

Administrators to review AOD policy next week

Retreat scheduled to possibly amend and clarify controversial new policy

By Brendan James, Editor-in-Chief

On Wed, Feb 1, 2012

Administrators from Residential Life and Student Affairs divisions will embark on a retreat next week to reassess and amend the College Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) [policy](http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/college-revises-alcohol-and-sexual-misconduct-policies-1.2591432), a process that Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun says will be based on student input.

"We will sit down and come to an understanding on the revisions," Calhoun said. "We received a lot of good and useful feedback from students, and took a lot on board."

The feedback Calhoun references came last semester during a [public information session](http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/alcohol-and-other-drugs-policy-forum-addresses-controversy-1.2683882) hosted by the College's peer mediation group, Fight Club. Students appeared before members of the administration and critiqued elements of the new AOD policy.

Among the more contentious points in the policy implemented last semester was the "association rule" in which students could be penalized for being in the presence of those drinking alcohol. Also, while few students articulated any concerns over the new point system in general, many desired to see an amendment allowing students to work toward expunging the points within their four-year college career.

These [major concerns](http://www.skidmorenews.com/op-ed/editorial-ambiguity-and-uncertainty-in-the-new-aod-policy-1.2609161), as well as patches of the policy viewed as ambiguous or unclear, will be addressed during the retreat, Calhoun said.

Afterward the new plan will be presented to committees on ResLife, SGA and the Intervention and Assessment Group. SGA will most likely hold a public session of Senate to discuss the new changes in front of the student body.

Skidmore to host New Energy Economy

By Sarah Barry, Features Editor

On Wed, Feb 1, 2012

On Feb. 17 the College will host the New Energy Economy Forum (NEEF), a student organized conference focused on new and existing sources of clean energy in Gannett auditorium. The forum will provide information on clean energy innovation and an opportunity for students to network and meet the representatives speaking at the forum.

“It will provide context for the need for a transition away from fossil fuels and towards a clean energy future, highlight the need for communities to work together to identify solutions, and give students a chance to interact with those who are working in this exciting field,” said Riley Neugebauer, the College’s Sustainability Coordinator.

The event will feature more than 25 regional representatives from a variety of positions within the renewable energy and energy efficiency fields. The forum’s keynote speaker, Rolling Stone journalist Jeff Goodell, will speak at 7 p.m., Feb. 16. The forum will take place the following day.

The New Energy Economy is sponsored by Sustainable Skidmore, the environmental studies department and Focus the Nation.

“The forum is designed to help out community members and students equally. It’s focused on solutions that exist already and ways to finance those solutions and make them a reality,” said Gordon McPherson ‘12, who helped organize the event.

The event is free and open to the public and will take place from noon to 6 p.m. on Feb. 17 in Gannett Auditorium. To register for the event and find out more visit <http://www.wix.com/focusskidmore/skidmoreneef>.

Students and faculty discuss changes to Moorebid Ball

Ad hoc committees to determine the fate of Moorebid this semester

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Wed, Feb 1, 2012

Student and faculty ad hoc committees continue to explore various options to deal with Moorebid Ball, with ideas that range from renting downtown bars to canceling the event itself.

Moorebid Ball, the annual Halloween all-campus dance, was shut down early again this October, this year because of overcrowding and potentially dangerous conditions in the Williamson Sports and Recreation Center where the event was being held for the first time. Members of the administration and the student body have since been working to devise a solution that will make Moorebid safe and enjoyable for students.

"I think our full intention is to have a direction for Moorebid by the end of this semester so that we can help people understand what we are thinking," Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun said. "I'm assuming that we'll be in a broader community discussion at some point soon."

Student Government Association Vice-President for Residential Affairs Aaron Shifreen '13 served as the spokesperson for the student ad hoc committee, which is comprised of SGA and Inter-Hall board members, as well as non-member students who expressed an interest in the process.

Shifreen and the other members of the student committee met with members of the faculty committee, including Calhoun and Robin Adams, interim director of Leadership Activities, once last semester. "It's very hard to get all those people in the same place at once," said Shifreen, explaining why the meetings haven't been more frequent.

The student committee spent the time in between semesters discussing different ideas and possible changes to Moorebid. These proposals have yet to be reviewed by the faculty committee.

"We decided that probably the biggest problem is the maximum capacity of the event. The event is too popular to be open to everyone on a campus like this," said Shifreen, adding that an off-campus venue is one of the considerations the student committee discussed - an option that would involve providing transportation for students.

Other options include adding more events to the Halloween weekend, and increasing the number of and emphasis on larger-scale events, such as Junior Ring, throughout the fall semester and even encouraging the bars in downtown Saratoga Springs to host Moorebid.

There is one final option that the ad hoc committees must consider, which is canceling Moorebid altogether.

"That's probably an option," Adams said. "I don't know if it's the right one, but it's certainly an option. The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again, expecting a different result, and we can't do that."

"The administration has told us that they won't expressly say no to what we decide unless there's an extreme risk to the safety of the student body," Shifreen said. "The event must change, however, as there is no venue that can hold that number of people."

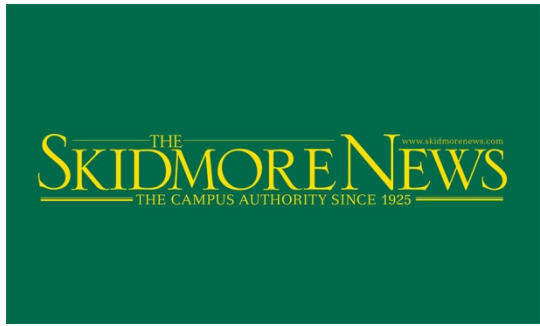
The committees must also consider methods to control the large number of students that usually attend the ball. One of the more popular proposed solutions is to charge students for tickets in order to control the number of people who attend.

"I think a few of these things are possible," said Adams in reference to the student ad hoc committee's suggestions. "The key thing would be to have a limited number of tickets, knowing we don't have the space to do what people want."

Another issue in the process of revisions is the College's Alcohol and Other Drugs policy, which was met with criticism from the student body last semester. When asked about the effect that the revised AOD policy might have on Moorebid, both Shifreen and Adams said they were unsure how much it would affect student drinking.

Although nothing has been scheduled, Shifreen says he hopes that there will be a meeting between the two committees within the next few weeks, after which a final decision about Moorebid will be reached. "Something will be decided this semester," Shifreen said.

Shifreen encourages students to contact him at ashifree@skidmore.edu if they have any ideas or suggestions regarding Moorebid.



Comic: Investigating Faces

By Nat Nagar, Pulp Editor

On Wed, Feb 1, 2012

Opinion: Ash Tuesday

After the Florida primary, Republicans embrace a self-destructive primary season

By Brendan James, Editor-in-Chief

On Wed, Feb 1, 2012

At long last the GOP race has become something captivating, which is not to say something dignified. The two Republican frontrunners, the fox and the hedgehog, are now pursuing victory with what might be most accurately described as reckless abandon.

Florida's primary inaugurated a volley of rancorous attack ads that have set the pace for the rest of the contest. Before our eyes the supposedly reticent Mitt Romney defanged the usually pugnacious Newt Gingrich in the final Jacksonville debate. Fidel Castro watched from home and enjoyed some free publicity. And Jeb Bush, mercifully, didn't even have to open his mouth.

Let us not get bogged down in the storm of contradictions the candidates brought down upon the residents of Florida as they swept through the state. From Romney's courageous pledge to protect Medicare despite his support for the Ryan plan, to Gingrich's pledge to move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem despite his support for a two-state solution, neither could be said to have out-pandered the other. Nor is it easy to tell which campaign ran the nastier ads (though Newt might have the edge here claiming that [Romney starved](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7rTPSmA-QPQ&feature=player_embedded) [elderly Jewish Bostonians of their matzo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7rTPSmA-QPQ&feature=player_embedded)).

No, what tipped the scales in Romney's favor was his newfound register of emotion, even if it did send him over the edge, into song and occasional mad laughter.

Though the Romney campaign's technicians have not yet programmed their candidate with the full spectrum of human feeling - let them [tinker](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9A8IIA3iHJw&feature=related) a little longer - his indignant aggression at the last debate was enough. The significance of Romney's Jacksonville performance was not simply that he finally took a firm swipe back at Meister Gingrich, sending his opponent into a timid, apologetic retreat, but that he did so with a furrowed brow and a crackle in his voice. Newt was not the only one flabbergasted by this sudden spark of vitality; Romney's numbers began to rise among voters looking for both electability and strong debate performance. Even mere

simulation of human sentiments does a lot for a candidate that has hitherto been viewed as a cold, calculating opportunist who raids ailing businesses and hides his tax returns.

But before we make too much of this new and more dynamic Romney software, we must give due credit to his relentless, routine, and decidedly un-human tactics offstage. Romney outspent Gingrich five times over, blanketing the airwaves as his trusty Super PAC filled any gaps of decency. Moving forward, Romney might have to finally confront criticism of this two-faced approach: smiling (and singing) through the debates and speeches while orchestrating an elaborate smear campaign - which is to say, his presidential campaign - from the shadows.

Enough with the moralizing: it worked. Gingrich's national lead is fizzling, although it is not as though he was helping himself with his grand, inane narrative about moon colonies that was supposed to tempt voters on the Space Coast. It seems that voters in Cocoa Beach and Palm Bay aren't so easily bamboozled and do consider economic recovery more desirable than a massive expansion of a hyper-costly government agency.

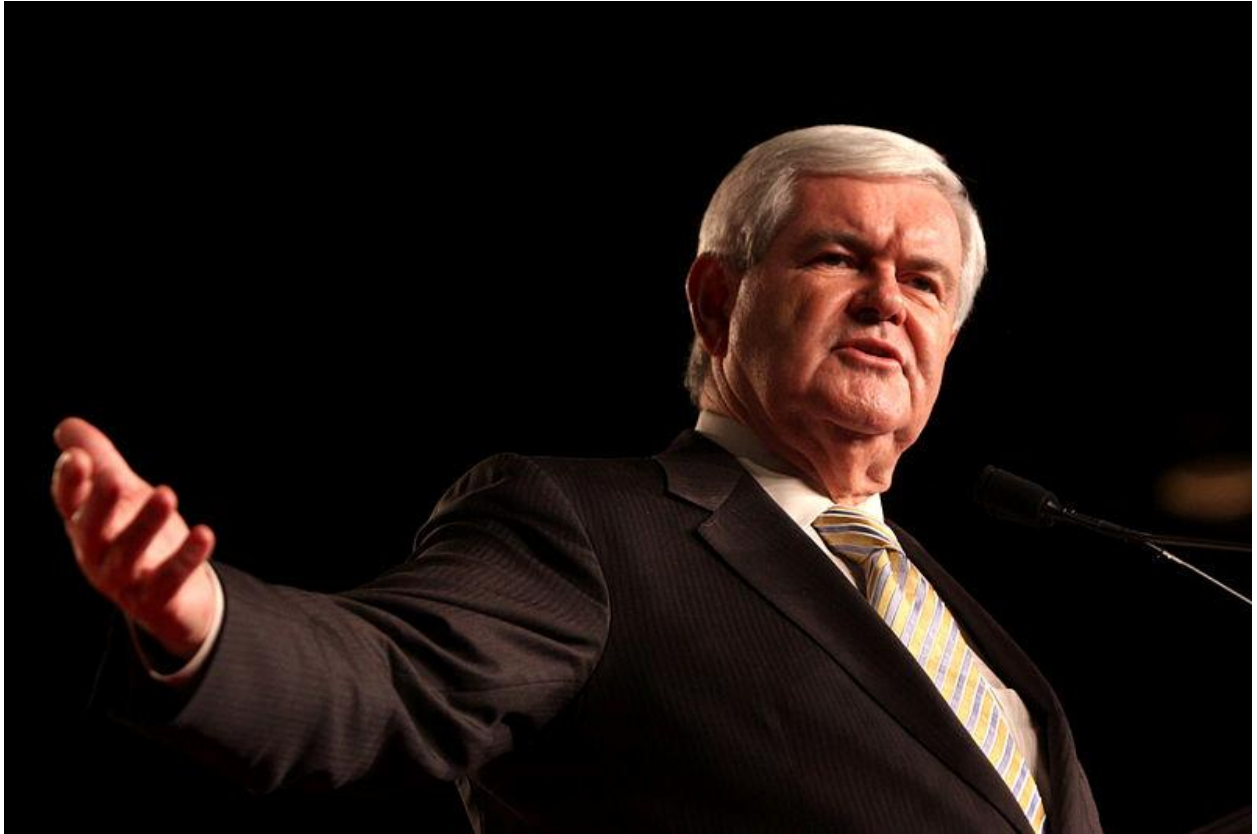
In fact, Floridians in general aren't so easily hoodwinked by these mind-numbing gestures. The most telling numbers from Tuesday night are not Romney's or Newt's, but the [exit polls](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/us-election/9053345/Florida-Republican-primary-behind-the-exit-polls.html) that showed 38% of voters were completely unsatisfied with the field of Republican candidates. This low enthusiasm for either frontrunner combined with the concentrated yet feverish enthusiasm for Ron Paul might spell out a greater relevancy for everyone's favorite anarcho-capitalist in coming months. It also raises questions of a brokered convention, which only increases the anxiety of Newt and Mitt and sends them into more vicious and gnarly backbiting.

There is no going back. These two endlessly ambitious yet boundlessly unappealing candidates have decided to throw their party into a blender this primary season. They spent last week sharpening the blades.

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GOP Presidential candidate Newt Gingrich.

photo: Gage Skidmore



Opinion: Voting for the vultures

Mitt Romney and the insidious influence of super PACs in American politics

By Eric Shapiro, Columnist

On Thu, Feb 2, 2012

In the minds of many, the nomination of Mitt Romney is a forgone conclusion. Unlike his rival Newt Gingrich, he is not a polarizing figure with a dirty past, and it will be comparatively difficult for Democrats to cast doubt on the former Governor's character, or paint him as a dangerous reactionary. Given an innocuous persona and an ostensibly unthreatening, "businessman's approach," it is easy for many Americans, disenchanted as they are with politics-as-usual, to decide that a Romney presidency wouldn't be all that risky. This is a very dangerous conclusion to reach.

Innocuous as Romney may appear, it is important to examine the circumstances of his election and what they say about how he will govern in the event that he defeats Barack Obama later this year. Romney hardly comes across as a transformative figure, but the circumstances of his election are indicative of a disturbing trend in U.S. politics. His candidacy foreshadows one possible political road for the U.S.; one in which government is dominated by Wall Street fat cats, oil companies and billionaires, all working through the plus-sized political action committees known "Super PACs."

Super PACs are organizations that are permitted to anonymously spend unlimited amounts of money to promote and/or attack candidates. They essentially bypass all meaningful campaign finance reform measures undertaken since the Progressive Era. Although nominally required to operate independently from the political campaigns of their preferred candidates, it should be clear to anyone paying attention that this is a clever method of sidestepping campaign finance laws that place limits on campaign contributions. Super PACs are the direct result of the *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* decision, a game-changing judicial debacle that sets a dangerous precedent.

