Be sure to surround yourself with people who support you and the goals you have set for yourself. If it is frustrating for you to watch others succeed at things that you find difficult, increase the amount of time you spend on things you do well. Try to work them into your daily or weekly routine so that you can experience a positive boost of confidence regularly - and keep in mind that you can't be good at everything. Instead of being envious of others' abilities, share what you can do with them in exchange for them sharing with you.

While we may feel untalented at times, during college one of the most common manifestations of low self-esteem is in poor body image, which can be difficult to overcome. My first piece of advice would be to turn off the TV, recycle the magazines and stop browsing celebrity websites. The representations of male and female bodies in the media are distorted. Your goal should not be to look like the model on the cover of Cosmopolitan or the ad for Calvin Klein.

Remember that the photographs of models are edited on a computer. Their necks are stretched, eyes enlarged, skin smoothed, so on and so forth until the image that appears is not a person, but a

culturally-created image of "perfection" and "beauty." Next time you see an ad on TV that makes you question your self-worth or beauty, talk back to it. Say, "I like myself just the way I am. I don't need you to tell me how to be or what to look like." Tear out the pages of your magazine, which send degrading and negative messages, or stop buying them altogether.

But even if we try to limit the messages we receive from the media, many of us might still struggle with body image issues in our everyday lives. To defeat this, try to avoid comparing yourself to others. Every person has a different combination of genes and is beautiful in his or her own way. The only "standard of beauty" is one that we create as a culture, so we can just as easily change it if we wish to do so. In public, avoid walking with your head down and shoulders hunched; stand up straight and make eye contact with others. This will send people the message that you are confident and, in turn, will increase your confidence in yourself.

Embrace your own style; wear clothes that are comfortable and that you like, even if it isn't necessarily the latest fashion. Lastly, I suggest that you stop and think about all of the relationships you have in your life. Do your close friends and family like you for the way you look, or the way you are? It is most likely your personality that draws them to you, so do yourself the same favor and appreciate yourself for who you are, not how you appear to be.

As the weather gets colder and wetter and we find ourselves going about our days without much zest or excitement, it is typical to also start "hating" on ourselves. So try some of the tactics I discussed above to avoid low self-esteem. If you do, I bet that your winter experience at Skidmore will be much more enjoyable and positive. Until next time, stay safe, stay healthy and smile.

Extra Credit: Dorm-sized workouts

Staying fit and having fun with short, creative exercise routines

By Siena Tugendrajch, Columnist

On Fri, Oct 21, 2011

There are a few reasons why I've stayed healthy at college. The first, most basic and luckiest explanation is my genes. Second, I really like vegetables, fruit, lean protein and whole grains like quinoa and barley. Maybe I just like the word quinoa. But I would say that the best reason I'm in relatively good shape is because I use my free time to work out in my dorm room.

Anyone, even you freshmen loving your triples, can do most of these exercises in your dorm. Granted, they are least embarrassing in singles, but definitely still doable in doubles or triples. I find time to exercise every day, and so can you. There is always time for a 20-minute workout or two 10-minute workouts.

How? I'm glad you asked. Set your alarm 20 or 30 minutes earlier than usual. Then you can get your sweat on and still have time to shower before class. If you're not a morning person, work out when you finish class in the afternoon - it's a great break between lectures and homework.

I wish I could say that there are many exercise-based websites that I frequent. Sadly, I am shamelessly addicted to Exercise TV online and when I'm home I use Exercise TV On Demand. With time, I'm sure you'll learn to love it, too.

Sometimes you'll have only 10 minutes to work out. Not a problem! Exercise TV online has many mini-workouts from which to choose. When I'm pressed for time, I gravitate toward videos that target key areas like legs or abs. Brief lower body workouts are usually a combination of lunging, jumping and kicking. Roundhouse kicking may be my favorite form of exercise. On the other hand, the short abdominal videos incorporate standing and twisting moves with traditional crunches. This approach can be challenging but is definitely more interesting than typical abdominal exercises. These quick workouts are intense and, therefore, pretty darn satisfying after just 10 minutes.

When you find yourself with 20 minutes to spare, grab a yoga mat or a towel and check out some longer workout options. With a little more time, you can really stretch out your body from head to toe with yoga and Pilates. Yoga can make you feel inches taller while Pilates helps build core strength and long lean muscle. Can't argue with that.

If you find yourself with 30 minutes of free time, you should try my favorite exercise video on Exercise TV online: Bridal Body Burn. A few times a week, Violet Zaki, a wonderful Australian trainer, tells me to stop thinking about my in-laws and to start focusing on how great I'm going to look in my wedding dress. This workout is a half hour of incredibly fun cardio and strength moves, including roundhouse kicking and twisting abdominal moves.

Working out is the best thing you can do with your free time, assuming that you're not too busy curing cancer, finding dinosaur fossils or curing dinosaur cancer. Find time to work out every day, or maybe a few times a week, and you will be happier. How do I know this? Because of a quote from everyone's favorite sorority girl turned lawyer, Elle Woods: "Exercise gives you endorphins. Endorphins make you happy. Happy people just don't shoot their husbands."

Siena Tugendrajch is pursuing an English and psychology double major. Her interests include epic similes and personality tests.

This Week's Cat Horoscopes

By Max Salat and Sam Richardson, Pulp Editor and Contributing Writer
On Sat, Oct 22, 2011

Read this week's signs and land on all fours.

Aries: Don't discount the ordinary. Even a phony mouse can have a heart of pure catnip.

Taurus: A leap through the kitchen window will open new frontiers, but beware of the outsiders.

Gemini: A nap on the top step may have dire consequences.

Cancer: Lick your friends clean and they'll do the same for you.

Leo: A pleasant surprise will scuttle blindly from the shower drain. Catch it and you will receive a handsome reward.

Virgo: Never look a gift horse in the mouth, unless the gift is not a dead animal, in which case you may disregard it entirely.

Libra: Keep the promises you've made, or expect to be locked in the shower

Scorpio: You will find luck in the form of soft stuffing beneath a treated leather exterior

Sagittarius: You may find your pain stems from sitting too close to a rocking chair

Capricorn: HEY WHAT DID YOU SEE THAT ON THAT WALL WHAT HEY

Aquarius: You will encounter more Kibbles than Bits this week. Plan ahead accordingly.

Pisces: Stay alert, you never know when you will find litter between your toes.

EAC plans trip to join Washington, D.C., protests against Keystone XL

Club members continue to voice their opinions despite previous arrests

By Julia Leef, New Editor

On Sun, Oct 23, 2011

In response to the current nationwide environmental issues, the Environmental Action Club is organizing a trip to join the thousands of protestors campaigning against the Keystone XL Pipeline on Nov. 6 in Washington, D.C.

This event is part of a series of protests that have been occurring in the last few months. People have been gathering in Washington, D.C. to speak out against the new Keystone XL Pipeline, a project that would bring oil from Alberta, Canada to refineries in Texas, passing through the Sand Hills of Nebraska, location of the Great Plains ecosystem.

"This is the next civil rights movement," said Eliza Sherpa '14, vice president of EAC. "This issue isn't going away."

On Sept. 3, Sherpa and Margot Reisner '14, president of EAC, who were on campus early for S-rep training, went down to D.C. with three other S-reps to join the last day of a two-week protest.

The police arrested 1,253 people during those two weeks, including Reisner and Sherpa, as well as Jane Li '14 and Joe Marto '14. Sherpa said the arrest really affected her.

"I felt more empowered than I've ever felt. I was giving everything that I physically possibly could to the issue," she said. "It was very inspiring to have so many people around you and just know that this is what our future is - we're making our future right now."

"These protests are directed at President Barack Obama, who will make his decision about the fate of the pipeline project at the end of the year," Reisner said, adding that staging a protest on Nov. 6 places it exactly one year before the 2012 presidential elections. "Obama's position regarding these environmental issues may have a great impact on his re-election chances," Reisner said.

"There's a problem in our society where we don't exercise our rights to democracy," Reisner said, adding that this is an opportunity for the people to make their voices heard, instead of relying on representatives to do so for them.

The potential pollution the pipeline could cause is not the only issue at hand, however. Sherpa said the original Keystone pipeline, which carries oil from Alberta to Cushing, Oklahoma, has had 11 spills at pumping stations in the past year.

Reisner doesn't agree with the government's claim that extending the pipeline to Texas will create jobs and reduce our dependency on foreign oil. She said that not only is this latter statement untrue, as the oil will be imported from Canada, but the number of new jobs will reach a peak force of only 4,500 outsourced, not local, jobs during construction.

"It's really just the government leaning toward corporate profit over community health," Reisner said.

Reisner and Sherpa both hope that involving students will assist in spreading information around and bringing these controversies to light. The EAC has enough funding to bring 50 to 100 students to D.C., and it offers other ways to get involved locally.

Students may contact either Reisner or Sherpa to be placed on an interest list, which currently has 120 students, after which they will receive emails with information on the issues, petitions and other ways to get involved.

In addition, the EAC will be arranging carpools to attend a hearing on Nov. 21 in Trenton, New Jersey held by the Delaware River Basin Commission. This hearing will determine whether to allow hydrofracking in the Delaware River Basin, and there will be a large gathering of people to protest an affirmation of this decision.

The environmental issues behind hydrofracking, a drilling process that threatens to pollute public drinking water, are connected to the Keystone protests in that both are important events relating to public health and environmental progress, Sherpa said.

"This is one of the issues that will define our future entirely," Sherpa said.

Students who are interested in becoming involved should contact Reisner and Sherpa for more information, or speak to other members of the EAC, who will be in the atrium in the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall during dinnertime in addition to their weekly meetings at 9 p.m. on Mondays in Ladd 207.

Those who wish to attend the protest in D.C. must come to an info session hosted by the EAC at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 30 in Gannett Auditorium. At the meeting students will learn more information and must sign a liability form and an emergency contact list to attend the trip.