The Supreme Court's ruling is based on the patently absurd premise that corporations are people. Therefore, setting a limit on the amount of money they can donate to political campaigns - previously accepted across party lines as necessary to protect democracy and prevent oligarchy - constitutes a violation of free speech (money, by their suspect reasoning, is a form of speech). These justices claim adherence to the original intent of the Founders, many of whom (especially Jefferson) in fact expressed concern that moneyed interests would come to dominate the political process.

But this is not only an issue of morals or principles. It is also one of self-interest. Part of what has made the U.S. so resilient as a nation has been its adaptability to change, the benefit of a government subject

to the popular will. Like capitalism, the U.S. system of government provides a basic check on the tendency of states run by a few to a) make short-sighted, impulsive, enormously risky decisions (like Nazi Germany) and/or b) adhere blindly to a rigid economic model that cannot sustain itself over the long run (like the Soviet Union). *Citizens United* will restrict voters' choices to those deemed acceptable by the 1% and the party establishments.

In the simplest terms, this amounts to less voter choice, and more candidates like Mitt Romney: candidates that seem inevitable by virtue of their natural advantages in advertising, despite the quiet fact that nobody likes them.

The one arguably positive consequence of *Citizens United* is that they could backfire, turning voters against candidates who are bought and paid for by billionaire patrons and special interest groups. For those who think a Romney presidency wouldn't be all that bad, take a look at his base of support; it consists mostly of hedge funds, corporate lobbyists, oil companies - essentially representatives of the very special interests that first advocated war in Iraq and then proceeded to gamble away the U.S. economy.

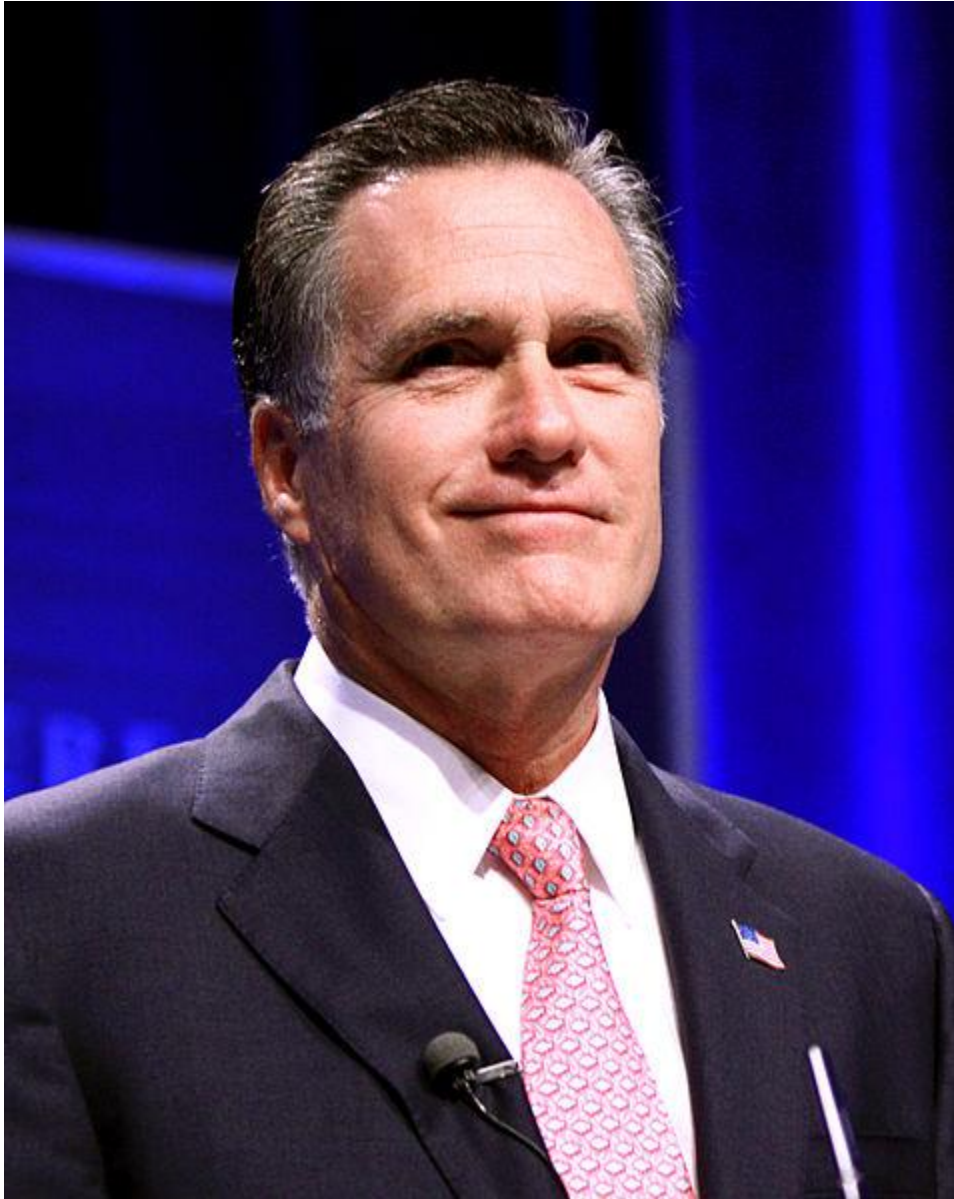
When the radical right gets over its renewed love affair with the doomed candidacy of Newt Gingrich (who, incidentally, has managed to stay in the race this long thanks to the generous donations of multibillionaire casino magnate Sheldon Adelson to Newt's Super PAC), the nomination will likely end up in Romney's pocket. While the timing of his recent adoption of pro-life and anti-gay positions is suspect, it will nevertheless make him an infinitely more appealing choice for conservatives than the socialist-Muslim-Alinskyite Barack Obama.

History has shown that when push comes to shove, the various factions that make up the conservative movement are always able to put aside their differences and coalesce into a formidable electoral force. Mitt Romney may be a onetime Massachusetts moderate, but the powers that be in the Republican Party will force him to govern as a reactionary conservative.

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GOP Presidential candidate Mitt Romney.

Gage Skidmore



Player Profile: Elaine Burns

Women's swimming and diving captain tells about being a leader and remaining optimistic

By Andrew Shi

On Thu, Feb 2, 2012

A leader in and out of the pool, Elaine Burns '12 is not only co-captain of the women's swimming and diving team but a three year Thoroughbred Society member, a Liberty League All-Academic Team member and a business major. Although Burns concedes that her team's "scoreboard is negative," with an overall record of 2-6 she is optimistic about her team's future performances as they rigorously practice. She believes that she is constantly improving her game, and has been since she first jumped into the pool at her local YMCA in her hometown of Worcester, Mass.

"I started swimming when I was 7," Burns recalled. "I started lessons and moved on from there at the local Y. Once at a certain level I moved up and started competing at more serious levels. I did high school and club swimming and eventually was recruited by Skidmore." Burns swam for the varsity level for four years at Doherty Memorial High school, and every year qualified for the prestigious Massachusetts state meet. She graduated from Doherty Memorial in 2008 as the recipient of the Coach's Award and as class salutatorian.

Burns says that when she first started swimming for Skidmore, the swim program had a lot of potential but the swimmers were not competing at their maximum capabilities. "The bar kept on being raised as the program progressed to the highest level," Burns said. As expectations rose for the swimmers, the team was pushed harder, and Burns said "I always seemed to be getting better."

Burns attributes part of her growth as a swimmer to her resolute and persistent personality which has led to thousands of hours of swimming practice over the years. "I'm a pretty dedicated swimmer. I don't give up," Burns said. "In meets I'm consistent and with distance races I'm good with split times, not being all over the board." Her consistency is the product of a fine tuned adherence to style and form. "I beat myself up over the little details," Burns said. Her attention to detail, although considered by Burns as an annoyance, is just another characteristic that has made her into a successful swimmer and captain of the swim team.

"As a leader I have to keep people happy and motivated, and if not it all spirals down," Burns noted. Happiness, meanwhile, is an inconsistency as teammates have started doubles practices since a less-

than-impressive performance in Puerto Rico over the winter break. "But, individually, people are doing well time-wise, and our times are improving," Burns added.

"In perspective, it's all about the big meet, and our scoreboard doesn't reflect how we will perform in that," Burns said. The big meet referred to is the Upper New York State Collegiate Swimming Association (UNYSCSA) championship, scheduled for the end of February. Burns says the team has now turned up the heat and players, besides for engaging in double sessions, are focusing more time on their specialty. "We are preparing hard, and getting ready," said Burns, whose own specialty is free style and the fly.

Before the championships though is Saturday's women's invitational, which serves as a precursor to the championships as well as a potential projection of Skidmore's results. "I believe we have a very good chance of winning it," said Burns about the invitational. "We are prepared." The invitational includes four teams including Skidmore, SUNY Cobleskill, Vassar, and William Smith. The invitational is at 1 p.m., Saturday Feb. 4, at the Williamson Sports and Recreation Center.

#1.2763434:3690211006.JPG:Elaine Burns

Elaine Burns, co-captain of the Women's swimming and diving team, prepares teammates for Saturday's invitational

Skidmore Athletics



Editorial: Striking the balance in response to Starbuck

Both students and administration must press for transparency amidst a difficult situation

By the Editorial Board
On Thu, Feb 2, 2012

For both faculty and students, the evacuation of Starbuck Center upon the first week of this term made for a jarring re-entry from winter break. After reports of health concerns from a few staffers, the College administration took the precaution to swiftly shut down the building and subject it to testing.

Now the situation is rife with rumor. The building's 50 employees, most of who have already vacated, are taking up residence in temporary offices across campus. As the winter chill settles around an empty and slightly forbidding Starbuck, students here are asking professors, mail room clerks, and each other about what exactly shut down the Center - and should we all be worried about it?

There have been whispers of severe illnesses among the individual staffers as well as ominous recollections of the building's swampy climate. The administration, when asked to comment on the substance of these rumors, [declined](http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/50-employees-removed-from-starbuck-center-due-to-health-concerns-1.2752587). Without a clear and defined statement of the severity of the health concerns, it is easy to see why students are frustrated and in some cases alarmed.

The administrators find themselves in a particularly demanding spot: they cannot divulge the private information of the individuals who triggered the evacuation, while their resulting generalized announcements to the student body are bound to raise questions.

Between these twin liabilities - the privacy of those individuals on one end with the health concerns of the rest of campus on the other - the administrators of the College must strike a very careful equilibrium.

In speaking with the Skidmore News, President Glotzbach stated "we must balance the questions of the community with the wellbeing and privacy of the small group of employees who work in that building." Along with Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun the president stressed that based on the [completed tests](http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/results-from-initial-starbuck-testing-released-1.2759090) thus far - testing radon, formaldehyde, carbon dioxide and monoxide levels - there is nothing indicative about the building's climate to cause alarm.

The president also stressed that the College has been extra cautious in its reaction to the reports. "We went beyond the recommendations made by the hygienists. Shutting down an entire building - no small thing - is really a considerable move for an institution to carry out."

Indeed, those employees of Starbuck who have already migrated to their new temporary offices claim the process has been orderly and accommodating, and the President praised these employees' patience in return.

When asked once more to contextualize the health concerns that loom over this rearrangement, Glotzbach again refrained from providing any details. "Based on the relatively small number of folks who work there - we don't believe it's appropriate to comment. We're not prepared to comment."

Next up is a series of epidemiological tests on Starbuck, which by all accounts will run for an extended period. From this point forward it is up to the student body to respect the delicate nature of the problem, while it is up to the administration to remain as transparent as possible out of respect for students and faculty.

Skidmore College to Participate in Campus Conservation Nationals 2012 contest

Students will compete to reduce energy consumption

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Thu, Feb 2, 2012

The College will participate in this year's Campus Conservation Nationals, a nationwide electricity and water use reduction competition.

The competition was created by The Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council through its Students Program and in partnership with Lucid, Alliance to Save Energy and the National Wildlife Federation.

Between Feb. 13 and March 5, students from more than 100 universities and colleges across the country will compete to achieve the greatest reductions in their residence halls.

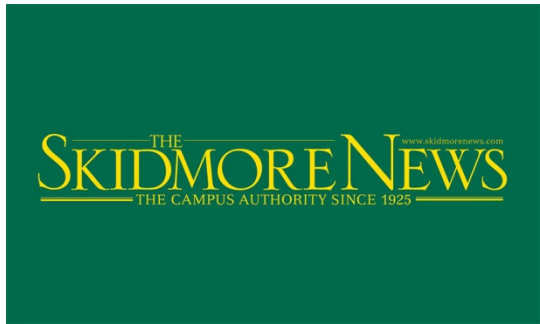
Skidmore Unplugged aims to inspire behavior change toward an energy conscious lifestyle. The eight on-campus dormitories will compete with each other for the largest percent reduction in energy consumption. In the 2011 competition, the residents of the winning Wiecking dorm reduced their total energy consumption by 4 percent, a nearly a third of the total 3200 kilowatts per hours that the campus saved, enough to power six residential homes for one month.

"Sustainable Skidmore is extremely excited to expand our efforts to reduce energy consumption on campus and promote behavior changes that can be carried with students far beyond the Skidmore College community," said Tessa Leverone '12, sustainability representative program manager.

"Skidmore Unplugged and the Campus Conservation Nationals demonstrate how small actions by many people are both manageable and can make a big a difference."

This year, in addition to the dorm wide competition, the College will compete against Hobart and William Smith Colleges, St. Lawrence University, Colgate College and Hamilton College in the New York Negawatt Challenge. The electricity savings from all the participants will contribute to the national challenge goal of one gigawatt-hour, or enough electricity to power 40,000 televisions for five hours every day for one year.

Using <http://www.buildingdashboard.net/skidmore/> Lucid's Building Dashboard, participating schools will be able to instantly compare performances, share strategies and track



standings among the leading schools and buildings. Sponsors for the event include the United Technologies Corp, Sloan, Sterling Planet and Constellation Energy.

S-reps will provide information on both the campus and national competitions in the Atrium of the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall. They will collaborate with peer health educators to host several events promoting electricity savings, such as the "Do It In the Dark" theme for the kickoff for the event, chosen because of its proximity to Valentine's Day.

"Campus Conservation Nationals encourages students to recognize the significant impact that sustainable behaviors can have on a campus and in a community," said Pat Lane, USGBC Students program leader at the Center for Green Schools. "This will be the largest national competition of its kind and will have a far reaching impact showing students that a collective effort, along with a desire to better the built environment, can lead to positive and lasting change."

"We think that feedback on electricity and water consumption, combined with competitive spirit and incentives, can significantly reduce resource usage in campus buildings," said Andrew deCoriolis, director of public programs at Lucid. "We hope that this program serves as a model for other universities to become more aware of how they are using their buildings."

To learn more about the competition, join the network or follow leading schools, visit www.CompeteToReduce.org.

#1.2764087:865500852.jpgSkidmore Unplugged Logo

Skidmore Unplugged encourages students to conserve electricity through its inter-dorm competition

Courtesy of the Sustainability Office

#1.2764128:3498250173.JPG:Captain Kilowatt

Captain Kilowatt looks across campus, awaiting the start of the Campus Conservation Nationals.

Courtesy of the Sustainability Office





A new meeting place for literary minds

By Sarah Barry, Features Editor

On Thu, Feb 2, 2012

While most of us might recognize the spring club fair as the annual, belated influx of London freshmen, this year it played host to something new. This year's fair welcomed a fresh group of scholars into the fold. The recently christened Skidmore Literary Society offers students a new space to appreciate literature outside of the classroom and is open to all with an interest in the written word.