Students will leave from Case Center on Nov. 5 around 1 p.m. and will stay overnight at St. Stephen's Church in Washington, D.C. The following afternoon, students will join the protests in front of the White

House for an hour or two before returning to the college on Sunday night. Although housing will be free, students should bring money for food and metro cards.

"This isn't something that's going to happen without the people going and taking action," Sherpa said. "It's a good way to bring together, not just the environmental community at Skidmore, but other members of society as well. This is a turning point in our history."

#1.2661901:942798929.png DC Protestors

Thousands gather to protest in Washington, D.C.

Courtesy of Margot Reisner



No. 6 Skidmore picks up 2-1 win at Vassar

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 24, 2011

POUGHKEEPSIE - Annie Rosencrans '12 became the 11th player in program history to record 100 career points as the 6th-ranked Skidmore College field hockey team earned a 2-1 victory at Vassar.

The Thoroughbreds improve to 14-1 overall and finish the regular season a perfect 6-0 in Liberty League play. They have now won 20 straight against Liberty League opponents. The Brewers fall to 7-7 overall and 2-4 in the league.

Rosencrans tallied her 10th goal of the season at the 32:36 mark, redirecting a shot from the top from Katie Flowers '12 to make it 1-0. At the 53:33 mark, Kelly Blackhurst '14 scored her 21st of the season off a pass from Rosencrans, giving Rosencrans 100 career points.

Vassar cut the lead to 2-1 a few minutes later on a goal from Tina Caso, but the Thoroughbreds were able to hold on for the 2-1 victory.

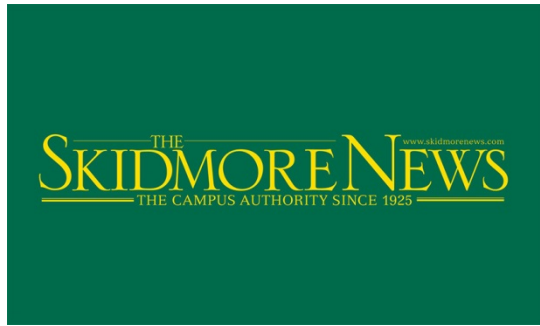
Rosencrans became the first player to reach the century mark since Elise Britt '10 and Christine Kemp '11 each reached the milestone in the 2009 season.

Haley McDougall '15 earned the win in goal for Skidmore, while Maggie Brelis made 13 saves in the losing effort.

The Thoroughbreds outshot the Brewers 21-4 and held a 16-3 advantage in penalty corners.

Skidmore is at Hartwick at 4 p.m. on Oct. 26.

http://www.skidmoreathletics.com/news/2011/10/22/FHOCK_1022114900.aspx>Skidmore Athletics



Volleyball completes another Liberty sweep

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 24, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - The Skidmore College volleyball team beat St. Lawrence and Clarkson to complete a second-straight unbeaten Liberty League weekend. The Thoroughbreds finish the regular season in second place with a 9-3 league and 21-8 overall record. Clarkson (10-2, 25-4) won the Liberty regular season title and will host the league semifinals and championship on Nov. 4-5.

Skidmore will play St. Lawrence (7-5, 18-13) in one semifinal, while Clarkson will play Vassar in the other semifinal.

Union (6-6, 19-12) tied Vassar for fourth, but went 0-2 against the Brewers. RIT (4-8, 15-20) finished sixth.

http://www.skidmoreathletics.com/news/2011/10/20/WVB_1020115516.aspx>Skidmore Athletics

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Carolyn Bottelier and Elise Finnerty go for a block

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News



Thoroughbreds open season against St. Lawrence

On Mon, Oct 24, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - The Skidmore College men's and women's swimming & diving teams hosted St. Lawrence in Saturday's 2011-2012 season opener at Williamson Sports Center.

The men picked up a 183-102 win, while the women suffered a 162-132 loss.

On the men's side, the Thoroughbreds opened with a 1-2 finish in the 200 medley relay as the team of Jesse Adler '14, Nick Sauerbrunn '15, Taylor Best '14 and Logan Jones '15 (1:46.92) edged out Lyle Stephenson '15, Robert Fulton '15, Sam Leibenhaut '12 and Tim Brodsky 2'14 (1:47.58).

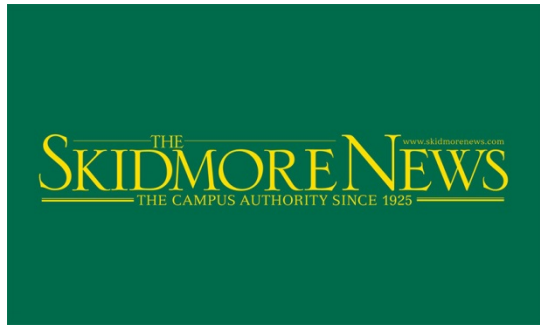
Adler also won the 100 back (58.11), 200 IM (2:09.87) and finished second in the 200 back (2:08.10), while Leibenhaut finished first in both the 100 (58.38) and 200 (2:21.69) butterfly and Jones won the 50 (23.33) and 100 (51.46) free. In the 100 breast, Skidmore finished 1-2-3 with Fulton (1:08.39) finishing first, Sauerbrunn (1:09.62) taking second and Andrew Lloyd '12(1:10.76) finishing third. Also picking up wins were Sauerbrunn in the 200 breast (2:24.87) and Peter Quattromani '14 in the 1000 free (10:56.87).

Doug Pilawa '12 won both the 1-Meter (327.05) and 3-Meter (298.85) dives with NCAA qualifying scores.

For the women, Catherine King '15 was a double winner, taking the 50 free (25.26) and 100 free (56.27), while Emily Przysinda '15 won the 1000 free (11:41.40). Carrie Koch '13 won the 500 free (5:42.32) and took second in the 200 free (2:02.99) and Katherine Kelloway '14 took second in the 100 back (1:04.68) and 200 back (2:19.29). Kristen Stearns '13 won both the 1-Meter (204.35) and 3-Meter (206.30) dives and the relay team of King, Kate Lambos '15, Elaine Burns '14 and Koch won the 200 free relay (1:47.36).

The Thoroughbreds host SUNY Potsdam at 1 p.m. next Saturday.

http://www.skidmoreathletics.com/news/2011/10/22/MSWIM_1022110202.aspx skidmore Athletics



Women's soccer prevails in overtime

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 24, 2011

POTSDAM - Christine Bellotti '14 scored early in the second overtime to lead the Skidmore College women's soccer team to a 1-0 Liberty League win at Clarkson University on Saturday.

The Thoroughbreds (5-2, 11-4) remain in second place with one league game to play. The Golden Knights fall to 1-5-1 in league play and 8-5-1 overall. Skidmore has already clinched a Liberty League berth and can finish anywhere from second to fourth with one league game to play.

Skidmore dominated the game, not allowing a Clarkson shot on goal. The Thoroughbreds outshot the home team 24-3.

The tie-breaking score came in the 103rd minute as Skidmore found itself with a 2-on-1 chance. Morgan Governale '15 had just one defender to beat for a shot on the Clarkson goal, but sent a pass across the box to Kelsey Yam '13. Yam returned the favor to Governale and she took a shot from in close that hit the left post and bounced out with a few swings missing on the clear. There, Bellotti was able to hit a soft grounder into the net, which was nearly cleared before it bounced over the goal line at 102:37.

Meghan Sleezer '12 earned her seventh shutout of the season. The Thoroughbreds are at RPI on Oct. 26.

http://www.skidmoreathletics.com/news/2011/10/22/WSOC_1022112059.aspx>Skidmore Athletics

"Real Steel" is a Disney World ride, minus the surprises

The futuristic action drama comforts but fails to impress

By Eli Cohen, Columnist

On Mon, Oct 24, 2011

A perfect example of what a typical Hollywood movie offers these days, "Real Steel" features a predictable plot, quality acting, somewhat believable special effects and the usual fare.

Directed by Shawn Levy, the Hugh Jackman blockbuster follows Charlie Keaton, a former boxer trying to make it in the futuristic sport of robot boxing, which pits robots controlled by humans against each other. Along the way, he tries to reconnect with his estranged 11-year-old son, Max.

The plot is comforting and easy to anticipate, and it brings me back to my childhood. Let's be honest: who among us has not been instilled with the desire to see a giant boxing robot match since playing Rock'em Sock'em Robots for the first time?

The idea behind the production of "Real Steel" is to give everyone in the audience what they know they like, because they have already seen it a hundred times. Perhaps that may not apply to the fighting robots, but it does for just about every other aspect of the film.

There was not a single chance taken in this movie. It is a generic underdog story that is saved by the fight scenes and the acting of Jackman and 11-year-old Justin Bieber look-alike Dakota Goyo. Even the stunning Evangeline Lilly (Kate from "Lost") could not make me forget that this movie rivals "Avatar" for most predictable plot in the history of cinema.

Despite all of the above, I cannot say in good conscience that I fully disliked "Real Steel." It is undeniably entertaining, and there is nothing actively bad about the film. It is a feel-good drama that actually succeeds in making you feel good, if only fleetingly.

But therein lies the main problem with this movie - it is completely middle of the road. If it were any worse, it would get attention for being terrible. If it were better, it would be praised as a great film in a year of disappointments. But its complete grey oatmeal-like blandness makes it uninteresting and unmemorable.

That may almost be a triumph for director Shawn Levy, who always manages to fall short of success (he brought us "Cheaper by the Dozen" and the horrific "Pink Panther" remake). Considering that his biggest financial hit was "Night at the Museum," and his highest-regarded film was the Steve Carell and Tina Fey

flop "Date Night," perhaps this level of mediocrity should be expected. It definitely should have been after watching the "Real Steel" trailer, yet I remained hopeful. I remained hopeful that the man who can make a piece of trash like "Van Helsing" bearable can pull out a win with this one.

In regards to the acting, Jackman does a very good job. However, turning Charlie Kenton, a washed-up boxer and deadbeat father given a second chance, into someone the audience hasn't seen before is a near-Sisyphean task.