John Maher '12 stumbled on the idea while studying abroad in Scotland. He encountered a literary society at the University of Edinburgh and carried the idea back to Skidmore. "I was given a great deal of help from a few fellow bibliophilic seniors and a thumbs-up from a faculty member, and here we are," Maher '12 said.

The society is not a literary magazine and does not intend to rival the existing sources of publication on campus, but it does welcome writers to attend meetings and share their work. "We are also not a book club, as we all have enough reading to do without assigning extra things," Maher said.

Instead, all that is required is a few moments out of the day to discuss different strains of poetry and prose.

"We will have bi-weekly meetings based on a single literary theme and let the discussions go where they may," Maher said. Society events may include conversations with professors and book swaps. Maher also hopes to eventually bring speakers to campus.

The society will produce a newsletter and maintain a public blog (<http://skidlit.wordpress.com/>) to keep members informed. The site lists both broad and Skidmore specific literary news and links viewers to other notable sites of literary interest.

Thus far, more than 60 people have signed up for the club. The first meeting will take place on Feb. 6 at 8:15 p.m. in Bolton 103. Maher is looking for input from new members and encourages those interested to attend the first meeting to share ideas.

Maher stressed that the society is open to anyone interested. "We very much love the English Department, but are not directly affiliated with [it]; that is, any who love literature should join, not just English majors," Maher said.

Faculty and SGA to discuss revisions to AOD policy with students

Changes will address the 'in the presence of' clause, the point system and the clarity of language

By Adrian Appleman & Matthew Camuso, Additional reporting by Julia Leef
On Fri, Feb 3, 2012

A faculty committee and the Student Government Association will hold an open review for students and faculty to discuss revisions to the Alcohol and Other Drugs policy, granting those with concerns or ideas the opportunity to suggest changes to the current system.

At the end of last semester, the faculty committee, comprised of members from Health Promotions, Residential Life and the Student Assessment and Intervention Group, which formed to address the AOD policy revisions, scheduled a review for January.

However, after speaking with SGA, the committee decided to meet with students first before implementing any new revisions. The Student Assessment and Intervention Group is made up of members from Campus Safety, Student Academic Services, Academic Advising and Health Services.

The AOD Policy, as stated in the student handbook, is devised "to provide a safe environment that promotes academic success as well as physical and psychological health on both the individual and community levels." Its recent revisions were met with criticism from the student body.

Rochelle Calhoun, dean of student affairs, said prevalent common concerns of students regarding the present AOD policy are the possibility of deducting accumulated points, the vagueness of some of the language in the policy, such as that included in the Medical Amnesty Policy with its lack of specific rules and violations and the "in the presence of alcohol" clause, which holds students responsible for being in the presence of underaged drinkers, even if they themselves are not drinking.

"In the presence of was not meant to drive sobriety out of it. It's about trying to make a safer community. It was an unintended consequence," said Jono Zeidan '12, president of the SGA. "We want to hear the input, go back to the drawing board and make the changes that reflect the needs and concerns of the student body."

In order to help discuss these changes, Campus Safety has provided the statistics of alcohol and drug related incidents to observe and monitor AOD violations from the past academic year.

“Students expressed some concerns about certain things, like thinking drinking would go underground, that drinking would just be pushed off-campus or that students would call less for help,” Calhoun said. “So we looked at the data we had, particularly from last semester to see if it supported those concerns. And it doesn’t. That doesn’t mean that it’s not happening, but what we are able to know doesn’t support what in fact is happening and I think it’s important for students to know that.”

However, Calhoun did emphasize that this data is only from a single academic year, and that trends may change in subsequent years. However, thus far it seems that many issues have decreased following the initiation of the new AOD policy.

“The number of issues downtown went down dramatically from last fall to this fall. So we’re not seeing the concern that these issues are being pushed off-campus and that students are more likely to get in trouble,” Calhoun said.

However, one change that hasn’t occurred, according to Calhoun, is the number of transport requests from areas off-campus.

“What that tells me is that students are still reaching out for help for themselves and for others they perceive to be in trouble. So I actually don’t mind that that number isn’t dramatically different, because if it had been, I would have been concerned that students had stopped calling for help.”

Calhoun said while she hopes the changes will be implemented this semester, at the moment it is uncertain whether that will actually be the case, or if the revisions will not go into place until the next academic year.

“It’s probably going to be a little bit more dependent on the conversations we are having with students to know if it makes sense for us to try and implement the changes this semester or if it just makes more sense to begin the new year,” Calhoun said.

Administrators from Residential Life and Student Affairs divisions will go on a [retreat](http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/administrators-to-review-aod-policy-next-week-1.2762838#Ty2UYXaQdbw) next week to discuss revisions. All students who wish to express their concerns and ideas and should attend the upcoming open forum, which Calhoun said she hopes will take place in approximately two weeks during an SGA Senate meeting.

Construction to Scribner Village proceeds on schedule

New units to be built following the demolition of the middle portion of Scribner Village

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Fri, Feb 3, 2012

The completion of Phase 1A of the Scribner Village Replacement Project marks the steady progress of a construction renovation that has been in the works for the past three years.

The new Residence Hall group held its first meeting on Feb. 27, 2009, to discuss plans for installing new apartment units in Scribner Village and tearing down older ones.

Workers recently completed the approximately 14-month-long construction of three additional units in the Northwoods Apartments complex -10, 12 and 14 Whitman Way - on time and on budget. Each unit houses 38 students in three and four-bedroom apartments. Students have been living there since mid-January.

Don Hastings, director of Residential Life, reports that construction has proceeded on schedule. "It could not have been smoother," Hastings said. "We, of course, had some minor blips and concerns, for example, some door bells that went rogue, but nothing outside a normal new construction punch-list. The new residents have been great."

Phase 1B, which involves the construction of the two unnamed new Steep Slope apartments, is also on schedule. Each unit will house 57 students in five-person apartments, which will be available during room selection in April, and will open in the fall semester.

Construction for Phase 2, the Scribner Village replacement project, will begin this summer after commencement. The middle portion of Scribner Village is scheduled for demolition shortly after graduation, upon which the construction crew will build seven new units. Each unit will house approximately 34 students in 4-bedroom apartments.

Students will live in the 22 lower rung Scribner Village apartments for the 2012-2013 academic year. The new Scribner units will become available during April's room selection for Fall 2013. The remaining 22 Scribner Village apartments will then be torn down.

The construction project will yield a total of 466 new beds upon the complete replacement of Scribner Village, which currently houses only 282 beds.

#1.2765283:2383856117.JPG:Construction Photo

On-campus construction proceeds on schedule and on budget.

Meredith Simonds/The Skidmore News



"Bringing King to China" to screen this Tuesday in Gannett

By Sandy Zhang, A&E Editor

On Sun, Feb 5, 2012

This Tuesday, Feb. 7, "Bringing King to China," a film about an American teacher's struggle to stage a play about Martin Luther King Jr. in China, will screen in Gannett Auditorium.

Cáitrín McKiernan was inspired to produce the play - "Passages of Martin Luther King Jr." by Clayborne Carson - in China when her protests against the Iraq War failed. Her goal was to reveal a positive, nonviolent aspect of America to the Chinese.

McKiernan wanted the play's examination of King's life and beliefs to create a positive connection between Chinese society and American society.

"By talking about Martin Luther King, Chinese people maybe will see a different side of Americans and maybe Americans will also see a different side of Chinese people," said McKiernan in the film. "That's the beauty of it."

The film chronicles the process of winning government support, obtaining funding and recruiting professional Chinese stage actors as well as American gospel singers to participate in the production. Beyond that, the film examines how the teachings of King, whose "I Have a Dream" speech was extolled by Mao Zedong, resonate with a contemporary Chinese audience.

McKiernan hoped King's message of peaceful struggle and nonviolence protest would provide a means for the audience to examine the forms of discrimination that exist in Chinese society.

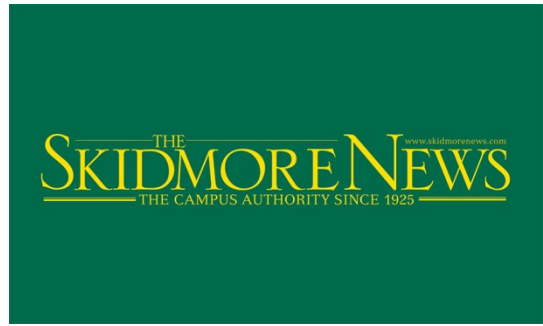
A discussion with Kevin McKiernan, Cáitrín McKiernan's father as well as producer and director of "Bringing King to China," will follow the screening. To learn more about the film, visit bringingkingtochina.com.

#1.2766211:2486942166.jpgKing

A scene from "Bringing King to China"

Courtesy of Kevin McKiernan





Comic: Existential Dilemma

By Wyatt Erchak, Cartoonist

On Mon, Feb 6, 2012

Women's swimming and diving team take third with 160

By Skidmore Athletics

On Mon, Feb 6, 2012

SARATOGA SPRINGS- The Skidmore College women's swimming & diving team hosted its annual Spring Invite on Saturday afternoon at the Williamson Sports Center. The Thoroughbreds placed third out of six teams with a team score of 160.

Leading Skidmore's effort was Catherine King '15, who won four events. She placed first in the 50 free (25.41) 50, Fly(28.42), 200 Free (2:03.35) and along with teammates Carrie Koch '13, Elaine Burns '12 and Katherine Kelloway '14, won the 200 Free relay (1:45.07). King, for her outstanding accomplishments, was honored the Liberty League Rookie of the Week in women's swimming & diving.

Koch also notably contributed to Skidmore's record with a win in the 100 Free (57.68), a second place finish in the 500 Free (5:30.56) and third place finish in the 100 Fly (1.05.80). Kelloway worked tirelessly to earn a first place finish in the 100 Back (1.04.01), second in the 400 IM (4:52:48) and third in the 100 (1:05.45).

To wrap up Skidmore's winning times for the Invite, Sarah Shaw '14 took third in the 400 IM (5:08.19) and Lauren Schilling '14 secured third in the 50 Back (31.66).

The Thoroughbreds take an extended break to rigorously train for their return on Feb. 22 at the Upper New York State Collegiate Swimming Association (UNYSCSA) Championship in Rochester.

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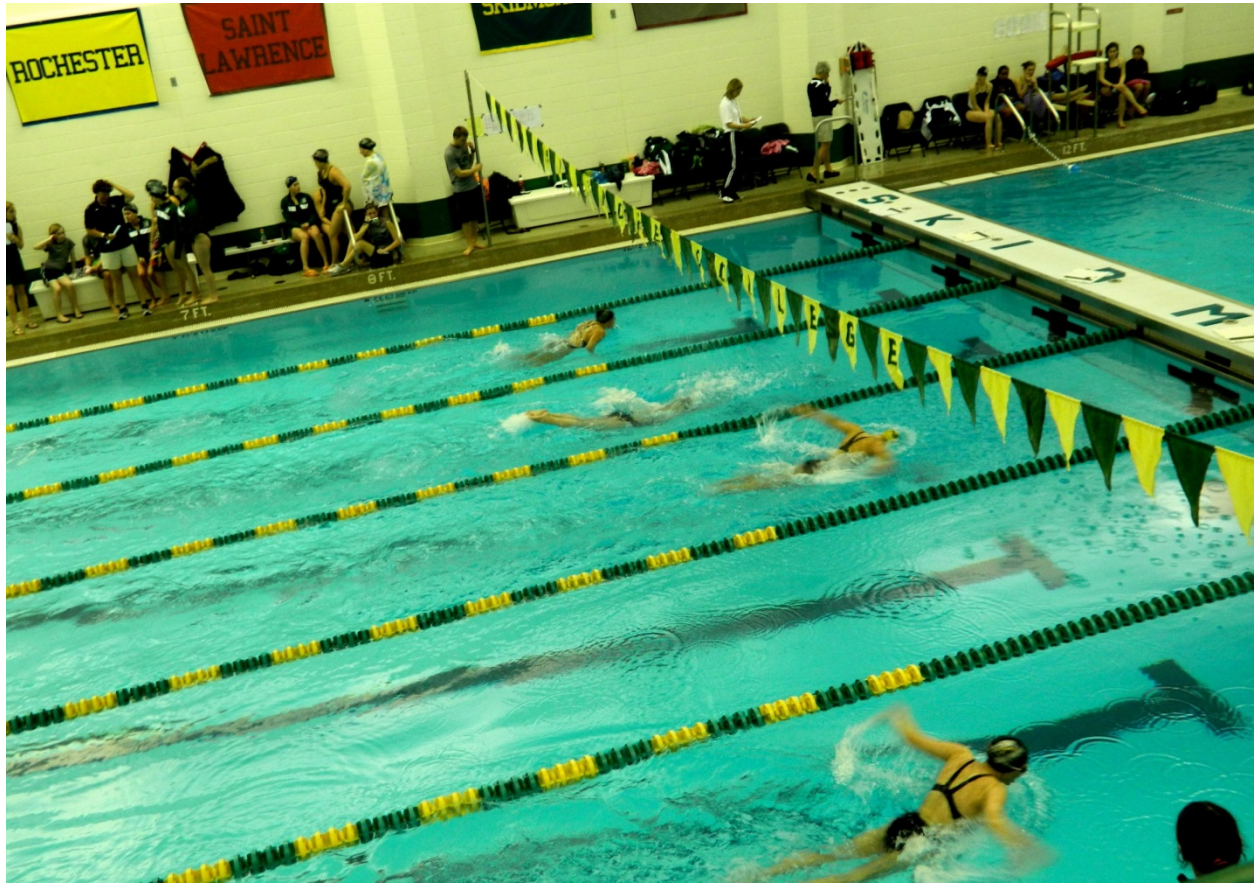
Skidmore races to finish first in 50 yard fly