Goyo also gives a very strong performance as the sometimes cute, sometimes annoyingly precocious estranged son. Nonetheless, when he gives the same not-quite-tear-jerking line to his father as he gives to his robot, you have to say enough is enough.

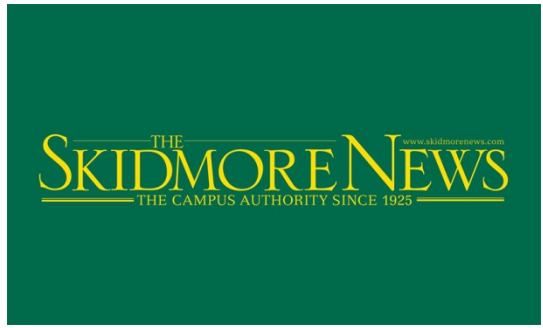
That is the feeling I came away with after watching this movie. Enough of the same plot over and over again. Enough of the down-and-out boxer who is given a second chance. Mark Wahlberg and Christian Bale knocked the role out collectively. Russell Crowe almost got there. Hugh Jackman? Enough is enough.

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Real Steel

Courtesy of Touchstone Pictures



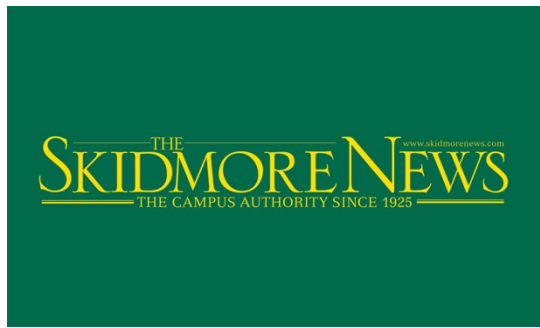


Live coverage of SGA Senate meetings, 8 p.m. on Tuesdays

By Ani Lordkipanidze, Staff Writer

On Mon, Oct 24, 2011

Join us weekly at 8 p.m. on Tuesdays for live coverage of SGA Senate meetings.



Men's soccer blanks Clarkson, 1-0

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 24, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - Matt Wolff '12 scored in the 64th minute to help lead the Skidmore College men's soccer team to a 1-0 Liberty League victory over Clarkson, Oct. 22 at Wachenheim Field.

The Thoroughbreds improve to 6-10-1 overall and 2-4-1 in league play, while the Golden Knights fall to 4-10-1 overall and 2-5-0 in the Liberty League.

Neither team was able to generate a good scoring opportunity in the first half, as they combined for just eight shots.

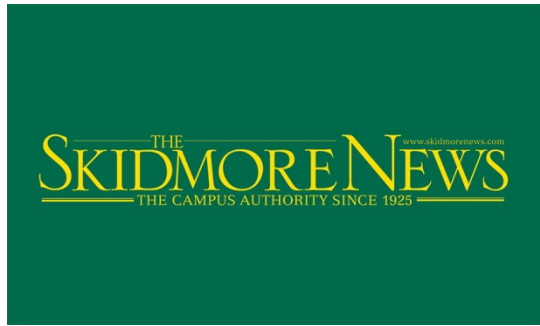
Skidmore came out aggressive in the second half, putting pressure on the Clarkson defense early before breaking through on Wolff's goal. Adam Beek '15 sent a perfect cross from the corner that Wolff dove across the box and headed past Scott Stuart for his first tally of the year. The Golden Knights were able to get a few corners late but were unable to capitalize as the Thoroughbreds held on for the 1-0 win.

Skidmore outshot Clarkson 14-11 and both teams finished with five corners.

Nick Peterson '12 made four saves to record his sixth shutout of the season, while Scott finished with two saves.

The Thoroughbreds are at Union on Oct. 29.

http://www.skidmoreathletics.com/news/2011/10/22/MSOC_1022112807.aspx>Skidmore Athletics



Riders open on top

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Oct 24, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - It was a decisive home win on Oct. 22 for the Skidmore College riders. The Thoroughbreds were first with 46 points, 14 ahead of Hartwick College and Morrisville State College in second with 32. Siena College and Colgate tied for 5th with 29. Also competing were SUNY Cobleskill, RPI, Oneonta State, U/Albany and Union.

Skidmore dominated the Open over Fences division by winning each section. Co-captains Kelly Campbell '13 and Chelsea Jones '13 won blue ribbons along with Jasmin Lai '15.

Kiira Lizza '14 was first in the Intermediate over Fences, Emily Phalen '13 placed second and Emily Wonham was sixth.

In the six sections of the Novice over Fences, Skidmore's five equestrians won four events and took second in another. Winning were Molly Parker '12, Nicole Cahill-Yi '12, Sandrine Couldwell '13 and Catherine Luckhardt '12. Jennifer Brown '13 placed second.

Winners in the Equitation on the Flat classes were: Open- Jones; Intermediate - Phalen and Luckhardt; Novice - Michelle Bakker '12, Cahill-Yi and Emory Wonham '13; Walk/Trot - Kayla Kleinman '14.

http://www.skidmoreathletics.com/news/2011/10/24/RIDE_1024113143.aspx>Skidmore Athletics

Scribner Seminar brings Steven Barnes to campus

Innocent man imprisoned for 19-1/2 years to speak about his experience

By Julia Leef

On Tue, Oct 25, 2011

Forensic Science and Criminal (In)justice, a First Year Experience Scribner Seminar taught by Kim Frederick, an associate professor of chemistry, will play host to Steven Barnes, an innocent man who spent over 19 years of his life in prison, at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 8 in Davis Auditorium in a public discussion.

The seminar focuses its studies on such cases of wrongful incarcerations through analyzing actual cases and legal policies, as well as conducting forensic analysis on pieces of evidence. Students also examine ways in which innocent people were convicted due to faulty evidence.

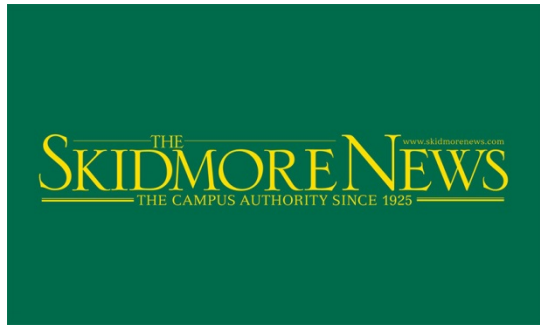
"Mr. Barnes was chosen because he lives and works in Utica, not far from Saratoga Springs, which is also the same community where he was wrongfully convicted," Frederick said. "Our Scribner Seminar course focuses on the misuse of forensic science in the criminal justice system, and the forensic science in Mr. Barnes' case was appalling."

Barnes was convicted in 1989 for the rape and murder of 16-year-old high school student Kimberly Simon. He was incarcerated at 19, the age of most sophomore college students, and was not released until he was 38, after the Innocence Project reopened his case in 2007 and proved his innocence through DNA testing of the sperm cells found on the victim's body and clothing. He was officially exonerated in 2009.

The Innocence Project is, according to its [website](http://www.innocenceproject.org/), "a national litigation and public policy organization dedicated to exonerating wrongfully convicted individuals through DNA testing and reforming the criminal justice system to prevent future injustice."

As of February 2010, 250 people had been exonerated through post-trial DNA testing in the U.S. Branches of the Innocence Project have handled many of these cases.

"I really see this as a big issue in society," said Caroline Bowne '15, a seminar member. "The Innocence Project has exonerated so many people already. A lot of these cases were before DNA testing played such a major part."



Students, faculty and community members will have the opportunity to ask Barnes questions regarding his experience in prison, as well as how the Innocence Project worked for his exoneration. Seminar students will attend a dinner with him before the lecture.

"I think it will open up people's eyes about what it's like to be in prison, what it's like to be wrongfully convicted", Bowne said. "I think students should really just think about the fact that the justice system isn't perfect."

Continuing their involvement in crime and injustice, seminar students also will assemble pamphlets this semester for public defenders across the country, who, Bowne said, do not always receive proper forensic training, which enables such cases as Barnes's to be mishandled.

"There are a lot of cases like these that have slipped through the cracks," Bowne said. "You have to question the abilities of public defenders, sometimes. How much time and effort do they put into each case? How detailed and how thorough are they? Are a lot of people still slipping through, despite DNA evidence being really usable? I think it shows that there are a lot of flaws in the justice system, and I think that's important."

#1.2668586:3457840045.pngBarnes Photo

Steven Barnes, wrongfully incarcerated for over 19 years, will speak at the College on Nov. 8.

Courtesy of Communications



Review: the many shades of bluegrass - Greensky Bluegrass's "Handguns"

The Michigan quintet releases a memorable new album that features homegrown bluegrass and more

By Dale Obbie, Staff Writer

On Tue, Oct 25, 2011

Greensky Bluegrass, an acoustic string band quickly gaining critical acclaim for its boundary-blurring brand of homegrown bluegrass, released "Handguns" on Oct. 4. Throughout its fourth and most mature album to date, the five-person band finds a stable balance between their dedication to pureblooded bluegrass and their ongoing search for a new sound.

Some people might expect jangling barnyard noises when they hear the word "bluegrass," but Greensky Bluegrass defies this narrow sketch. The band members draw heavily upon the rootsy side of the Grateful Dead, an influence that becomes clear when their songs' instrumental jams reach the 14-minute mark during live performances.

Already a mainstay in the jam band scene, they have been performing some of the songs from "Handguns" for several years at some of the largest music festivals across the country, including the All Good Festival and the Electric Forest Festival this past summer.

The psychedelic landscape depicted by the band's name accurately represents its efforts to expand the limits of its beloved genre, while still remaining true to an authentic bluegrass sound. In "Handguns," there's as much green sky as there is bluegrass. For instance, "Bring Out Your Dead" is a grungy, blues-laden song that experiments with distortion effects - an interesting concept for an acoustic band - giving the mandolin, guitar and dobro a gritty edge.