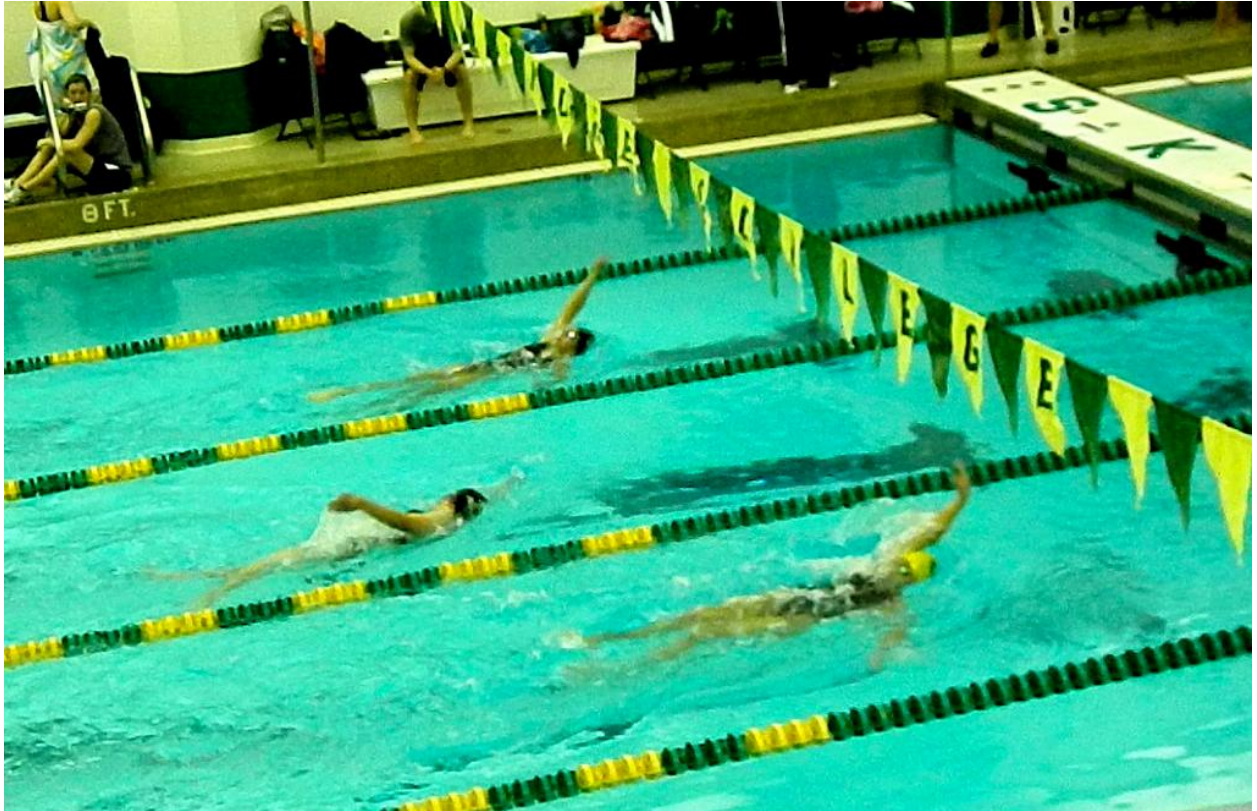
Meredith Simonds '15/Skidmore news

#1.2767523:1993463499.JPG:Women's invite 2/7

Women's swim team competes in 100 yard backstroke

Meredith Simonds '15/Skidmore News





Chowderfest delights crowds in downtown Saratoga

By Marcella Jewell, Contributing Writer

On Mon, Feb 6, 2012

Chowderfest, one of Saratoga Springs' most anticipated food festivals, arrived to the streets of Broadway on Saturday, Feb. 4. Thousands took a break from their studies and daily lives to enjoy the brisk yet gloriously sunny day.

Dogs, children and adults alike slurped down cup after cup of chowder, trying not to burn their tongues on the creamy goodness. Any festival on the beautifully lined streets of Broadway brings many local residents and Skidmore students together. The lines were long and the sidewalks crowded, much like any other downtown Saratoga event.

For \$1 per 3 ounce serving, one could try samplings of chowder from Saratoga's finest restaurants. The best chowder, however, didn't necessarily come from the top gourmet restaurants in town.

Lillian's delicious Louisiana Style Chowder consisted of spicy chicken and corn. It was full of cayenne pepper and large chunks of chicken. The chefs of Saratoga Coffee Traders offered a smooth creamy vegetarian selection also with pieces of corn. In all, 71 restaurants participated, including Forno's Bistro, Wheatfield's and Hattie's. Even late-night favorite Esperanto offered up a chowder variation for sampling.

Some participants put their own spin on the competition and offered dessert selections. Ben & Jerry's brought a "Phish Chowder" with M&M's croutons to the table. The company's famous Phish Food ice cream never ceases to satisfy the sweet tooth, and offered a soothing sweet alternative.

Humans weren't the only species enjoying the day. Dogs strolled the streets, creating a distraction from the swarms of people lining Broadway. Restaurants catered to the abundance of dogs with their own canine-friendly chowder. Dawgdom and Sloppy Kisses were among the four restaurants serving chowder to the four-legged citizens of Saratoga.

Competition is stiff among the diverse participating Saratoga restaurants. However, more than one winner prevailed. Seven Horse Pub was awarded dual-crowns as champion of both the People's Choice and Best Off-Broadway categories. Cantina won the Best On-Broadway award and The Parting Glass won the Most Chowder Served award.

"I love Saratoga's unique festivals, the chowder was great, and the beautiful weather added to the perfect day," Samantha Berman '16 said. With the company of good friends, Saratoga's festivals always go beyond expectations.

Chowderfest is an annual mid-winter tradition in Saratoga Springs. More information can be found at <http://discoversaratoga.org/chowderfest>.

#1.2768236:776699979.jpgchowderfest

Crowds gather in downtown Saratoga to enjoy Chowderfest on Saturday.

Isabelle Young '15/The Skidmore News

#1.2768243:2624281691.jpgChowderfest posters

Chowderfest posters decorate Broadway.

Isabelle Young '15/The Skidmore News

#1.2768252:2701882859.jpg:serving chowder

A total of 71 restaurants served chowder in Saratoga's 14th Chowderfest.

Isabelle Young '15/The Skidmore News







SGA Elections to take place this week

Candidates running for senator and IHB positions will speak at Speech Night

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Tue, Feb 7, 2012

The Student Government Association will close out the end of the week with its per-semester elections on Thursday, Feb. 9.

According to an email sent out on Feb. 1 by Jono Zeidan '12, president of the SGA, there are 19 open positions on the Senate, the Inter Hall Board and the Inter Class Council.

"A lot of people go abroad or decide to do other things, so there's a turnover from first semester to second semester," said Raiza Nazareth '12, vice president of the SGA.

Open positions include the new sustainability senator for the <http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/new-sustainability-committee-to-advocate-environmental-awareness-on-campus-1.2774665#.TzSus3aQdbw> new Sustainability committee added to the SGA at the end of last semester and seven senator-at-large positions.

Four students will run in this week's elections, all uncontested. Donald Duff '13 and Stacy Sullivan '13 will both run for senator-at-large positions. LaMarte Williams '14 will run for vice president of Wiecking and Jess Dunning '15 will run for sustainability senator.

Students who wish to apply for the remaining open positions may find the application on the <http://www.skidmoresga.org/> SGA website.

"Any positions that still aren't filled after the elections will then be filled through Willingness-to-Serve, which is voted on at every Tuesday Senate meeting," Nazareth said.

Candidates will speak about their experience and answer student questions during Speech Night at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 8 in the Spa. Voting will take place all day on Thursday, and the results will be announced on Friday.

SGA hosts Speech Night in Spa

Candidates talk about their campaign and answer questions from students

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Wed, Feb 8, 2012

Approximately 50 students gathered in the Spa Wednesday evening to listen to speeches from the four candidates running in this week's Student Government Association elections.

Donald Duff '13 and Stacy Sullivan '13 both ran for senator-at-large positions on the [new sustainability committee](http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/new-sustainability-committee-to-advocate-environmental-awareness-on-campus-1.2774665#.TzSus3aQdbw), which the SGA added to its ranks at the end of last semester. Jess Dunning '15 ran for the position of sustainability senator. LaMarte Williams '14 ran for vice president of Wiecking. All candidates ran unopposed.

"This election in general is usually shorter than others because it's a turnover election," said the SGA Vice President Raiza Nazareth '12, referring to the small number of candidates and the brief duration of Speech Night, which only lasted for approximately 15 minutes.

Nazareth said students would most likely run for the remaining open positions through Willingness-to-Serve elections, which take place at every Tuesday SGA Senate meeting.

Candidates gave three-minute speeches on their experiences in government, as well as their reasons for running in the elections. A question-and-answer session followed each candidate's speech, during which the students in attendance could ask any questions pertaining to the candidates' platforms and plans for the upcoming semester.

All candidates cited previous experience in positions of leadership, including Duff and Sullivan, who both served terms on the SGA Senate last year. Duff said he was looking forward to rejoining the Senate after leaving last semester to focus on academic work, while Sullivan said she would work to increase communication between the SGA and the student body and work on a campaign to make the campus more handicap-accessible.

Both candidates, when questioned about their sub-committee preferences, expressed their attachment to Club Affairs, one of the 11 Senate sub-committees. Each senator-at-large, in addition to his or her duties on the Senate, is also required to sit on at least two sub-committees, although according to Nazareth, many choose to sit on more.

After Duff and Sullivan concluded their speeches, Dunning began hers by saying that through her experience working in the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall, she witnessed a lot of food waste, which, in part, inspired her to run for sustainability senator.

"I'm very dedicated to making this school more sustainable," Dunning said. "I think that that [excessive Dining Hall waste] can be changed, especially if we do a lot to educate and promote our activities to students."

Dunning also said she would research alternative energy sources that can be utilized on campus.

"I think through working with the new sustainability committee, we would be able to go more in depth with other energy sources," Dunning said. "Once we finally have the committee formed, get established with the administration, the SGA committee and the student body, we will be able to get a good start this semester and make some progress."

When asked what she would do with a \$500 budget for the semester, Dunning replied that although she wasn't sure how to spend all of the money, she would allot a portion of it to advertising the initiatives of other on-campus environmental groups, such as the Environmental Action Club, and to educating the student body about taking actions to be more environmentally friendly.

Dunning said her strengths lay in Climate & Energy, one of the seven specialized Willingness-to-Serve positions on the sustainability committee, and that she would work to educate herself about the ones in which she felt the weakest, such as Waste. She said she plans to collaborate with all on-campus environmental groups, and when asked how she would be able to accomplish goals that other groups like the EAC could not, Dunning said her position in the SGA would be a big help.

"Being part of the SGA, the committee would probably have a foot up on the EAC because we work with the administration. We would also have a more substantial footing in getting things out to the community, not just for students, but for the Saratoga community as well," Dunning said.

The final candidate, Williams, is a transfer student who ran unopposed for president of Wiecking last semester, but dropped out of the running to get better accustomed to the College before taking on the added responsibilities of the position. He said he wants to help bring people together through dorm programs and other events.

"I feel like I owe it to you guys. You've all been so nice to me since I've been here," said Williams, addressing the students in attendance.

When asked what kind of event he would sponsor using a limited budget, Williams said he was thinking of hosting a March Madness event in the dorm basement, where students could watch the games, eat pizza and mingle.

Voting will begin on Thursday at midnight and will conclude at the end of the day. The SGA will announce the results Friday.

Editor's Note: All candidates were elected to their respective positions on Friday, Feb. 10.

#1.2771737:2204511073.jpg:SGA Speech Night Photo

LaMarte Williams '14 is one of the four candidates running in this week's elections.

Julia Leef/The Skidmore News



Review: Street Corner Holler brings the Delta sound up North

Street Corner Holler transforms Putnam Den; Skidmore band Diego Sandbox opens

By Dale Obbie, Staff Writer

On Wed, Feb 8, 2012

"We're gonna go back to the old times now," says Mark Tolstrup, setting down his Fender Telecaster and picking up a National resonator guitar. He plugs the steel acoustic guitar into an amplifier and glides his glass slide down the strings, letting forth a sharp, twangy chord that resounds throughout the smoky bar. Surprised by the swampy sound, the people playing pool at the other end of the bar pause their game to look up and watch.

The band begins playing old-school, gospel-style blues that ring true to its name — one that brings to mind images of a Louisiana Delta bluesman sitting on the corner, singing and playing guitar for the passersby: Street Corner Holler.

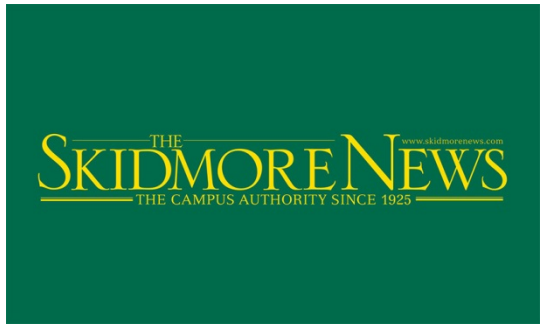
Street Corner Holler's performance on Feb. 2 was the third in a series of shows presented by bassist Tony Markellis of the Trey Anastasio Band. A longtime Saratoga Springs resident, Markellis plays with a number of local musicians and once a month he plays with a different band at the Putnam Den.

Although Street Corner Holler's sound harkens back to early Delta blues, it is not a one-man act. Drummer and back-up vocalist Dale Haskell accompanies Tolstrup with his bullfrog voice and his understated yet reliable backbeat. Upright bassist Markellis completes the trio, providing the foundation for the group's groove-locked sound.

Between the amplified instruments and drums, the slide guitar and the wailing, gravelly vocals, Street Corner Holler sounds something like a mix between the Chicago and Delta blues traditions. The trio pays tribute to the blues in all its forms — a fact evident not only in their instrumentation, but also in their choice of songs. They played anything and everything, including a slow and gritty Muddy Waters-style blues, a danceable, boogie-woogie "Ray Charles number" and a Bob Dylan cover that, according to Tolstrup, they had "bluesified."

Opening for Street Corner Holler was a newly formed Skidmore band called Diego Sandbox. The band consisted of saxophonist Aaron Wallace '12, bassist Carlo D'Angelis '12, drummer Anthony Princi '12, guitarist Robin Shore '14 and keyboardist and vocalist Johnny Duennebier '13.

They played some well-executed covers, including Billy Cobham's funk classic "Red Baron," a funky rendition of the Miles Davis standard "So What" that transitioned into Traffic's "Low Spark of High-



heeled Boys" and even Marvin Gaye's "Sexual Healing," for which they were joined by guest vocalist Kortney Sumner '12.

Although not many people attended the show, both bands played their hearts out. Diego Sandbox got things started with its high-energy funk and its mellow R&B, and Street Corner Holler played raw, heartfelt blues late into the night.

Review: A night of a cappella in the Tang showcases the College's vocal talents

All six a cappella groups performed in the Tang last Thursday night

By Olivia Powers, Staff Writer

On Wed, Feb 8, 2012

Last Thursday night, all six groups joined together for an intimate evening of music in the atrium of the Tang Teaching Museum.

A cappella has become nearly synonymous with college, and although Skidmore flatters itself to be unique from other colleges, its soft spot for this music form confirms that underneath the flannel shirts beat stereotypically collegiate hearts. The six a cappella groups on campus, which vary from for-charity to all-inclusive, and from all-female to all-male, each specializes in the iconic "a cappella bounce." However, it is unusual to see them all bouncing together on the same evening.

Last Thursday night, all six groups joined together for an intimate evening of music in the atrium of the Tang Teaching Museum.

It's rare that all of the a cappella groups are able to perform at the same event, much less get to listen to each other, Drastic Measures Co-Musical Director Emily Streim '14 said.

At Thursday's showcase each group performed three songs. The Drastic Measures kicked off the performance with an animated set, ending in an upbeat rendition of Simon and Garfunkel's "Cecilia," replete with a creative cornucopia of self-made percussion. This was a theme throughout the evening; each group performed at least one song in which its members' voices were supplemented with a beat-boxing, heel-stomping, finger-snapping array of sounds.

The Drastics were followed by the Sonneteers, the Bandersnatchers, the Accents, the Dynamics and, finally, the Treblemakers. Though many groups repeated old material and the Bandersnatchers recycled a few too many jokes, the performance demonstrated the array of talent that exists within the College's a cappella community.