Fan favorite "I'd Probably Kill You" is equally adventurous with its novel use of a horn section. It is playful, swinging and rich with vocal harmonies. It features a jazzy mandolin solo from Paul Hoffman, a slip-sliding dobro solo from Anders Beck and, keeping with its party spirit, ends with a New Orleans-style group improvisation between the horns.

No Idea and "Beauty and Pain" give the album a melancholy side, but it is a lull in the mood that reassures rather than depresses the listener. Even the band's most gloomy songs bring with them a promise to uplift: "Cold Feet" brings you to a wintry mountainside with its wistful lyrics, but its brisk, banjo-driven energy will warm your blood and revitalize your mood.

Likewise, "All Four," a staple of the band's live shows, is at first pensive and regretful, but starts to brighten toward the end of the song. Hoffman sings, "I've been weary at the wheel so long / think of all that I've passed up / wonder how I've come this far," but then resolves to keep his "head above the ground" and "all four wheels on the road." To a similar effect, the eight-minute instrumental jam shifts seamlessly from fretful tension to the most relaxed and cheerful six minutes of the album, ending the album on a high note.

Without a doubt, Greensky Bluegrass has given us its best yet with "Handguns" - music that will appeal to diehard bluegrass fans and newcomers alike.

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Greensky

Courtesy of Greensky Bluegrass



Len Jenkin's "Pilgrims of the Night" premieres in the Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater

The college's Department of Theater presents a play that conveys the importance of human connection

By Joanne Schwartzberg, Communications Director

On Tue, Oct 25, 2011

Last Thursday, Len Jenkin's "Pilgrims of the Night" premiered in the Black Box studio of the Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater, the realization of months of hard work by faculty, alumni, and students alike.

"Len Jenkin is a master storyteller with a theatrical flare for the quirky and scintillating stories that rest in our imagination," director Alma Becker said.

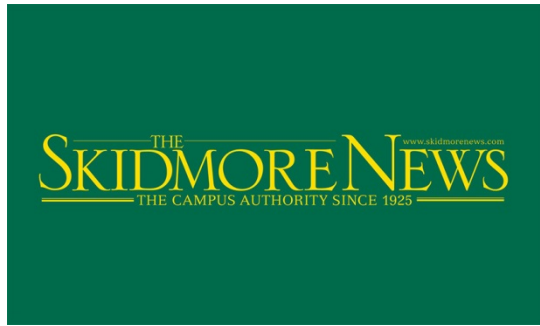
Storytelling proves to be an integral part of the production. The play revolves around a group of travelers who miss a ferry and decide to tell stories to pass the time. As the play progresses, the stories get increasingly bizarre, yet, they all possess morals and reveal important things about the human condition. One life lesson the play imparts is the importance of connection and communication between people.

"We all not only play many roles, but the roles we play are unique, bizarre and crazy characters. This has challenged me to use my voice and body in ways that I would not have necessarily considered in many plays, and filled the rehearsal room with exploration and play," Anne Dufault '12 (Fellow Traveler) said.

According to the cast and crew, the process of creating this play has been an interesting and enlightening one. They had a unique opportunity to meet the playwright, who is also a novelist and director, and perform their work for him.

"It was fascinating to hear about his creative process and the experience of writing and seeing his own show," Grady Gund '12 (Professor Hubert) said.

"The best part of "Pilgrims" has been fostering a sense of community both in and out of the black box. The power of human interaction has guided us all in the process of creating a spectacular experience," Assistant Director Ruth Morrison '12 said.



Designed by Garry Wilson, the set design transformed the space into a ferry terminal. Stage lights were hidden from view and walls were created to hide the backstage area to submerge the audience into the play.

Wilson's scenic design was complemented by lighting and costume by alumni Nate Morgan and Jenna Glendye, respectively.

"Watching the black box evolve from an empty room into a ferry room was astonishing," Jonathan Lee-Ray '15 (Fellow Traveler) said.

"Skidmore's production seamlessly transported us from story to story while always reminding us where we were in real time," Rochelle Katz '12, an audience member, said.

#1.2666060:2177748766.jpg Pilgrims

Courtesy of Matthew Cohen

#1.2666066:3165513390.jpg Pilgrims

Courtesy of Matthew Cohen





Skidmore workshop to focus on influences of European Union

International scholars to discuss political, economic and global security concerns

By Julia Leef

On Tue, Oct 25, 2011

Visiting scholars of international renown will discuss the European Union's political, security and economic concerns and their connection to the world in light of such events as the death of longtime dictator of Libya, Muammar Gadhafi, and resistance against government austerity measures in Greece, at a free, public workshop, from Oct. 27 to 28 at the College.

The scholars leading the discussions are Kathleen McNamara, associate professor of government and foreign service at Georgetown University, Karsten Geier, a veteran of the German Foreign Ministry and the European Union delegation and Richard Gowan of New York University and the European Council on Foreign Relations.

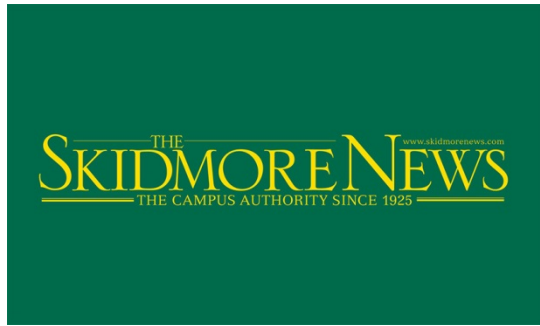
The Departments of Management and Business, Foreign Languages and Literatures and Government, as well as the International Affairs Program, the Jean Monnet Chair and the European Commission will sponsor the workshop, titled, "The Workshop on the State of the European Union: 2011."

One of the sponsors, the Jean Monnet Chair in European Integration Studies, funded by the European Commission, honors the memory of Jean Monnet, founder and first president of the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community.

All conference scholars will participate in the opening panel, "The State of the EU: Political and Economic Perspectives," from 8p.m. to 9:30p.m. on Oct. 27 in Gannett Auditorium.

Further discussions will take place concerning the Eurozone debt crisis, the European Union and the U.N. and the European Union in global security before and after the Arab Spring the following day from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Payne Room of the Tang Museum. The workshop will close with a roundtable discussion with the guest speakers and student participants, beginning at 3:15 p.m.

"Whatever happens there [in the EU] affects all of us. American banks are heavily exposed to European debt and the economics are so intertwined. From an American perspective, the more we know, the better," said Roy H. Ginsberg, professor of government and one of the moderators of Thursday's panel discussion.



Ginsberg cites the economic situation in Greece as one of the more pressing issues underscoring the importance of the European Union.

“The EU consists of many of the world’s richest countries - it is a major player,” Ginsberg said. "The Europeans’ influence on global security and international diplomacy can be crucial, especially to nations entering the Arab fall after the dramatic developments during the Arab spring."

For more information, contact Dom Green '12, a student coordinator of the workshop, at dgreen@skidmore.edu

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Kathleen McNamara, associate professor of government and foreign service at Georgetown University.

Courtesy of Communications

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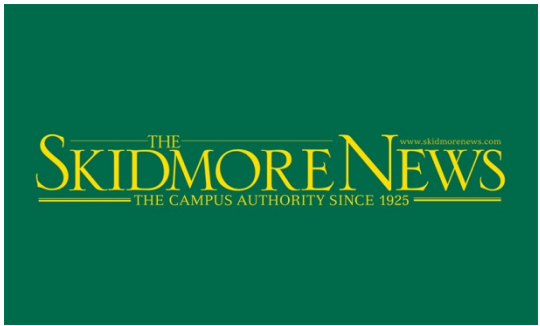
Richard Gowan of New York University and the European Council on Foreign Relations.

Courtesy of Communications

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Karsten Geier, a veteran of the German Foreign Ministry and the European Union delegation.:Courtesy of Communications





EAC meeting focuses on D.C. protest trip and other events

Topics include a change in the D.C. schedule and facilitating the compost system in Northwoods

By Ani Lordkipanidze, Staff Writer

On Wed, Oct 26, 2011

In the last two weeks, the Environmental Action Club has encouraged students to join its sponsored trip to Washington, D.C., to protest against the Keystone XL Pipeline on Nov 6.

The bus to Washington, D.C. will depart at 6 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 6, instead of on Saturday, the original departure date, and will return to the college at around 10 p.m.

EAC members will be in the Atrium of the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall this week, where students may sign up for the trip. Students may also sign up online.

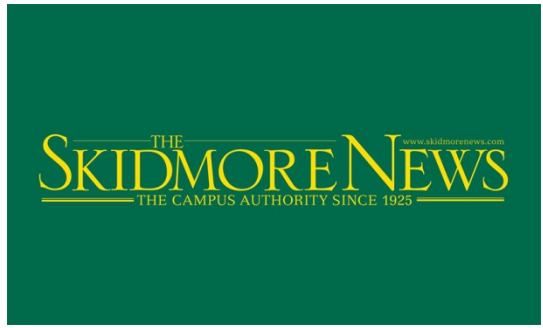
More information about the upcoming protest and the EAC trip can be found here.

For further information, students can contact EA President Margot Reisner '14.

In addition to organizing the Washington D.C. trip, the EAC is organizing several other events this month, including the Fruit Tree Workshop led by Adam Quist, at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 28, in Tisch 202. Students will be able to learn the basics of caring for and managing fruit trees, and will also have a chance to plant them in the Skidmore Student Garden.

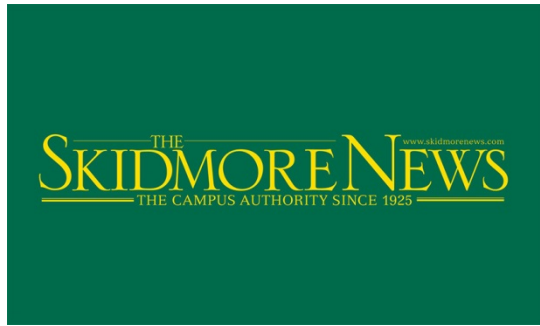
Also, on Nov. 1, alumna Hannah Philips '10, an environmental studies major, will help conduct an info session on Overland, a program that offers summer programs for students from the 4th to 12th grade, at 6 p.m. in Emerson Auditorium.

The leaders of the subcommittee for Waste, Talia Arnow '13 and Ceanna Vangelder '14, proposed constructing a trolley to facilitate the transportation of waste from Northwoods. Everett Hoffman '11 and Ripley Sager '12 decided to construct trolleys from aluminum.



“If we make the trolley out of aluminum it would be very safe,” said Hoffman, adding that aluminum, as a lighter material than, for instance, lead, would make it easier to work with in construction. The project’s completion is anticipated for the end of the semester.

The EAC meets at 9 p.m. on Mondays in Ladd 207.



Skidmore clinches home field with 2-0 win over RPI

By Skidmore Athletics
On Thu, Oct 27, 2011

TROY - The Skidmore College women's soccer team clinched home field for the upcoming Liberty League tournament with a 2-0 win at RPI Wednesday night.

With the win, the Thoroughbreds improve to 12-4-0 overall (6-2-0 Liberty), while the Engineers move to 7-7-2 (4-3-1 Liberty).

Abby Benton '12 netted her third goal of the season from just outside the RPI six-yard box, off a cross by Kelsey Yam '13. Yam raced up the left flank and sent a low ball in that Benton was able to finish first-time in the eighth minute.

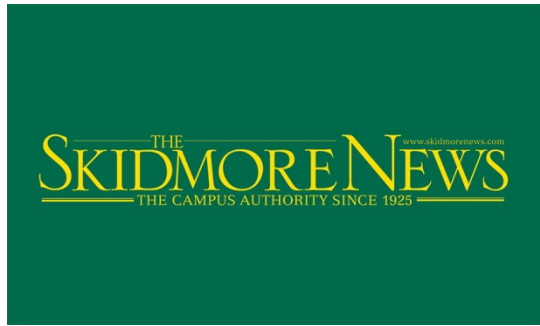
The Engineers appeared to have tied the game less than two minutes later on a header by freshman Taylor Korytko, but the play was ruled offside. After being out-shot 3-0 early, the Engineers took a 7-5 advantage in shots attempts into halftime.

Skidmore pushed its lead to 2-0 in the 57th minute, when Christine Bellotti '14 took a tight-angle shot from the right side of the box that deflected off an RPI defender and inside the far post. The tally was her third of the year.

Meghan Sleezer '12 had two saves for her eighth shutout of the season.

Skidmore will close out the regular season at 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 29, when the Thoroughbreds visit Nazareth.

http://www.skidmoreathletics.com/news/2011/10/26/WSOC_1026115235.aspx Skidmore Athletics



3-0 road win for Thoroughbreds

By Skidmore Athletics

On Thu, Oct 27, 2011

ONEONTA - Three second-half goals propelled the Skidmore College field hockey team to a 3-0 road win over Hartwick College, October 27.

The No. 5 Thoroughbreds are 15-1 with seven straight wins. The Hawks drop to 6-10.

Skidmore dominated the game, not allowing a Hartwick shot on goal. The Thoroughbreds outshot the Hawks 22-4.

After a scoreless first half, Lauren Tobias '12 got Skidmore on the board, taking a long pass from Jackie Slocombe '12 for her 12th goal of the season at 44:36. Annie Rosencrans '12 made it 2-0 from Kelly Blackhurst '14 at 50:42. Rosencrans returned the favor, assisting Blackhurst 10 minutes later for the third goal. It was Blackhurst's 22nd goal of the season.

Haley McDougall '15 earned her sixth and the team's seventh shutout of the season.

Skidmore will close out the regular season at home at 1 p.m. on Saturday against Geneseo.

http://www.skidmoreathletics.com/news/2011/10/26/FHOCK_1026110616.aspx>Skidmore Athletics

Young entrepreneurs thrive at Skidmore Student Markets

WSPN & PROARTS host the first of several campus market events open to everyone

By MichaelDuPré, Staff Writer

On Thu, Oct 27, 2011

Oct. 7 marked the opening of the first Skidmore Student Market, which brought together students' diverse artistic and culinary talents to sell their creations on Case Green.

Katie Humphreys, a brainchild of the Student Market, helped create the event for students who make interesting things. "The Skidmore Market is a great way to promote WSPN and the talents of Skidmore's student artists and bakers," Humphreys said.

At the market, a few of the students sold used or vintage clothes. Since high school, Humphreys has collected unique items at thrift stores. Her collection has pieces from all over the country: Washington, Louisiana and upstate New York. The pieces that she sold at the market were ones that did not fit her or that she had not worn in a while. Humphreys was able to make enough money to fund a few weekends.

My friends, like many college students, have get-rich-quick schemes, Humphreys said. "We've been talking about doing this for a while."

On the weekends, Humphreys' friend, Alex Maddalena '12, often brings up his idea to sell banana bread to Skidmore students. Another one of Humphreys' friends, Melissa Schlobohm '12, often expresses her desire to have a garage sale on campus.

Another popular item was the biscotti baked and sold by Caitlin Allen '12. After studying abroad in Florence, Allen brought back some local recipes and started Cait's Cookies.

Allen thought of the Student Market as a learning experience. "Students who study art at Skidmore receive great instruction, but learn very little about the business side of things," she said.

Humphreys has high expectations for the Skidmore Student Market. "I want to see it flourish. I would like to see more clubs, and especially more underclassmen, get involved," Humphreys said.

Humphreys hinted at the possibility of collaborating with the environmental action club, vendors from the Saratoga Farmers Market or a local animal shelter.

Students are not required to sell the items they place on display. Trading items is also encouraged. "We are able to make a profit from our talents without the influence of any outside power structure," Humphreys said.

Look out for posters announcing the next Skidmore Student Market, the time and place of which have yet to be announced. To find out more, contact Katie Humphreys at khumphre@skidmore.edu or Alex Amaddalena at amaddale@skidmore.edu.

#1.2671465:459083134.jpg skidmore student market

Look out for more posters announcing the next Skidmore Student Market

WSPN & PROARTS



SKIDMORE STUDENT MARKET

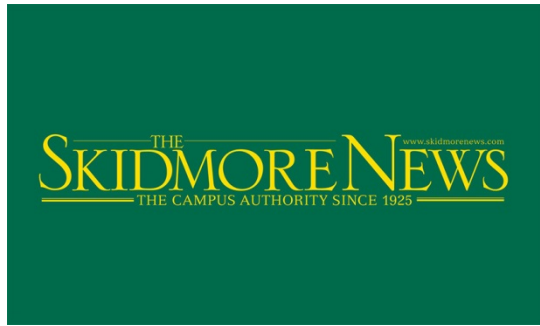
in association with **OKTOBERFEST**

Friday, October 7

Case Green 12 - 5 p.m.

OPEN TO ALL!

contact: khumphre@skidmore.edu or amaddale@skidmore.edu



Editorial: Something Moorebid this way comes

By the Editorial Board

On Fri, Oct 28, 2011

Appropriately, some fright is in the air this Halloween. After last year's Moorebid Ball ended early in a flood of ambulance calls, the college has spent a year making sure future events are safer.

The changes made this year are to prevent the excess drinking that ruined last year's ball. Most significantly, the dance has been moved from Case Center to the Rec and Dance gyms in the Williamson Sports Center, and reentry will not be allowed.

The change in venue makes it easier for Campus Safety to monitor students as they enter, preventing students from sneaking in concealed alcohol, and catching excessively inebriated individuals at the door before they disappear onto the dance floor. This will create what Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun hopefully calls a "safe environment:" one in which the flow of people and consumption of alcohol are under control.

While the true effectiveness of these measures will have to be judged on Saturday, it is uncertain that they will dissolve the annual fog of drunkenness that passes over campus every Halloween.

The college's plan to police containers and bar re-entry has the potential to backfire. Students - underage or not - looking to get drunk for Moorebid can still do so. Without the option to leave for more alcohol, students may feel the pressure to go hard and fast in anticipation of being cut off once they enter the gym. And since most of the drinking occurred off-site last year anyway (less than half of the hospital-bound students were picked up at Case Center), this policy seems off-target.

It also remains to be seen how the new Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) policy will be put into action during this event. While Calhoun was quick to point out that the AOD policy was not changed directly as a result of last year's Moorebid debacle, it would be naïve to imagine that the policy changes were not designed with this year's event in mind. We will have to wait and see what the administration envisions in terms of punishing the offenses which will likely end up on display.

The policy's point system includes the new violations "Public Intoxication" (two points), and, more to the point, "Public intoxication at any academic or social event sponsored by Skidmore" (three points). It remains unclear to what degree these policies will be enforced at large events like Moorebid, but with 10 accumulated points resulting in a student's review for suspension, such offenses are precarious to casually intoxicated attendees, even those over 21.

Furthermore, the revised AOD policy includes a controversial "association rule" that assigns a Level I violation to anyone found in the presence of alcohol, regardless of whether the individual is drinking. As discussed in a previous editorial, this clause, even given its "free pass" for first offense, potentially conflicts with the school's amnesty policy that ensures that a student making a positive decision - calling Campus Safety or similar when another student is in need - will not be penalized for their friends' or their own consumption.

While the nine ambulances called last year made for a disaster, all nine of the students made it out alive, something that may not have happened had their peers not made the calls. While Campus Safety will undoubtedly be selective in their write-ups, a clarified system would alleviate concern that students looking out for their peers will be penalized.

What happened last year put our college on the national stage in a way that damaged our institutional reputation, something in which every student at this school should feel invested. While the college's reaction could use some refinement, the truth is that we students are the real victims of Moorebid 2010. We have the most to lose from a redux. It was our friends and acquaintances who faced an evening of pumped stomachs and miserable sickness.

Luckily, it is also well within our power to refute these expectations and prove that we are capable of having fun and drinking responsibly without ambulances and vandalism.