"All the groups have really different styles of music so it's really cool to see that all in one place," said Sara Belasco '14, secretary of the Treblemakers. "Banders is a very clean-cut, boy band type of group, and Sonnets and Accents are very folksy and alternative. We sing more popular music, I think because we have a larger number of people and that's what a lot of people are interested in."

The audience was comprised almost exclusively of students. They crowded the small venue, overflowing the chairs set up in front of the makeshift stage to line the staircase and pour onto the balcony.

“I want to take a picture because this never happens in the Tang,” said a member of the Bandersnatchers while on stage.

Indeed, it was a rare treat to see such a large group of students crammed into the Tang’s atrium, filling the normally serene gallery with excitement. Though the Tang’s acoustics cannot compete with those of Helen Filene Ladd Concert Hall in Zankel, its intimacy allowed the singers to interact with the audience members, who shouted their appreciation for the old favorites that were performed.

Surprisingly, the Treblemakers, the only all-inclusive group, were able to keep pace with the more polished groups. Where the group’s vocals lacked precision the members made up for in enthusiasm. The infectious energy of their mash-ups of popular songs ended the concert on a lively and carefree note. However, perhaps wrongly anticipating an inferior performance, many audience members had snuck out by the final set, missing out on a rousing ending to a spirited jumpstart to the new semester. Oh well, their loss.

#1.2772282:3825097491.JPGAccents

The Accents perform in the Tang.

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News

#1.2772290:3465224298.JPGDrastics

The Drastics perform in the Tang.

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News

#1.2772295:3710004854.JPGBanders

The Bandersnatchers perform in the Tang.

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News







First round of business-plan competition set for Friday

Students to compete for a \$10,000 prize for best business plan

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Thu, Feb 9, 2012

Thirteen students will compete either independently or in teams of two, 10 businesses altogether in the first round of the 2012 Kenneth A. Freirich Business Plan Competition, set for this Friday, Feb. 10 at the Surrey Williamson Inn. The competition will begin at 2:45 p.m. and run until 6 p.m.

Freirich, a member of the Class of 1990 who is now president of Health Monitor Network, started his first business as an undergraduate. Returning as the College's first entrepreneur-in-residence in late 2010, he challenged students to present new-business ideas. Their presentations and ideas inspired him to launch a full-fledged business-plan contest to support student innovation.

"When you challenge yourself beyond your confidence level, that's when you really grow and learn," said Freirich in a statement to last year's finalists.

Freirich decided to create a the competition that would award a \$10,000 cash prize to the student or team of students who writes the best plan for a new business, in addition to second- and third-place awards, which will be determined at the finals, set for Friday, April 13.

"The prizes are intended to act as a catalyst to help students start a new business or to assist the development of their existing business," said Roy Rotheim, professor of economics and director of the competition. "We want this to be a profound educational experience for our students, helping them to go beyond the intuitive and arrive at something concrete - and to gain a first-hand understanding of that process."

Each of the businesses will have 15 minutes to present their plan and respond to questions from a panel of seven alumni entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, accountants, lawyers and executives. The six top teams will move on to the finals.

In addition to Freirich, judges in the first round of the competition will include:

- Daniel Antonelli '89: managing director, New York Institutional Equity Sales,
- J.P. Morgan, New York City
- Darren Herman '04: chief digital media officer at Kirshenbaum, Bond, and Senecal + Co and Director of their Media Kitchen, New York City

- Elizabeth King Farrell '81: owner and executive chef of Kings' Carriage House Restaurant, New York City
- Nick MacShane '91: senior managing director, Progress Partners, Inc., Cambridge, MA
- Lan Osetek '91: president, Resolution Media at Omnicom Media Group, Boston , MA
- Nancy Wekselbaum '73: president, The Gracious Gourmet, Bridgewater, CT

Each of the finalists will be paired with a first-round judge, who will then serve as mentor for the team as it revises and ramps up its plan for the "finals."

Students in this year's competition were required to participate in a weekly business plan writing workshop after submitting their intent to compete forms last semester, conducted by senior Management and Business majors from the Skidmore-Saratoga Entrepreneurial Partnership, which Rotheim directs.

"That extra coaching has produced plans of highly impressive quality," Rotheim said.

Faculty convenes for first meeting of the semester

Main topics of discussion include the College budget and changes to the faculty handbook

By Julia Leef, Additional reporting by Ani Lordkipandze

On Thu, Feb 9, 2012

The faculty convened on Feb. 3 to discuss upcoming events for this semester, including raising the student enrollment number, the Starbuck Center relocations and appointing Sarah Goodwin, professor of English, as the new faculty assessment coordinator.

Mary Lou Bates, dean of admissions and financial aid, began the meeting with statistical information on prospective students for the upcoming academic year. She approximates the size of the incoming class at 580-630 students, including 85 Early Decision Two applications. She also reported increases in the percentages of minority students and students seeking financial aid. The College will send out regular decision answers on March 23.

In addition, the Net Fiscal Enrollment number will remain the same in order to maintain over-enrollment revenues. This coordinates with the College's consideration to increase the number of students in the student body by 50.

President Philip Glotzbach spoke about the College's budget, saying that its fee would increase by 3.9 percent this year. Much of the budget will be spent on the 5.5 million-dollar IT project that involves moving the IT department into Scribner Library; \$1.5 million will also be allotted to the science department for research purposes, and additional amounts will go into the Scribner Village Reconstruction project. There will be an open forum for the faculty to discuss the budget further. This date has not yet been determined.

President Glotzbach also informed faculty that the Starbuck relocations proceeded on schedule with Card Services, the Bursar and Student Financial Aid offices moving out this week into the second floor of Palamountain. This is part of a larger relocation of all the offices in Starbuck Center due to undisclosed health concerns expressed by employees.

"It was the right thing to move people from there because the testing found some mold in the building," President Glotzbach said. "We will do any regimentation by the people who advise us, and it will probably be done in six months. We will also do some medical studies on the folks who work in Starbuck to see if there are any statistically significant issues."

Susan Kress, vice president of academic affairs, introduced Goodwin as the new faculty assessment coordinator, and Sarita Lagalwar as the new Williamson chairwoman in Neuroscience, as authorized and recruited by Academic Advising. She specializes in cellular mechanisms of neuro-generation. Investigations for a third chairperson are in progress.

Kress also discussed changes to Article X of the faculty handbook, which addresses the discipline of tenured faculty. The article, according to Kress, only deals with the dismissal of faculty who have been on staff for 10 years, and must be altered to apply to the discipline of any faculty member who violates the College codes. She concluded that College officials would look more into the matter.

Editorial: Extend conservation measures beyond the dorms

Skidmore should include more sections of campus in efforts to "Unplug"

By the Editorial Board

On Thu, Feb 9, 2012

The bulbous and tentacled Skidmore Unplugged trophy has once again been moved to the entrance of the Dining Hall, announcing the commencement of a friendly, three-week-long competition between Skidmore's eight residential dorms.

Around this time every year, students in the residential halls turn off unnecessary lights, take shorter showers and unplug unused electronics. The goal is to reduce energy and water consumption by the greatest percentage.

This year's competition will coincide with the [New Energy Economy Forum](http://www.skidmorenews.com/features/skidmore-to-host-new-energy-economy-1.2761140) and Skidmore's participation in the [Campus Conservation Nationals](http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/skidmore-college-to-participate-in-campus-conservation-nationals-2012-contest-1.2764050). The culmination of these events provides us with the opportunity to expand the scope of our conservation efforts. There is no need to limit waste reduction to just the dormitories. We can include our whole campus and conserve energy for longer than the current three weeks.

Skidmore is by no means idle on the issue of environmental impact. In the past, the college has made efforts to include other parts of campus in conservation measures. Now Skidmore is positioning itself to be more sustainable in the future by constructing green buildings. The new additions to campus—including Northwoods, and the Murray Aikins Dining Hall and Zankel all use geothermal heating and cooling systems.

In addition to new, sustainable construction, the school has adopted habits and policies with immediate and significant effects on energy consumption and bottom lines. Though most of the current students were not yet on campus when the Dining Hall eliminated [trays](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/29/nyregion/29tray.html), many will remember the introduction of [composting in Northwoods](http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/eac-composting-initiative-in-northwoods-1.2651176). The decision by the *Skidmore News* to embrace an [2/9/2012 1.2774585](http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/a-new-era-for-the-skidmore-news-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

[1.2596042#.TzSKuZj-K-8">online-only model](#) has saved countless pounds of paper and gallons of water. This is a good start, but we can do better.

We can look to other small liberal arts colleges for inspiration. Macalester College and Washington University in Saint Louis, both stopped selling plastic water bottles, in favor of making reusable refilling stations more available. Many schools have a designated sustainable dormitory in which residents agree to limit their energy usage. Others have equipped their residential and academic buildings with vampire switches. These devices work by interrupting the current of energy that is used by devices in standby mode.

There are other, simpler things the school can do today to reduce waste. Anyone who has been on campus late at night has noticed that the school is still consuming energy in closed buildings. Surely the television in the Skidmore Shop does not need to buzz incessantly. Some lights in the academic buildings, the Scribner Library, and in Dining Hall continue to stay on, even after the janitorial staff has finished.

It is not unreasonable to include the whole of campus in the spirit of Skidmore Unplugged. There are many steps that we can take as individuals and as an institution to save energy and dollars. While the effects of any one of these suggestions may seem negligible, their combination and use over time could significantly reduce our campus's consumption.

New Sustainability Committee to advocate environmental awareness on campus

Elections currently taking place to fill positions on the committee

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Thu, Feb 9, 2012

Among the open positions in this semester's Student Government Association elections are the sustainability senator and seven specialized Willingness-to-Serve spots for the new Sustainability Committee, which the SGA added to its ranks at the end of last semester.

In addition to these positions, the committee also will include two s-reps appointed by the sustainability senator, the sustainability coordinator and a representative from the Environmental Action Club. These students will serve as communicators between their two groups, allowing for better collaboration with the various on-campus environmental groups. There will also be a senator step-up position, whose job is to serve as a link between the committee and the SGA.

"Over the past couple of years we've seen a lot of sustainability initiatives, but the problem is that there's not much integration or collaboration," said Raiza Nazareth, vice president of SGA. "So this committee aims to achieve that."

According to Riley Neugebauer, the College's sustainability coordinator, the committee formed as the result of an idea several students had in spring 2011, including Talia Arnow, '13, who interns with Neugebauer at the Facilities Services in North Hall.

Neugebauer said Arnow felt there wasn't a strong enough connection between the environmental groups and the SGA, and, along with Neugebauer, worked with an ad hoc committee to determine the logistics of a new committee that would address these concerns.

"I see it as a great opportunity for students to define their own sort of process and structure for moving sustainability forward at the College because students do have a lot of power on this campus," Neugebauer said.

Nazareth said she has received several Willingness-to-Serve applications for the specialized positions on the committee, each dealing with a specific area of environmental interest: waste, academics, green building, transportation, energy & climate, food & dining services and land use management. These positions will be voted on at each Tuesday SGA Senate meeting.

"I've been getting applications for Sustainability Committee since winter break," Nazareth said. "I'm really excited to see how that goes, how the sustainability senator fits in with the Senate. It's a trial period. I think Willingness-to-Serve will go really well; I think it will be a really good semester."

Members of the Sustainability Committee will work to gather and disperse information throughout the campus to various environmental groups, including the all-faculty member Campus Environment Committee, of which Neugebauer is a member.

The CEC is a subcommittee under the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee that acts as a sounding board for topics of environment, taking ideas and propositions to the IPPC. Among these potential changes would be changing the name to the Campus Sustainability Committee and installing Neugebauer as the co-chairwoman, allowing her to sit on the IPPC. These suggestions will be brought before the IPPC sometime this semester.

Neugebauer will work closely with the sustainability senator to form ideas and aid in communications with the IPPC, something that the SGA is also able to do. With the establishment of the Sustainability committee, students now have a direct avenue to the IPPC, whereas before they were required to communicate via the CEC.

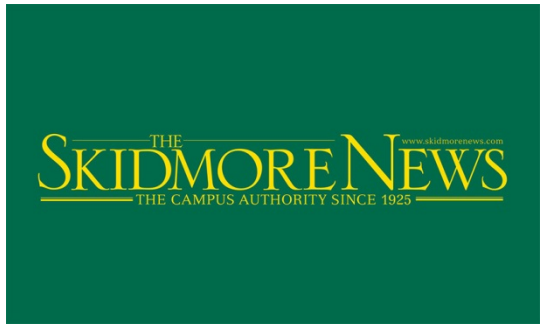
"I'm glad to see that it's happened and that it's happening so soon after the initial idea," said Neugebauer, referring to the quick turnover from the initial idea phase that began only last year.

Students involved with other on-campus environmental groups seem to welcome the new committee as a catalyst for communication between all groups.

"The committee provides an opportunity for the Environmental Studies department, the CEC, Sustainable Skidmore, the SGA and the EAC to divide and conquer to help institutionalize the idea of sustainability as a serious issue that needs to be addressed," said Margot Reisner '14, president of the EAC. "As an s-rep, an Environmental Studies major and president of the EAC, I am incredibly excited and hopeful about the potential of this committee."

Potential candidates for committee positions will soon have a chance to bring their ideas before the SGA.

"We've already received several applications and we're going to be bringing them into Senate very soon - probably next week," Nazareth said. "We'll see how it goes, but at the end of the semester we're going to evaluate and see what we can do better for next semester."



Students who wish to apply for Willingness-to-Serve positions should visit the SGA website to fill out an application. Applications will be available for the rest of the semester, or until all positions are filled.

Player Profile: Sam Liebenhaut

Men's swimming and diving captain talks about swimming and intense training

By William Eldredge, Contributing Writer

On Thu, Feb 9, 2012

Go to any SkidmoreMen's Swim Team meet and it's hard not to notice team Captain Sam Liebenhaut '12. When he's not swimming the butterfly - the most grueling stroke in the sport - you'll see him psyching up on-deck swimmers or cheering on his teammates in the pool. He broke the College record in the 400 medley relay his freshman year, and has been named to the Liberty League's All-Academic Team for two consecutive years. In addition to the butterfly, Liebenhaut also swims the individual medley, which is a combination of all four competitive strokes (butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle).

It's been a long road for the team's four year veteran, who describes swimming as "the hardest thing I've ever done. It's not like other sports," said Liebenhaut, "where you can cross-train and get better through doing other things. It's just swimming. The more you swim, the better you get, and if you stop, you get worse."

The sport's level of commitment has Liebenhaut singing the praises of his teammates. "It's the longest season of any sport on campus, and that, combined with how tough practices are, means that you really have to be crazy to swim," said Liebenhaut. For Liebenhaut, that special kind of crazy has only made the experience better.

Everyone's really competitive on an individual level - it's not just swimming against other teams; some of your best competition will come from your own teammates, and sometimes it gets serious Liebenhaut joked. "And then you get out of the pool and laugh it off. There really is an atmosphere on the team that's unlike any other, and it's great."

Although the team's 3-5 record might seem unimpressive on paper, it's been a strong season for Skidmore. The College hadn't won three meets in some 15 years prior, and, according to its captain, the best is yet to come. "We've had our ups and downs, but this is the biggest men's team in the history of the school and our underclassmen are some of the best we've had in a while. There's definitely a bright future for us," Liebenhaut said.