DateMySchool offers academic exclusivity and caters to the picky

By Sarah Barry and Sandy Zhang

On Fri, Oct 28, 2011

For those frustrated by the limited romantic offerings in their schools, DateMySchool may be the apt solution. DateMySchool.com specifically caters to only undergraduates, graduates, and alumni users to provide a virtual way to meet social peers from schools across the country.

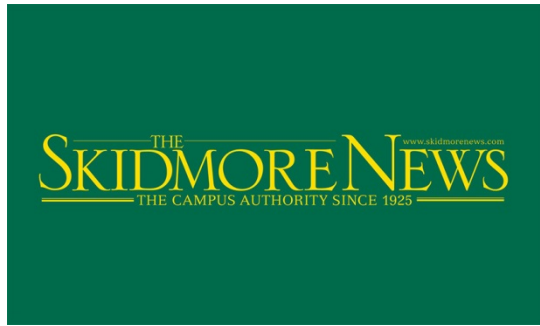
On October 19 DMS expanded to 600 colleges and universities nationwide. "We're extending usage to become what we really are: a platform to discover new people online. We plan to expand to even more colleges and universities in the U.S. and, eventually, we plan to expand internationally," said Melanie Wallner, public relations director of DMS.

Two MBA classmates at Columbia University, Balazs Alexa and Jean Meyer, founded the website, which launched in Nov. 2010. "Within a week, 5 percent of Columbia's student body signed up. We expanded to NYU a month later and, today, over 25 percent of Columbia and NYU students are on DMS," Wallner said.

Perhaps the most useful feature of the website is that it allows users to pick and choose the qualities that are important to them. One can search for potential suitors by school, major, graduate program, religion, age, height etc. For example, if someone only wants to date people who are enrolled in Columbia Business School and are between 20 and 25 years old, then anyone without these traits will not appear in a search.

They [Alexa and Meyer] came up with DMS after a girl in the nursing school complained about her department being 90 percent female. They were in the business school, which was 80 percent male. They realized that there was a bigger market – "lots of students want to meet across departments and campuses," Wallner said.

Similar to Facebook in its early stages, DateMySchool only allows those with an email address ending in .edu to become members. In other words, only if you are associated with an educational institution are you allowed to join.



According to the website, this restriction of email address creates a safer virtual environment to those who hold qualms about meeting with any stranger with an Internet connection. Members are also unsearchable on Google, and DateMySchool does not require a fee from its members.

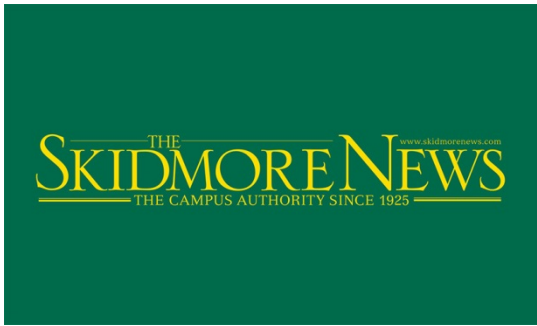
The networking and dating service has expanded to schools in hubs like Washington, D. C., Boston, Miami, Los Angeles and San Diego. "Extensive press coverage, including CNN, The New York Times, The Huffington Post and Time Out NY, have helped us reach over 55,00 members," Wallner said.

Whether for dating, relational or study purposes, DMS is the go-to place to discover new friends, not necessarily to connect with old ones," Wallner said.

To find out more information or to register for DMS visit DateMySchool.com

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DateMySchool's website



email password [Login](#)
[Forgot your password?](#)

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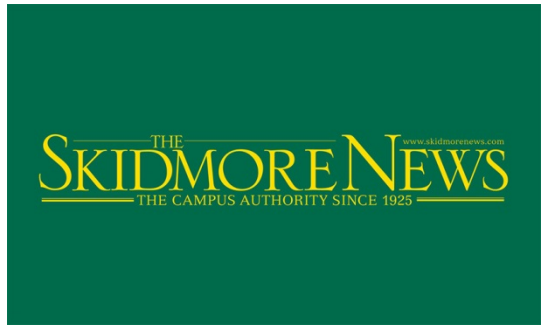


Sign up to get a date

I am a...

Your university email

[Join](#)

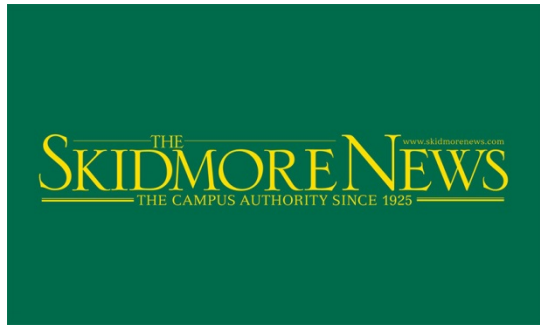


Ensemble ACJW performs at Zankel

By Sandy Zhang, A&E Editor

On Fri, Oct 28, 2011

Last week, Ensemble ACJW, composed of fellows of Carnegie Hall's The Academy, visited the college for its eighth residency. In the duration of three days, the Ensemble informally performed around campus, instructed music students, and concluded their residency with a concert in Helen Filene Ladd Concert Hall of the Arthur Zankel Music Center.



2011 Kenneth A. Freirich Business Plan Competition under way

Participating students begin workshops to develop their ideas

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Fri, Oct 28, 2011

30 students have submitted intent-to-compete forms in the Kenneth A. Freirich Business Plan Competition, which will take place over the course of the academic year, hoping to get a share of the \$25,000 that will be awarded to students with the best business plans.

The competition is named for Kenneth A. Freirich '90, a serial entrepreneur and president of Health Monitor Network, who returned to the College in 2010 as its first Entrepreneur in Residence. The first competition took place last year.

"One of the things that we're most excited about is that our students are really adept at saying there's a problem that needs to be solved, and they devise ways to solve that problem," said Tim Harper, associate professor and chairman of the management & business department, who along with Roy Rotheim, professor of economics, and Ken Freirich, is organizing and running the competition.

Students will go through a series of workshops until Dec. 9, led by Alison Frey '12 and Todd Powell '12, members of Rotheim's Skidmore-Saratoga Entrepreneurial Partnership, which take place on Tuesdays. These workshops are designed to help participants write a comprehensive business plan and modify it into a presentable format.

"Last year there were only 14 business plans submitted out of the 30 [intents to compete]," Rotheim said. "What we're hoping is that by having this business plan writing workshop is to raise our percentage to 20-25 submissions, and secondly to improve the quality of each of those business plans that are submitted."

Rotheim said that there is a wide diversity of students who are participating in the competition in regards to majors and class years. "It's consistent with what Ken Freirich hoped -- to tap the talents of a wide diversity of students on campus," he said.

The first stage of business plans are due on Jan. 25, when they will be sent to the a panel of judges comprised of successful entrepreneurs, local and non-local, who will review them before the executive summary presentations on Feb. 10.

From these entrants the judges will choose seven finalists, who will then move on to work with Frey and Powell, as well as an alum or parent who is a successful entrepreneur business person and will serve as their mentor. The revised business plans will be due on April 2, followed by the final presentations on April 13, after which three finalists will be chosen to receive funds for their projects.

"It's going to be a very exciting time for us to see the graduation of the proposals in terms of quality," said Harper, referring to the two stages of the competition that students will have to refine their plans.

"I think what it's going to do is it's going to make a more even playing field," Rotheim said. It'll make sure that the English major has just as much of a chance as the management and business major."

One of last year's seven finalists, a group consisting of first-years Zach Rohde '14, Malcolm Perry '14, and Thomas Sellers '14, set up a "MyBad Industries," after receiving the rights to the phrase, "my bad." The company will produce t-shirts and other, as Zach dubs it, "apology lifestyle clothing."

The business proposals are in a variety of stages at this point, with some seeking to improve pre-existing businesses and others merely existing as ideas. One student is writing a business plan for a smartphone application that will notify students when their laundry on campus has finished, as well as where the available machines are.

Rotheim said that one thing he enjoys about this competition is that it brings out the talents of students who have the drive to accomplish something instead of just thinking about it. Harper added that having access to campus resources for the competition also gives students aspiration, even if they do not end up as finalists.

If a student has an aspiration, he said, "well, that seed has been planted for five years, six years, seven years down the road."

"The third organizer and sponsor of the event, Freirich, devotes himself to the competition and is very excited for this year's batch of students," said Harper and Rotheim.

Freirich will be treating all of the participants to dinner at the restaurant Harvest & Hearth to mingle and become acquainted with him and with each other. "He loves this," Rotheim said, "and he inspires them [the students], and so he is so much more than just the person who has come up with the money."

Rotheim said that one of the things that they learned from last year's competition is that "the key to the success of a program at this level is the support services that we provide to the students at every level."

He also emphasized the importance of students working on their own without outside involvement. "When students are working by themselves and are creating their own curriculum, there is a powerful sense of ownership."

#1.2673208:3301567010.jpg Ken

Kenneth A. Freirich '90

Courtesy Skidmore Department of Communications



Shut Down: Moorebid Ball terminated early again

By Gabe Weintraub and Brendan James, Managing Editor and Editor-in-Chief

On Sat, Oct 29, 2011

For the second consecutive year, Moorebid Ball has been shut down early, this time due to dangerous overcrowding in the Rec Gym. The festivities came to a sudden close at approximately 12:30 a.m.

A campus safety officer, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, summed up the incident with two words: "Bad venue."

The change of venue from Case Center to the Williamson Sports Center did little to facilitate the monitoring and control of the event.

One thing that's clear is that we have not adequately addressed what is the most appropriate venue, said Rochelle Calhoun, dean of student affairs, who was away from the college last weekend. "The ability to have an event of that size and an appropriate venue for it to be safe in continues to be a primary issue."

In the corridor between the Rec and Dance gyms, approximately 1,400 students formed a mass of bodies that left many simply unable to move and travel to and from the different gyms. With a no-reentry policy in place, students had little freedom of movement.

"I was almost trampled downstairs," says Lucy Greer '12. Another student, Rachel Bier '12 said, "I felt like I was going to suffocate in the middle of all those people."

According to VP of Residential Affairs Aaron Shifreen, a volleyball tournament that took place earlier in the day prohibited full use of the larger gym, which might have allowed for a more stable venue.

Moorebid Ball was held originally at Moore Hall, an off-campus site at 32 Union Avenue in Saratoga Springs that served as a residential hall for students until 2006, when the college sold it to NorStar Development. The venue for Moorebid then changed to Case Center up until this year.

It took roughly 10 minutes to get from one gym to the other gym, something that would normally take individuals only a few seconds. But with the heavy traffic from two streams of students going opposite directions, the area became clogged, hot, sweaty, and eventually near-motionless.

Significant overcrowding of the corridors between the two gyms caused stress among the attendees. In some cases students audibly begged each other not to push or shove. People voiced aloud their concern of harm wrought by all the commotion.

More details to come.

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Moorebid

Erica Kleinman '13/The Skidmore News



Basketball team hopes to trump historic season

By Jesse Shayne, Sports Editor

On Sat, Oct 29, 2011

Last season marked a historic high for the Skidmore men's basketball program; the team won the Liberty League championship and made it to the NCAA tournament, both for the first time in Skidmore's history. Having graduated only one senior last year, the team has lofty goals for the upcoming season.

"My goal, to be honest, is to try and win a national championship," head coach Joe Burke said.

Considering the circumstances, Skidmore's chances of winning it all are not too shabby. The team went 18-10 overall (including playoffs) in their first season with a new head coach. Along with winning the League championship and making it to NCAA's, the team did something that no Skidmore athletic team has ever done - be on ESPN's highly viewed sports show, Sportscenter.

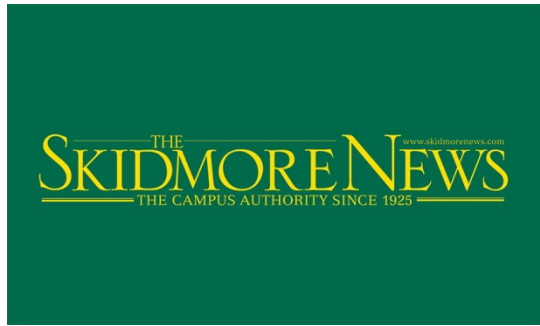
The team played against Southern Vermont University for their third game of the season, which turned into a seven overtime victory that tied the NCAA record for overtimes in a basketball game. Aside from making it on to the Sportscenter highlights, the win also gave the team momentum that carried them through the rest of the season.

The seven overtime game was a coming together point for us because anytime you have a new coach there is always a big transition period, Burke said. "I felt like we played six or seven games in one and I felt like that was something that brought us close together. We learned to trust each other a lot after that game."

While the team is losing their second-leading scorer, Jeff Altimar, they will have nine seniors on the roster this season, all of whom will play significant minutes according to Burke. Seniors on the team this season include: Garret Bush, Kyle Clark, Melvis Langyintuo, Brian Lowry, Dyan Malloy, John Mantas, Raoul Oloa, Liberty League first team selection Gerard O'Shea and last year's team captain Terron Victoria.

"The nine of us have been together since freshmen year and we are all best friends and get along...team chemistry is very high," said O'Shea, who was the starting point guard last season.

Everyone else from the team last year will be coming back except for one member who has taken a leave of absence. Two freshmen will be joining Skidmore men's basketball as well, Connor Merrill



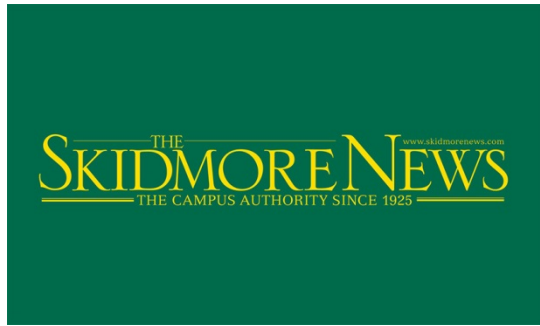
(Vermont Academy) and Nanribet Yiljep (Westtown Prep.). "Both freshmen were highly recruited..both had division one and two offers but they really loved this place and loved the team," Burke said.

The team will be facing a revamped Liberty League that lost Hamilton College but added Bard College and Rochester Institute of Technology. Hamilton was the team Skidmore beat in the Liberty League Championship last season.

No team has repeated as Liberty League Champion for the past eight seasons, so if Skidmore does it they will be breaking a trend. "We have a target on our back so we are going to get every team's best effort. Everyone wants to beat the champion," O'Shea said.

The team has been working hard since they started practicing at the end of September. "Having been at division one I know how hard those guys work, and these guys work just as hard, they just don't get the notoriety," Burke said.

Skidmore will open up the regular season with a three game homestand. They will start the season on Nov. 15 against Cobleskill College, play a rematch of last season's seven overtime thriller against Southern Vermont College on Nov. 22 and then face Oneonta State on Nov. 30. They will participate in a national division three tournament in Las Vegas over Christmas break. Liberty League play will kick off on Jan. 6 against Vassar College.



Skidmore Women's Soccer drops regular-season final

By Skidmore Athletics

On Sun, Oct 30, 2011

ROCHESTER - Christine Belding scored the game-winning goal 1:52 into the second overtime session to lift host Nazareth to a 1-0 non-conference victory over Skidmore College. Following the victory, Nazareth improves to 9-3-4 overall. The Thoroughbreds fall to 12-5.

Skidmore will host RIT in a Liberty League semifinal at 4 p.m. on Wednesday.

Thoroughbred goalie Meghan Sleezer '12 kept the Golden Fliers off the board, meeting each challenge through all of regulation and the first overtime period. Sleezer finished with 10 saves before allowing Belding's goal. Skidmore came into the contest against Nazareth with only eight goals against them through the previous 16 games.

Nazareth's goalie Abbie Carey prevented Skidmore from scoring the go ahead goal in the final minutes of regulation as she thwarted two of the Thoroughbreds' better scoring opportunities. Carey beat Skidmore's forward to a through ball in the middle of Nazareth's penalty area and smothered it before a shot could be taken. Moments later, Carey punched another ball out of the Golden Flyers' penalty area. Carey finished the contest with three saves to record the shutout.

In the 89th minute, Skidmore forced a turnover deep in Nazareth's defensive zone. The Thoroughbreds' Abby Benton '12 collected the ball and took a shot from the middle of the Golden Flyers' penalty box. Benton's shot, however, sailed wide left.

Nazareth finished with a 15-11 advantage in shots, including an 11-3 advantage in shots on goal. The Golden Flyers also had a 6-2 advantage in corner kick opportunities.

http://www.skidmoreathletics.com/news/2011/10/29/WSOC_1029114607.aspx>Skidmore Athletics

Thoroughbred Swimming sweeps Potsdam

By Skidmore Athletics

On Sun, Oct 30, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - The Skidmore College men's and women's swimming and diving teams picked up wins over Potsdam, Saturday afternoon at the Williamson Sports Center. The women won 134-92, while the men won a close one, 118-109.

On the women's side, Sarah Shaw '12 won the 1000 Free (11:27.99) with Emily Przysinda '15 finishing second (12:00.41). Carrie Koch '13 won both the 200 (2:03.00) and 500 Freestyle (5:37.91) and Catherine King '15 continued to dominate sprint freestyle, touching first in both the 50 Free (25.30) and 100 Free (55.25).

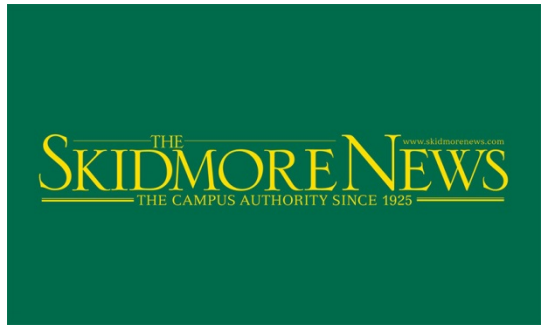
Katherine Kelloway '14 was also a double-winner, winning both the 200 Individual Medley (2:19.21) and 100 Backstroke (1:04.72). Kristin Stearns '13 and Krista Pelton '14 swept diving. Stearns scored 217.80 on 1 Meter and 239.78 on 3 Meter, while Pelton scored 183.23 on 1 Meter and 194.25 on 3 Meter.

In the men's meet, the Thoroughbreds came away with key victories in the 200 Medley and 200 Free relays. Jesse Adler '13, Nick Sauerbrunn '15, Sam Leibenhaut '12 and Tim Brodsky '15 combined to win the medley relay in 1:46.92. Down by 3 points going into the free relay, the men combined to go 1-2, assuring the team victory. Taylor Best '14, Robert Fulton '15, Greg Amoresano '13 and Andrew Becker '13 touched first 1:37.03, while the team of Lyle Stephenson '15, Leibenhaut, Peter Quattromani '14 and Andrew Lloyd '12 finished second in 1:38.93.

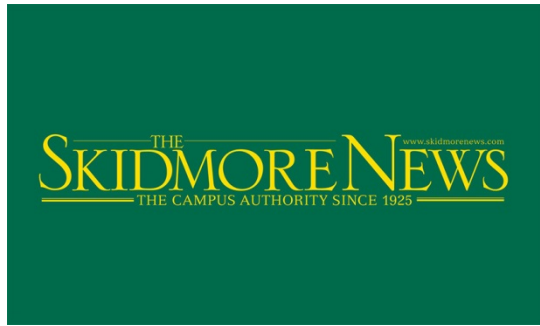
The men's team swept the 50 Freestyle, with Brodsky (23.86) first, followed by Fulton (24.65) and Becker (24.69), and finished 2-3-4 in the 100 Freestyle. Brodsky was second (52.53), Best third (52.87) followed by Amoresano (54.38). Adler won the 100 Backstroke (57.99), and touched second in the 200 Individual Medley (2:09.47).