Next up for the Thoroughbreds is the Vassar Invitational this coming Saturday, an event for which Liebenhaut is more than excited. "At the beginning of the season, the focus is on distance, both in practice and meets, but this event is all about sprinting. The two events that I'm competing in - the 50

fly and 100 individual medley - are half the distance of what is considered a normal race, and that means that you get to go all out and not worry about conserving energy. This is the type of meet where you really see how much all the work you put in during the year pays off. I've especially done a lot of work on sprinting this season, so I'm really excited to see how things go," Leibenhaut said.

The Vassar Invitational is at 1 p.m. on, Saturday, Feb. 11, at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie.

#1.2775634:2181922036.jpgSam Liebenhaut

Sam Liebenhaut '12, co-captain of the men's swimming and diving team, psychs up teammates for Saturday's Vassar Invite

Skidmore Athletics



Skidmore Hosts 23rd National College Comedy Festival

This weekend brings on Skidmore's Comfest, still making headlines and history

By Brendan James, Editor-in-Chief

On Thu, Feb 9, 2012

This weekend Skidmore will host the 23rd annual National College Comedy Festival (NCCF) on Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. Both professional and collegiate comedy groups will grace the stage at Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater.

The festival, alternatively known as Comfest, has been a staple of Skidmore ever since alumnus David Miner, producer of 30 Rock and Parks & Recreation fame, founded the event in 1988. Originally a grassroots effort to gather any and every student troupe interested in live comedy, Comfest now sees a flood of applications every year.

The problem used to be finding enough comedians and comediennes to put on a show; now the producers - seniors Scott Galante, Ruth Morrison and Lex Curry - face the opposite task. The admission process is long and thoughtful account for the number and enthusiasm of every group.

"As for deciding who gets in: we watched previous performances of the college groups to see which ones we liked, then re-invited them back with four open slots," explained Galante.

Decisions are then made to balance out different types of comedy, from sketches to long form material. "Looking at our balance of sketch and improv, as well as which schools were already coming and who we think is good enough to be given a chance, we carefully picked the last four," says Galante. "We think this process gives us the best in quality and mix."

Lex Curry emphasizes the creative and educational aspect of the groups chosen, including the professionals. "I would say we try to find groups that are not only hilarious but also clearly supportive and enthusiastic about up-and-coming comedians," she explains. "People who can take a look at college students and remember what they were like before they were able to perform professionally."

"They need to be able to see and nurture potential. Bleak! Comedy, for example, used to perform at Skidmore as a college group and they are great mentors as a professional group," she added.

Though Comfest has surged in popularity and is now an essential element of not only college but Skidmore culture, certain aspects of the festival remain rather folksy and immune to change.

"It's funny to see the festival grow, because it is at the same time very mainstream (being one of the biggest college comedy festivals in the nation) as well as very underground and jimmy-rigged (selling tickets at Case center, for example)," said Galante.

What then, keeps the event close to Skidmore given the decades that have passed since Miner's original project? Lex Curry spoke of the special dynamic that Skidmore audiences and groups possess which makes for a particularly successful comedic formula.

"Although many of our veteran groups from other colleges have cult followings or a supportive sector of their college community behind them, I would say Skidmore students are, by far, the most demanding audience for comedians. They don't let comedy groups get away with a bad set," she noted.

A special treat this year was a feature on the New York Times website. All three seniors were thrilled to appear in the Times, though there were moments during the photo shoot where they yearned for the actual funny business to begin. "My face hurt from all the stage laughing we had to do."

Galante noted certain misleading typos in the article, but admitted that "overall, I think it was a very positive article that portrayed the school in a great light and gave the festival the attention it deserves."

In short, he added, "it feels good."

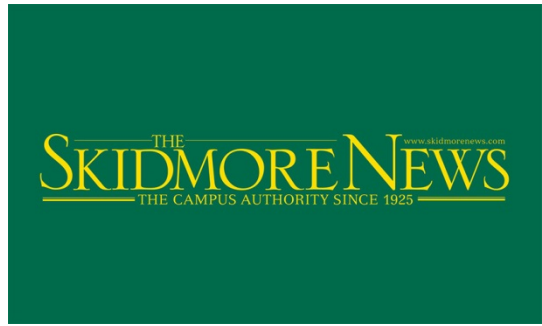
The financial aspect of the festival is unchanged from its original form in several key ways: the entire festival remains non-profit. Galante explains: "Everything we get, whether it be from registration, fundraising, co-sponsorships or donations goes right back into a gigantic pool that goes towards anywhere from printing posters, to paying travel and performance fees for pro groups, to feeding the college groups, to ordering t-shirts. Any profit made goes right back into the budget the following year."

As for organizing the event, Galante stresses the amount of stress he and his two peers experienced. "We are (quite literally) three people making calls and sending e-mails out of our dorm rooms, with two assistant producers available to get supplies and do some grunt work. That's what was really so scary about this whole process: if we don't do it, it just doesn't get done."

For a complete schedule of this year's National College Comedy Festival, [click here](http://cms.skidmore.edu/news/news.cfm?passID=3263).

#1.2775623:1495686786.jpg:grouch

This weekend will be the 23rd annual National College Comedy Festival, founded and still nurtured on Skidmore's campus.



Skidmore Communcations

#1.2783056:1606858356.jpg:comfest

Skidmore's 23rd Comfest featured 18 comedy groups.

Dana Salzberg '12

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Dana Salzberg'12/The Skidmore News

#1.2783129:2141433724.jpg:comedy fest

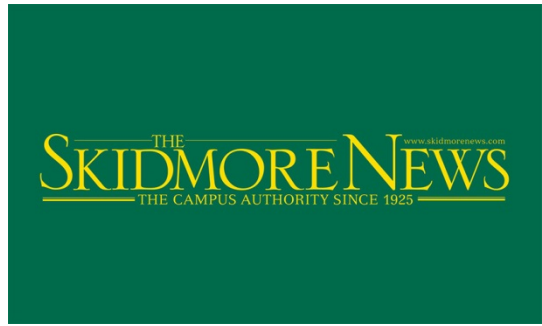
Dana Salzberg '12/The Skidmore News











Comic: To the top

Pages 1 & 2

By Wyatt Erchak, Cartoonist

On Mon, Feb 13, 2012

Restaurant Review: Maestro's "Super Sunday"

By Tegan O'Neill, Columnist

On Mon, Feb 13, 2012

I had heard great things about Maestro's but had not been there before because of the lofty prices. When the entrees start to creep into the \$30 realm, I have to be certain that the restaurant under consideration is one I really want to try.

When my partner Sarah and I found out about their "Super Sunday" special, I finally felt that it was time to give it a try. In honor of the Super Bowl, Maestro's was offering small entree portions for \$5. That's right, \$5. It was an opportunity too good to pass up.

In retrospect, reviewing Maestro's during this particular promotion was probably not the most well-informed decision. Admittedly, when I scampered into the restaurant to make the reservation, I did not put two and two together; I did not realize that "Super Sunday" meant Super Bowl Sunday. As I ranted about the meal, a friend pointed out to me afterwards that Maestro's was catering to a large crowd that day but more specifically, a large crowd that had its mind on the big game later that day - not on the food. Also, I think it is important to note in this review that the "Super Sunday" menu was not the same as the normal Maestro's menu.

The first dish to disappoint was the beef brisket. Brisket has the potential to be lip-smacking, mouth-watering good. For me, the word brisket conjures up a taste sensation of juicy, slightly tangy and slightly sweet meat. This taste sensation was worlds apart, leagues below. The meat was cooked perfectly fine but it lacked flavor. The boiled potatoes and the carrots plopped next to the brisket seemed like a lazy afterthought. Any flavor inherent in those two products of the earth had all the life sucked out of them. The night was still young, though; I still had hope.

The braised chicken and dumplings, however, turned out to be truly hopeless. I think any fast food joint on the highway could have done a better job. The salty chicken and its slippery skin sat in a swamp of what must have been gravy.

What made each entree all the more disappointing was that my expectations for each were grossly inflated by the beautiful descriptions printed on the menu. Take, for example the butternut squash lasagna: "layers of ricotta, roasted butternut squash puree, fresh mozzarella, béchamel sauce, fire roasted tomato sauce." Sounds lovely and it probably would have been if only I could taste any of the stated ingredients. All I could taste was cheese, but not ricotta or mozzarella - just the generic taste of

cheese. The lasagna could have benefited from a more generous serving of tomato sauce, seeing as the acidity of the tomato was the only thing that gave the dish the slightest dimension.

The description of the gnocchi was cruelly misleading too: "parsley cheese gnocchi, sage brown butter, butternut squash, walnuts, chevre and Grana Padano." I got a fleeting glimpse of sage but other than that, nothing about the gnocchi left me pining for more. Even the itchy bitsy pieces of butternut squash were devoid of flavor. Butternut squash is one of my favorite ingredients, but even so, it does not shine brightly when left untouched. It needs a helping hand to bring out its favorable qualities.

Compared to the lamb stew, though, the gnocchi suddenly did not seem too bad. Where as the main fault of the other dishes was that they lacked flavor, the lamb stew, which was served in a puff pastry, had a distinctively disagreeable taste and texture. I tasted lamb but hardly anything else. The puff pastry had lost any flakiness or butteriness that it once may have had and instead just served to sop up the thick brown gravy.

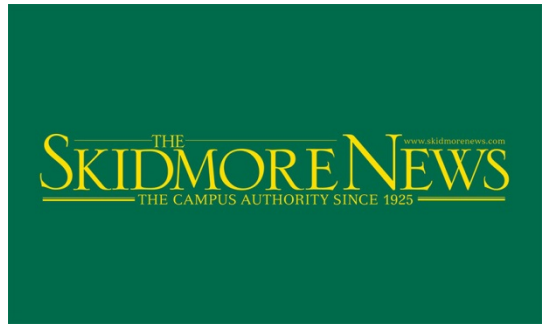
Last, and tying for least: the fish and chips. The fish was fried out of its mind. The breading was so tough that stabbing it with a fork was hardly sufficient to get a handle on it. Beneath the gravel of breading was the thinnest layer of fish. I could hardly see it never mind taste it. The tartar sauce had some zing to it. Finally, something that actually reminded me that I did indeed have taste buds - I was getting worried! Even the coleslaw was curiously stripped of flavorful dimension. Coleslaw can be so good when it is rich with mayo and has a little bit of punch to it; this had none. The chips were 99 percent fried matter and 1 percent potato.

I want to loop back to something I did like about the meal: the bread. It was like your run-of-the-mill bread but better. According to our waitress it was technically a cornbread but, to me, it seemed more like a hybrid made by adding cornmeal to regular white bread. The gritty crystals of cornmeal gave the light and fluffy bread a delightful texture contrast. The bread was even better with butter and the butter was even better with the Hawaiian sea salt, which sparkled on top of the slab.

Maestro's started off the meal on a positive note and ended with one too. Before we could get the check and hit the road, we were offered a large metal bowl of chocolate from which we were instructed to each take a piece using the provided tongs. I pity the poor soul who only samples a small piece of this confection. The dark chocolate was topped with a medley of almonds, walnuts, orange, and cranberries. All the flavors melted into one tangy and sweet, rich and bitter swirl that did a decent job of masking the reality of the meal.

#1.2778294:3432967955.jpg:super Sunday

Maestro's served eager food and sports fans on Super Bowl Sunday



Sarah Weitzman/The Skidmore News

#1.2778299:3975935515.jpg:bread

The Maestro's variation of cornbread served with raisins and Hawaiian sea salt.

Sarah Weitzman/The Skidmore News

#1.2778301:2508716462.jpg:chicken and dumpling

Braised chicken served with dumplings and gravy

Sarah Weitzman/The Skidmore News

#1.2778307:1421078992.jpg:squash pasta

Maestro's included a butternut squash lasagna on its "Super Sunday" menu.

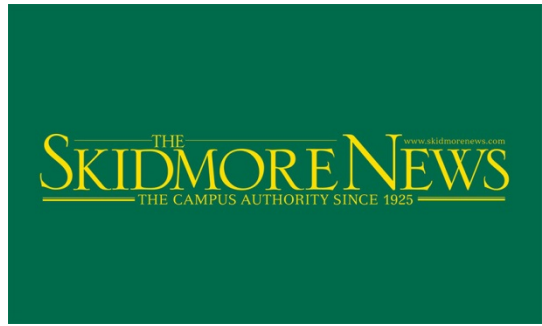
Sarah Weitzman/The Skidmore News







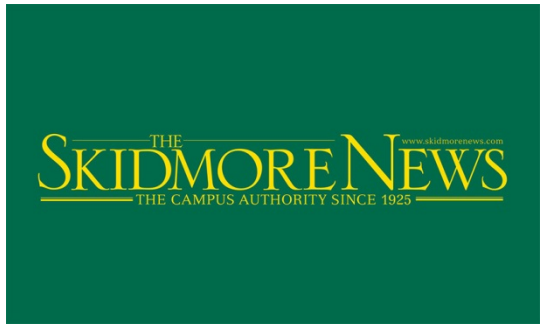




Comic: Trivia

By Nat Nagar, Pulp Editor

On Mon, Feb 13, 2012



Crossword

On Mon, Feb 13, 2012

Campus Safety Incident Reports: Jan. 29 to Feb. 4

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Mon, Feb 13, 2012

Campus Safety incident reports from Jan. 29 to Feb. 4.

Sunday, Jan. 29

Incident-College Violation

Loud disturbance reported at 12:05 a.m. in North Woods Apartments grounds. Officers dispatched report residents complied with request to lower volume.

Incident-Intoxicated Subject

Female reported at 12:43 a.m. as passed out on the floor in Wiecking Hall. Officers dispatched reported intoxicated female. EMS dispatched for medical assistance. Subject transported to ER. Report issued.

Incident-College Violation

Noise complaint reported at 1:15 a.m. in Jonsson Tower. Officer dispatched reports subjects complied with request to lower volume.

Incident-Medical

Transport to the Saratoga Hospital ER requested at 1:15 a.m. from McClellan Hall. Officer reports transport completed. Report issued.

Incident-Medical

Unconscious female in need of medical assistance reported at 1:25 a.m. on Dayton Drive. Officers and EMS dispatched. Subject transported to ER for medical assistance. Report issued.

Incident-Graffiti

Graffiti reported at 11:52 p.m. on the roof of the Tang Teaching Museum, as well as a fire extinguisher that had been expelled. Officer reports unknown perpetrator(s). Damage recorded. Report issued.

Incident-Accident

Reports of male student tripping and hitting his head given at 8:03 p.m. in Jonsson Tower. EMS dispatched and subject transported to ER for medical assistance. Report issued.

Monday, Jan. 30

Incident-Fire Alarm

Fire alarm activation in Case Center received at 3:07 a.m. Officer dispatched to confirm reports housekeeping accidentally set off alarm. System restored. Report issued.

Incident-Criminal Mischief

Broken ping pong table reported at 7:31 a.m. in the basement of McClellan Hall. Officer issues criminal mischief report. Damage recorded.

Incident-Campus Safety Assist

911 emergency call received at 9:24 a.m. from Palamountain Hall. Officer dispatched reports calling error made.

Person reports head injury at 12:10 p.m. due to fall in Zankel Music Building. Officer provided transport for medical assistance. Report issued.