Diver Doug Pilawa '12 had an outstanding meet, winning both boards, earning NCAA qualifying scores and breaking his own school records in each event. Pilawa scored 333.38 on 1 Meter and 358.13 on 3 Meter.

Important points were earned by Quattromani, finishing second in both the 1000 Free (10:57.78) and 500 Freestyle (5:17.79); Sauerbrunn, second in the 200 Free (1:56.07); and Fulton, second in the 100 Breaststroke (1:07.75).



http://skidmoreathletics.com/news/2011/10/29/MSWIM_1029110045.aspx>Skidmore Athletics



Skidmore ends on an up note

By Skidmore Athletics

On Sun, Oct 30, 2011

SCHENECTADY - A pair of second-half goals carried the Skidmore College men's soccer team to a 2-1 Liberty League road win over Union College, Saturday.

With the win, the Thoroughbreds finish fifth in the Liberty League with a 3-4-1 league and 7-10-1 overall record. The Dutchmen finish seventh at 2-5-1 and 11-5-1.

After a scoreless first half, Gordon Bray '15 headed one past Union keeper Adam Margulies off a Marcus Goldbas '13 corner for a 1-0 lead at 50:23. Diego Reinero '12 made it 2-0 from Brock Bakewell '15 at 64:40.

Union scored less than a minute later, but the Thoroughbreds shut the Dutchmen down the rest of the way for the hard-earned win.

Nick Peterson '12 had two saves in net for the win in his final collegiate contest.

No. 5 Skidmore rolls in regular season finale

By Skidmore Athletics

On Sun, Oct 30, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - Kelly Blackhurst '14 recorded four assists to become the youngest player in program history to record 100 career points as the 5th-ranked Skidmore College field hockey defeated Geneseo 6-1.

The four assists ties a single game record, becoming just the fourth player to accomplish the feat and first since Jodi Wheeler and Molly McClellan did it in 1998. With her third assist of the day, Blackhurst became the 12th player in program history to record 100 career points, joining Annie Rosencrans '12, who reached the feat two games earlier, as the most recent player to reach the mark.

The Thoroughbreds close out the regular season with a 16-1 record and will host St. Lawrence on Nov. 2 in the Liberty League semifinals. Skidmore has now won eight straight and extended its home winning streak to 27 games. With the loss, the Knights fall to 10-9.

Ceilidh MacNeil '13 got the scoring started at the 13:43 mark, redirecting a shot from Blackhurst past Geneseo keeper Caitlyn Dowell to make it 1-0. At the 20:07 mark, Lauren Tobias '12 received a centering pass from Blackhurst and sent it home for her 13th goal of the season. Rosencrans made it 3-0 at the 31:46 mark when she took a pass from Blackhurst and blasted it from the top of the circle. The Knights responded at the 32:08 mark as sophomore Kayla DeAngelis picked up a loose ball in front and beat Thoroughbred goalie Haley McDougall '15 for her 17th of the season, making it 3-1 at half.

Just over 10 minutes in to the second half, Rosencrans scored again, this time on a shot from the wing off a penalty corner to make it 4-1. Jackie Slocombe '12 and Hilary Cranston '13 assisted on the goal. At the 52:08 mark, Rosencrans scored her third goal of the game and 14th of the season, redirecting MacNeill's pass from outside the circle. MacNeill capped the scoring at the 68:12 mark, redirecting a pass from Blackhurst for her second of the game, giving Skidmore the 6-1 victory.

McDougall made five saves to improve to 15-1, while Dowell finished with eight saves for Geneseo.

The Thoroughbreds outshot the Knights 19-7 and held an 11-3 advantage in penalty corners.

Thoroughbred netters extend win streak to 10

By Skidmore Athletics

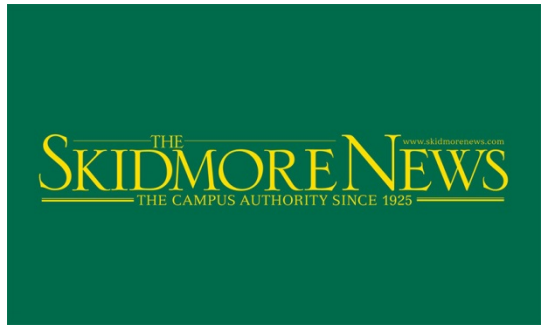
On Sun, Oct 30, 2011

SARATOGA SPRINGS - The Skidmore College volleyball team completed the perfect weekend, beating Baruch and New Paltz to claim the Skidmore Invitational Tournament championship.

The Thoroughbreds have won 10 straight and 14 of 15 to take a 25-8 record into next weekend's Liberty League championship tournament at Clarkson.

Skidmore came from behind to beat New Paltz 3-2 (21-25, 25-17, 18-25, 25-17, 15-4) to win the tournament. Tournament MVP Kelley Vershbow '12 had 20 kills, 15 digs, two aces and two blocks to lead the Thoroughbreds. Corrine Palmer '14 also made the All-Tournament team with 17 kills and five blocks (one solo) against New Paltz. Emma Wilberg '14 made a solid contribution as well.

Also on the All-Tournament team were Melinda Santiago (Baruch), Melinda DiGiovanna (New Paltz), Carrie Hack (New Paltz), Theresa Lilly (Plattsburgh) and Eve Richards (Union).



SGA Senate Live Blog

By Ani Lordkipanidze, Staff Writer

On Mon, Oct 31, 2011

Join us for weekly live coverage of the SGA Senate.

Post-Mooretem: What Really Happened This Time?

Moorebid Ball's new venue created unexpected dangers for students

By Brendan James, Editor-in-Chief

On Mon, Oct 31, 2011

"I was almost trampled downstairs," complains Lucy Greer '12, one of the many Skidmore students who experienced the unforeseen consequences of holding this year's Halloween dance in the Williamson Sports Center.

Lt. Larry Britt was in charge of the 14 Campus Safety officers patrolling the event that night. "We had calls for EMTs, and calls that people were falling down in the hallway," he said.

The main source of the disorder was the corridor connecting the Rec and Dance gyms of Sports Center. The narrow space became an untenable passageway as about 1,400 students in attendance attempted to move between the two gyms.

Another student, Rachel Bier '12 remarked, "I felt like I was going to suffocate in the middle of all those people." Two fights eventually broke out in the corridor, causing even more discomfort and disruption.

At approximately 12:30 a.m., an hour and a half before the event was scheduled to end, Britt decided to shut down the event out of concern for student safety.

"It had to be done. The reason it was closed was because of safety concerns, not behavioral issues - we had some of those too, but that was not the reason the dance had to end," Britt said.

No serious injuries or emergencies resulting from the Sports Center disorder have yet been reported.

According to VP of Residential Affairs Aaron Shifreen, a volleyball tournament that took place earlier in the day prohibited full use of the Center's "big gym," which might have allowed for a more stable venue. Instead the two other gyms were used to account for the large number of students, each allowing for roughly 770 people.

Inter-Hall Board (IHB) was in charge of organizing the event in coordination with Campus Safety and the college administration.

While Student Government Association (SGA) set up stations in the Sport Center entrance to assign Moorebid bracelets and track the number of attendees, many students did not receive bracelets and were unaware of the entire system.

Even with 14 officers besides Britt on duty, control and monitoring of entry became noticeably convoluted within the first hour. Attendance began to reach its peak at 11:00 p.m. and half an hour later it had spun into what Britt called "almost a mob."

It took roughly 10 minutes to get from one gym to the other gym, something that would normally take individuals only a few seconds. But with the heavy traffic from two streams of students going opposite directions, the area became clogged, hot, sweaty, and eventually near-motionless.

Significant overcrowding of the corridors between the two gyms caused stress among the attendees. In some cases students audibly begged each other not to push or shove. People voiced aloud their concern of harm wrought by all the commotion.

Both Shifreen and SGA President Jonathan Zeidan attended several planning meetings with administration and Campus Safety in the weeks leading up to the event. They stress the precautions taken in planning for a completely new venue and emphasized the difficulties in anticipating the reality on the ground.

"Whenever you do something for the first time, it's an experiment," Zeidan said.

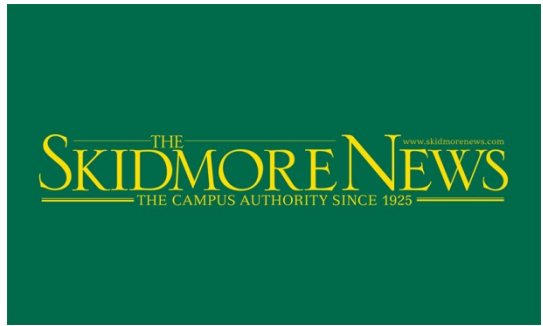
Zeidan went on to contextualize the surge in the corridors in connection to the nature of the Moorebid event.

"We tend to think of Moorebid Ball as a dance, but it's also a broader social event. So in the gyms, unlike in Case Center, apart from the dancing you had a lot of overcrowding in these hallways where people were supposed to be able to talk," Zeidan said.

In hindsight, many of the planners admit the lack of concern over what would become the bottleneck corridor. "I guess we didn't fully take that dynamic into account," Shifreen added. Robin Adams, Director of Leadership Activities and the liaison between student planners and the sports center, remarked that, while the behavior of intoxicated students is unpredictable, the bottleneck in the corridor "probably could have been anticipated."

Lt. Britt echoed this sentiment: "Looking back it seems pretty obvious, but in planning this everyone simply figured students would stay in the gyms where the music was."

Moorebid Ball was held originally at Moore Hall, an off-campus site at 32 Union Avenue in Saratoga Springs that served as a residential hall for students until 2006, when the college sold it to NorStar Development. The venue for Moorebid then changed to Case Center up until this year.



According to Campus Safety reports, five ambulances left campus that night, though they were all concerning over-drinking in resident halls and other spots on Campus rather than the Sports Center. One transport was a non-student.