Incident-Suspicious Odor

Suspicious odor reported at 9:39 p.m. on third floor of Penfield Hall. Dispatched officers unable to detect odor. Odor dissipated at this time.

Tuesday, Jan. 31

Incident-Suspicious Odor

Suspicious odor reported at 12:03 a.m. by side door in the basement of Kimball Hall. Officer dispatched reports odor dissipated.

Incident-Campus Safety Assist

Welfare check of a student requested at 2:40 a.m. in Kimball Hall. Officers dispatched report subject located and condition is satisfactory. Reporting person updated. Dorm checks made periodically.

Incident-Campus Safety Assist

Students report concern for welfare of student at 11:50 p.m. in Jonsson Tower. Reporting person requests assistance. Additional students expressed concern after initial report. Investigation initiated. Report issued.

Incident-Fire

Small mechanical fire reported at 9:05 a.m. in Zankel Music Building mechanical room. Officers dispatched report small fire extinguished upon arrival. Report issued.

Incident-Campus Safety Assist

Medical escort requested at 12:16 p.m. for student from Health Services to Wilton Medical. Transport completed and report issued.

Incident-Campus Safety Assist

Reporting person reports at 12:28 p.m. a male on the Empire State College campus acting suspiciously. Description forwarded for officers and others to be on the lookout. Officers advised. Report issued.

Incident-Drug Law Violation

Suspicious odor reported at 9:44 p.m. on the second floor of Howe. Officer dispatched located drug law violation. Report issued.

Incident-College Violation

Student reports a noise violation at 9:45 p.m. on Moore Way. Officer dispatched reports no noise detected.

Wednesday, Feb. 1

Incident-Suspicious Activity

Suspicious vehicle parked in Falstaff's lot reported at 1:15 a.m. Subjects vacated at officer's request. Vehicle observed at later time and officers identified subject as student. Driver left campus.

Incident-Accidental Fire Alarm

Fire alarm activation received at 12:52 a.m. for the Scribner Library. Dispatched all officers and maintenance. Activation due to construction in area.

Thursday, Feb. 2

Incident-College Violation

Noise complaint reported at 1:10 a.m. in Jonsson Tower. Officer dispatched reports subjects lowered volume upon request.

Incident-College Violation

Noise complaint reported at 9:43 p.m. in Jonsson Tower. Officers dispatched report subject left vicinity upon officers' arrival.

Incident-Emergency Phone

Emergency phone activation at 10:58 p.m. in Cane Crossing. Officers dispatched report no emergency. All parties left scene. False activation.

Friday, Feb. 3

Incident-Campus Safety Assist

Suspicious person, possibly intoxicated, reported at 12:30 a.m. stumbling outside of Wiecking. Officers dispatched report search of the area came up with negative results. Conditions normal.

Incident-College Violation

Loud music reported at 2 a.m. in Kimball Hall. Officer dispatched made contact with the occupants of the room. Occupants complied with the request to lower the volume.

Fire alarm activation received at 12:52 a.m. for the Scribner Library. Dispatched all officers and maintenance. Activation due to construction in area.

Thursday, Feb. 2

Incident-College Violation

Noise complaint reported at 1:10 a.m. in Jonsson Tower. Officer dispatched reports subjects lowered volume upon request.

Incident-College Violation

Noise complaint reported at 9:43 p.m. in Jonsson Tower. Officers dispatched report subject left vicinity upon officers' arrival.

Incident-Emergency Phone

Emergency phone activation at 10:58 p.m. in Cane Crossing. Officers dispatched report no emergency. All parties left scene. False activation.

Friday, Feb. 3

Incident-Campus Safety Assist

Suspicious person, possibly intoxicated, reported at 12:30 a.m. stumbling outside of Wiecking. Officers dispatched report search of the area came up with negative results. Conditions normal.

Incident-College Violation

Loud music reported at 2 a.m. in Kimball Hall. Officer dispatched made contact with the occupants of the room. Occupants complied with the request to lower the volume.

Incident-Campus Safety Assist

Reporting person requests a welfare check on her friend at 3:44 a.m. in Kimball Hall, stating that her friend was very upset. Officers dispatched report that student seemed fine and declined any services of the College at that time. Officers cleared.

Incident-Campus Safety Assist

Reporting person requests medical transport at 3:35 a.m. at 2 Moore Way for injured friend who slipped and fell on ice. Officer responding reports subject to be transported to ER for further medical assistance. Report issued.

Incident-Criminal Mischief

Officer reports at 7:10 p.m. brown wall-mounted phone torn off and broken in Wiecking Hall. Phone brought back to Campus Safety where it was bagged, tagged and placed as evidence. Unknown perpetrators at this time. Report issued.

Incident-Campus Safety Assist

Female subject reported to have fallen down stairs at 9:02 p.m. in Wilmarth Hall. Officers dispatched report subject sustained minor injury and will be transported to ER for medical evaluation. Report issued.

Incident-Campus Safety Assist

Welfare check of student requested at 8:25 p.m. in Kimball Hall. Student not in room at this time, email sent. Subject responded and is in satisfactory condition.

Saturday, Feb. 4

Incident-College Violation

Loud noise reported at 12:32 a.m. on second floor of Rounds Hall. Officers dispatched report subjects lowered volume upon request.

Incident-Accident

A hit and run automobile accident reported at 1:54 a.m. on Perimeter Road. Officers observed Property Damage Auto Accident policy and were able to locate vehicle. Saratoga Springs Police Department and Campus Safety reports issued.

Incident-Disorderly Conduct

Reporting person reports at 2:04 a.m. in Birch Apartments female and male subjects being verbally abusive, hindering the later emergency response by officers. Report issued.

Incident-Campus Safety Assist

Reporting person requests an escort at 2:37 a.m. to her residence at 11 Cane Crossing. Officers dispatched provided personal escort.

Incident-Intoxicated Subject

Reporting person requests an evaluation at 2:42 a.m. of her intoxicated roommate in Jonsson Tower. Officer dispatched reports subject alert and coherent. No further medical attention warranted.

Incident-Intoxicated Subject

Reporting person requests assistance with intoxicated male at 2:16 a.m. at McClellan Hall. Officer dispatched and subject evaluated. No further medical assistance warranted.

Incident-Parking

Vehicle booted at 5 a.m. on Cane Crossing for excessive tickets. Report issued.

Incident-Campus Safety Assist

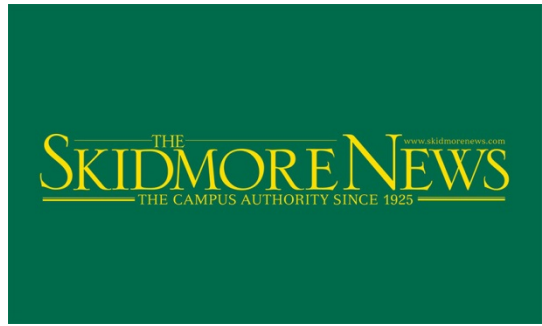
Reporting person requests counselor at 12:12 p.m. to contact her in regards to her daughter's welfare. Contacts initiated.

Incident-College Violation

Students observed skating on Haupt Pond at 5:03 p.m. Officer dispatched located subjects. Upon officer's arrival, students exited the other side of the pond and left the area. Danger sign posted already.

Incident-College Violation

Unauthorized party reported at 11:22 p.m. in Oak C Apartment. Officers dispatched. All subjects vacated area.



Ensemble ACJW concludes ninth residency with concert in Zankel

By Skidmore News
On Mon, Feb 13, 2012

Music #1.2777954:912168683.jpgACJW

Last Friday, Feb. 10, members of Ensemble ACJW performed in Ladd Concert Hall

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News

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Members of Ensemble ACJW performed in Ladd Concert Hall

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News

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Members of Ensemble ACJW performed in Ladd Concert Hall

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News







Two men arrested outside of Case Center

Suspects are charged with shoplifting and criminal possession of controlled substances

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Tue, Feb 14, 2012

At approximately 5 p.m. on Feb. 13, the Saratoga Springs Police Department arrested two males outside of Case Center for shoplifting a book from the Skidmore Shop.

"I was walking home from class past the front of Case and saw three cop cars out front," said a female student, who requested to remain anonymous. "It looked like someone was possibly being handcuffed or at least held by the police, while Bob Carlton from the Skid Shop stood by.

Carlton, who serves as the social programming administrator and technical salesperson, declined to comment regarding the incident.

"Employees called Campus Safety and we stopped two subjects and requested SSPD, who responded and, following investigation, the subjects were arrested," said Dennis Conway, director of Campus Safety.

Conway said the two subjects, who are not students of the College, have been charged with larceny and criminal possession of controlled substances, among other pending charges.

Scholars, Statesmen and Soldiers

The Skidmore News sits down with Eliot A. Cohen, former counselor to Secretary of State

By Brendan James, Editor-in-Chief

On Tue, Feb 14, 2012

At first glance only one aspect of Eliot A. Cohen's career is detectable: lecturing to an audience in Davis Auditorium on Feb. 9, on the history of America's national guard, his bow tie and sport coat were pure academia.

Cohen, distinguished professor at Johns Hopkins University and Director of the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), addressed the crowd with both the confidence and the humor that usually marks a seasoned lecturer and scholar.

But the next morning, after the lecture, Cohen sat down with the Skidmore News and spoke of a very different career path. Beyond his professorial chic lies a man who has occupied the upper echelons of the U.S. Department of State during times of war and disarray. Cohen has distinguished himself from his colleagues, having lived both the quiet and reflective life of a scholar and the hardnosed and fast-paced world of a government advisor.

When asked how he found himself in such an influential position, even for a popular academic, he replied, "Like most careers, you simply stumble into it."

Cohen grew up in Boston; history was his first love, but once in college he transitioned into political science and pursued it further in graduate school. After joining the Army Reserve he established career studying military and foreign policy, teaching at the Naval War College and conducting studies for the Air Force.

Having served at SAIS in Washington since 1990, it was not long before Cohen became a prominent voice on the War on Terror. His opinion pieces for the Wall Street Journal advocating the Iraq War were some of the first arguments advanced in favor of the policy from academia - his pieces continued into 2005, when Cohen began to criticize the execution of the war while remaining supportive of the overriding policy.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice gave Cohen a call in early 2007 - "right out of the blue," he says - asking him to join the Bush administration in the State Department. His position in the department's framework was no small thing, "essentially the equivalent of an Undersecretary of State."

Bridging the chasm from academics to government was something Cohen had to learn to do on his own. The first distinction he makes between the two tracks is their respective purposes. "Scholarship is, roughly, the pursuit the truth. Government is not about pursuit of truth. It's about getting things done," he says.

As Counselor to Rice from 2007 to 2009, Cohen was charged with advising the U.S. government on matters of foreign policy - how to get things done in the War on Terror. Whether advising Rice on Syria, Iraq or Afghanistan, Cohen has lived through moments of his career that surpass the demands confronting most American academics.

"There is the real prospect that your advice will be followed, in matters of national and global security," he says.

To name only one case of this newfound and grave responsibility: In the summer of 2007, a silent but severe crisis simmered in the Middle East as the Syrian regime of Bashar al-Assad developed a secret nuclear facility, likely under North Korean supervision. Cohen was one of the few people in the world who knew about this potential threat to U.S. interests in the region.

"In that [Syrian] case, as in so many others, I had to keep everything to myself," Cohen says. "I spent that entire summer worried that war was about to break out across the region. But I couldn't tell my wife or family - I couldn't tell anyone." The immense pressure combined with unbreakable silence took its toll as the months rolled on.

The internal culture of the State Department also posed its own challenges for someone who had spent most of his life in the scholarly world. "Most people in government have low opinion of academics - they hear them speaking jargon, see them as loners, people who don't play well with others. And government is very much a cooperative effort."

On the other hand, the skills that scholars bring into the realm of government can be quite valuable. "Besides your expertise, you know how to write, so you have a leg up there," Cohen said.

According to Cohen, the most important thing that an academic can do for government is to confront a policy with two questions: "Why do we think that is true?" and "Why do we think that will work?" Strange as it sounds, he says, in the day to day operations of government - "getting things done" - these

types of questions are sometimes dangerously neglected. The momentum of these weighty affairs occasionally requires the detached and analytic eye of a scholar.

At the same time, Cohen notes that his fellow professors are missing something in their perspective on politics, which his experience has made clear to him. "Academics don't realize how fraught decision making is within government. One decision is really a manifold of decisions, many of which you struggle to account for. It's maddening."

So would Cohen ever return to government? His answer is similar to Dustin Hoffman's character Stanley Motss, another Washington outsider, in "Wag the Dog": "If I was asked."

But in his heart, Cohen says, he is not made for politics. "It's important to know who you are," he says. "Fundamentally what I am is an academic."

He now resides comfortably back at SAIS, delving deeper into 19th century American history, something he has been eager to study for a long time. All the same, Cohen currently serves as one of Mitt Romney's foreign policy advisors as the former Governor pursues the presidency. The likelihood of Cohen's return to the "inside" increases with every advance of Romney's campaign.

The academic insider, then, plays a curious role. His or her sole duty is to give advice, something that first appears removed and distant, but that may ultimately decide the fate of a nation or the outcome of a global struggle.

For his own guidance - for advice on giving his advice - Cohen cites an unexpected source. "My guide in all this is Gildor the Elf," he says. In the first book of J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* series, Frodo the hobbit approaches the wise Gildor despite what he has heard about the caginess of elves when giving counsel.

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo' is worth catching on DVD

Rooney Mara engrosses audiences as Lisbeth Salander

By Eli Cohen, Columnist

On Wed, Feb 15, 2012

Based on the Swedish Millennium trilogy "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" by Stieg Larsson, the movie of the same name lives up to the gripping mystery and startling twists that characterize the books.

The plot revolves around two central characters: Lisbeth Salander, an unstable, violent, bisexual hacker with a day job as a security consultant, and Mikael Blomkvist, an investigative journalist who has been sued for libel.

The unlikely pair meet through a series of strange events, and join forces to solve a crime more than 40 years old - the murder of a wealthy Swedish businessman's niece.

From there, the story becomes a rather by-the-books closed-room mystery: the protagonists' employer lives on an island entirely inhabited by his detestable, mutually destructive family, and he is certain that one of them is responsible. To get to the truth, however, Blomkvist and Salander must first uncover a lot more dirt.

Daniel Craig, fresh off "The Adventures of Tintin," plays the stoic and dutiful journalist. Though he does a perfectly respectable job playing a unemotive character, Craig always seems a little too calm in the face of disaster to really sell danger to the audience. After all, what is one crazy family - granted, one that boasts Nazis, corrupt business tycoons and otherwise unsavory dinner guests - to James Bond?

On the other side of the spectrum is Salander, played by Rooney Mara (viewers may remember her as the girl who broke up with Mark Zuckerberg at the beginning of David Fincher's "The Social Network"). Mara truly leaves nothing behind in her portrayal of the angry outcast - at times hauntingly vulnerable, she has the ability to switch gears and become a terrifying sociopath (if not a psychopath) in front of our eyes.

For big blockbuster films, Mara is a very new kind of hero. While she emerged in certain moments as a stereotypically beautiful Hollywood actress, Fincher ("Se7en," "The Social Network," "Fight Club") plays down her looks as much as possible by making her pale, giving her a sloppy haircut and covering her with tattoos and piercings.

It works, too. This protagonist is definitely not to be messed with, but she also offers audiences a character to root for, one who actually looks like someone you might see on the street, as opposed to the chiseled and aloof Craig.

In the end, this film fails to create much of a buzz because it does not take many chances - it's not quite as gritty as the book upon which it is based, and is also somewhat predictable. But one thing is for certain: Mara, who beat out highly-regarded actresses like Scarlett Johansson and Carey Mulligan for the part, has captured the imaginations of viewers everywhere with her heartbreakingly brutal depiction of the girl with the dragon tattoo.

Although the film is no longer playing in theaters, it will be released in DVD on March 22, 2012.

Movies #1.2782569:3446581014.jpgMara

Rooney Mara plays Lisbeth Salander in "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo"

Courtesy of Columbia Pictures



Citizen Kraines: Europe's Identity Crisis

Amidst collapsing scenery the EU will have to confront its schizophrenia

By Michael Kraines, Columnist

On Thu, Feb 16, 2012

Is Paris burning? The foreboding question that Hitler continuously put to his generals during his occupation of Paris is once again relevant, albeit in a different sense, concerning the state of the European Union. At this juncture, however, the question is posed as the economies of Italy, Greece, Spain, Portugal, and Ireland, to name only a few, rest helplessly atop the shoulders of the Germans.

The dream of continental unification took one more step toward atrophy on Monday, as European leaders failed to agree on a new, comprehensive solution to bailout the ailing European economies. One could easily have asked the question "Is Europe burning?" on January 16, when Standard & Poors downgraded the credit rating for the European bailout fund from AAA to AA+.

While the failure of a common European currency (predicted by economists for years) is becoming increasingly obvious, we ought not lose sight of the underlying *political* challenges that have plagued the European dream from its beginnings. In his recent blog posts on "<http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/fukuyama/2012/01/12/european-identities-part-ii/>," political scientist Francis Fukuyama argues that Europe has never successfully established a sense of identity, "a European sense of citizenship that would define the obligations, responsibilities, duties and rights that Europeans have to one another beyond simply the wording of different treaties that were signed."

Moreover, he rightly argues that the whole European project has been an "elite-driven affair," and that the movement from monetary to fiscal union, bereft of grassroots support, harbors dangerous political consequences.

Indeed, European unification has always entailed a diminution of democracy (e.g., the empowerment of nondemocratic institutions like the one in Brussels, and the notion that some democratically elected national governments must defer to the wills and desires of other democratically elected national governments). The EU has also maintained a policy of continuous expansion, and while professing inclusiveness, has become reticent over the question of accepting countries with a strong Islamic character, such as Turkey.

Yet Europe's political questions run deeper than mere geography: here I invoke the contemporary French theorist Pierre Manent (check out, "A World Beyond Politics?: A Defense of the Nation-State").

Manent argues that Europe's "identity crisis" is rooted in an ambiguity within the notion of democracy itself. Because the modern theory of popular representation has allowed democracy to flourish in large republics, some circles still associate democracy with the national form. These are opponents of the EU, people who, like Manent, tend to view the EU as an elite-driven affair, or at the very least question its transnational structure.

Conversely, there are others who think that the national form, manifested in birth and language, undermines the subjectivity of the democratic will. Those making this argument might also add that severing the national form ought to appear natural, given what Europe experienced in the past century.

Thus must Europe wrestle with an enduring human question: Does liberty mean, as Manent writes, "Be free! Do what you will!" or does it mean, "Be yourself! Become what you are!"? Europeans must ultimately choose between individual autonomy and citizenship. Bailout or no bailout, they cannot subordinate politics forever.

#1.2785028:1382210518.JPG:flags

Unlike the United States, Europe must handle deep political questions as they struggle with catastrophic economic issues.

Meredith Simonds / The Skidmore News



Daydreams: Stress be gone!

Where can we find a space for reflection amidst life's unforgiving routines?

By Rick Chrisman, Columnist

On Thu, Feb 16, 2012

What would you say pervades the mind of a student? I would hazard a guess that stress definitely preoccupies the minds of Skidmore students. In the last few weeks alone, I met with eight different students who mentioned how heavily they feel stress weighing them down. Is it Skidmore? Is it just college life? Is it the epoch we live in as Americans?

Whatever the source of the stress may be, do we know the remedy? Well, some are pretty famous. Sex, drugs and rock and roll, for starters! And that other handy remedy - rage. Road rage, parent rage, roommate rage and, on a much grander scale, war, are all stress outlets.

But one need not reach for those extreme measures before you find some intermediate solution. The College takes this issue seriously as a threat to student health and provides resources, like stress reduction classes, yoga, Reiki sessions and education about the danger signs of stress. And your fellow students are on the case, too - offering a week of focused attention on energy and energetics in a program called "Flow Jam." Check it out.

None of these stress reduction measures, of course, makes the sources of stress go away. Those are only going to increase as students enter the job market and, more generally, greater exposure to the world and its injustices. The best remedy to all this is a preemptive one, something that we integrate into our daily or weekly rhythms of life. For if we wait until the stress is upon us, the response may not be so effective. To use a gross analogy, which do you prefer - dental floss or the dentist's drill?

Some the perquisites of stress reduction are obvious, but we should consider another benefit hidden in these practices.

When we practice a physical or spiritual exercise, I believe we are stepping out of the rushing river of Time where some *honesty* about ourselves is possible. In this moment of honesty, apart from the day-to-day mania, we can plan our escape from all false ties.

Unfortunately, many of our spiritual practices have been diluted and rid of their spiritual potency. Tantric yoga, an exercise practiced 1,600 years ago, was aimed at finding and redirecting our most basic energies, such as anger, fear and lust. Through this process, we are able to find a truer self-

consciousness. However, in hatha yoga, a form of yoga that originated only 100 years ago and is often found in today's American studios, the service of "fitness" gets left aside. It is easy to take the "good feeling" as the goal.

Likewise, in our practice of "Sabbath" in Judaism and Christianity, we can also lose the opportunity for honesty if we become over-involved in the sensual aspects of the rituals or distracted by its celebrations. It is a shame there is so little time for silence in our liturgies. The ritual action should feed us with its content, but it should also allow us to and achieve real perspective.

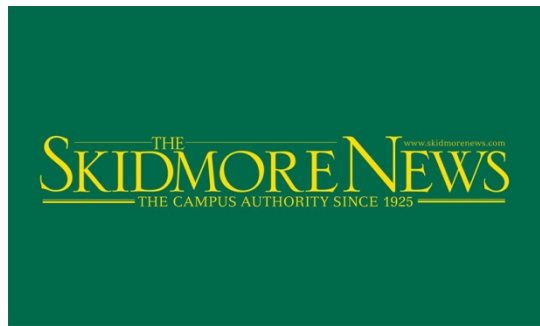
The honesty found in silent contemplation prepares us for the time when we might face some gulag or another, as did Alexander Solzhenitsyn and Ruben "Hurricane" Carter. It equips us to survive when "the silver cord is snapped and the golden bowl is broken," as we read in Ecclesiastes. It also provides, in the instant, a joy more rewarding than the pursuit of happiness.

Stress be gone!

#1.2788078:3552491002.jpg:Yoga

Photo by lululemon athletica





Editorial: College must review new AOD policy with a clear head

By the Editorial Board

On Thu, Feb 16, 2012

On the heels of a group retreat last week, the College administration is ready to meet again to review the controversial Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) policy adopted last fall. Now is the time to revisit the expectations that the student body and the administration have of each other with regard to the use of substances on campus.

Students, through organized forums and comments posted on *The Skidmore News*, have voiced several grievances with the policy as it stands. Ambiguities in the current code are problematic to both students and those charged with enforcement of the policies. Chief among these grievances is the "association rule," which punishes those who choose not to drink, but find themselves in the proximity of alcohol. Fines and increasingly more severe sanctions are taken against students who happen to be merely in the presence of alcohol more than once.

Many students also take issue with the permanent nature of all acquired points. Under a stipulation like the "association rule," someone's choice to act as a responsible friend could lead to his or her eventual suspension from Skidmore. Points earned at the debut of a student's college career, even for low-level violations, stay with that student until graduation. Conversations about what a revised AOD policy will look like should include a pathway to forgiveness.

Further confusion lies in the categorization of violations. The possession of six or more standard drinks is considered a Level II violation, but no distinction is made between minors and those legally permitted to drink. As a blanket rule this could have undesirable consequences: could any or all members of a seven-person Scribner House containing 6 drinks receive points and sanctions? Under the current articulation of the policy, the answer is yes.

There are other discrepancies with the policy and New York state law. Possession or use of marijuana (less than 25 grams) is considered a Penal Code violation and is subject to a maximum of a \$100 fine by New York State. Under the current AOD policy, the same offense is considered a Level III offense and is accompanied by a \$200 fine, as well as substance education and assessment at the student's expense.

In this case, the College's policy is more severe than New York state law. This violation is more harshly punished than possession of a false ID - considered a Level II offense by the College, but potentially

more grave in the eyes of the law. While cases of possession of a false ID are considered on an individual basis, it could be considered a felony.

Students have also been confused about the how this policy is executed. Though the administration has created stricter rules, they have left ambiguities in enforcement. While it is useful and convenient to allow Campus Safety and other administrators to use their discretion and better judgment in enforcing the policy, we would like to create a policy that is fair, were it to be rigidly enforced.

Students who imbibe responsibly, though in violation of the current AOD policy, can benefit from the "discretion clause," however, students and the administration should draft an AOD policy that is reasonable, even when enforced stringently. We do not wish to condemn the use of discretion on behalf of Campus Safety Officers; we merely ask that the new letter of the law be just.

A reoccurring motif, seen in every offense at every level, is parental notification. This part of the AOD policy implies a lack of respect for students. We are adults and we deserve to be treated as such, and such treatment includes being afforded basic privacy. We are willing and able take responsibility for our actions.

It may behoove us to examine AOD policies at our sister institutions. Vassar College's Alcohol Policy states: "Students are recognized as adults and are expected to obey all local, state, and federal laws as well as college policies and regulations. Students will be held responsible for their own conduct." This recognition should be at the core of our policy.

Having an AOD policy is not inherently oppressive, but ours is unworkable in its current structure. Fixing it entails clarifying the current ambiguities and removing the nonsensical portions.

It is in the best interest of the administration and the student body to have an AOD policy that, above all else, protects students. Any new policy should be based on a mutual respect between students and the administration.

#1.2787586:1423977594.jpg:clippy the paperclip sprite

Both students and faculty have recognized the troublesome ambiguity inherent in the well-meaning but flawed AOD code.

Brendan James & Michael DuPré /The Skidmore News

Rang... It looks like you're trying to craft a new AOD policy. Need some help?

Stud... to determine responsibility and to assign sanc...

ns

er (under 21 and/or in public area)

consumption of alcohol (under 21 or in a res... all)

presence of drugs other than alcohol (e.g. marijuana, etc.)

presence of alcohol more than one time (under 21)

2nd Offense	
Notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parental notification ▪ \$75 Fine ▪ One point

Men's tennis prepares for first match of the season

Men's tennis takes on Union

By Andrew Shi, Sports Editor

On Fri, Feb 17, 2012

On Saturday, the men's tennis team starts up their regular spring season with a match against Union College. They had participated in several Invites during the fall, the last of which was in early November at Bates College.

The results of the Bates Invite were spread out, with Miles Ransom '15, winning the C Singles and reaching the Semifinals. Other players fell early in the Invite though.

Now, after more than three months off of the courts, the tennis team prepares to battle for a winning season. According to NCAA rules, official team practices are not allowed in the off-season, and players have had to train on their own. Currently the team has started to practice rigorously at the Saratoga's regional YMCA Wilton branch.

"We are a very different team, with a lot of young talent. I think we are finding our identity as a team and that will be a very important process for us. We have talent, so that has the potential to be a strength, but it is a talent that needs to be nurtured or it could amount to nothing. That is what we are devoting a lot of time to doing this spring," Coach Simms said.

This year two freshmen join the nine member team, which also has four sophomores, bringing the total count of underclassmen to six.

As for the Saturday match against Union, Coach Simms said it "should be a good way for the team to get used to a college match before the tougher competition the following weekend against Vassar. We have to take Union seriously as an opponent, but we have done well against them the past few years."

The match is 5 p.m. at Union College.

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Men's tennis season preview

Alec Hoblitzell '15 rallies during practice



Photo by Bob Ewell

Students and faculty collaborate to host Health Professions Career Panel & Reception

Coordinators gather Skidmore alumni to speak with students about their experiences in medicine

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Sat, Feb 18, 2012

The Health Professions Career Panel & Reception, sponsored by the student-led Pre-Med Club, Career Services, Alumni Affairs and College Events and the Health Professions Advisory Committee, to expose students to the health profession via Skidmore alumni, will take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 23 in Davis Auditorium.

The panel originated with Leela Chandrasekar '12, president of the Pre-Med club. Its panelists come from a variety of specialized fields, including neurology, genetics, gastroenterology, hospice care, mental health nursing, Alzheimer's research and oncology.

Chandrasekar said the idea came from a previous panel the Pre-Med club hosted, in which five physicians from Saratoga Hospital visited the College last year to give students advice on medical school interviews.

"This time, however, I was anxious to include members of our alumni community, a wealthy resource of which most current students are unaware," Chandrasekar said. "I took this idea to Deborah Loffredo in Career Services, who then put me in contact with Shannon Rodriguez, and from there the event really took off."

Rodriguez, a counselor in the Career Development Center, coordinated the event with the help of Chandrasekar, Dr. Patrici Fehling, the health professions advisory committee's acting chair and Michael Sposili, director of Alumni Affairs and College Events and other faculty and staff.

"I recruited some of the panelists, marketed the event, arranged for some of the guest speakers to participate in classes earlier in the day, and acted as a resource to all that are involved," Rodriguez said. "My main goal is for students to have access to opportunities, such as professional programs, internships, job shadows, research, etc., networking opportunities and career information."

Seven panelists will attend this event:

- Tracy Young Pearse, Ph.D. '97, assistant professor of neurology from Brigham & Women's Hospital at Harvard Medical School
- Dr. Patrice Fox Spitalnik '74, associate professor of pathology and cell biology and assistant director of the MD-PhD program in the medical, public health, bioengineering and graduate schools at Columbia University
- Dr. Steven Spitalnik, vice-chairman for Laboratory Medicine at Columbia University Medical Center
- Dr. Andrew Warner '83, chairman of the Department of Gastroenterology at Lahey Clinic and associate clinical professor of Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine
- Constance Carino, Ph.D., RN '58, former chairwoman of the Department of Psychiatric Nursing and clinical director of Psychiatric Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania
- Megan Quintanilla PA-C, MMSc, '00, physician assistant of Smilow Hospital at Yale-New Haven
- Dr. Marian Burns, veterinarian at Red Maples Veterinary Clinic and mother of a current student

"We have panelists coming from as far as Ohio, and we want to be sure that students attend," Rodriguez said. "If all goes well, we hope to make this an annual event."

#1.2787044:1933872424.jpg:Pre-Med Panel Photo

Leela Chandrasekar '12 collaborated with faculty to bring alumni in for the panel.

Courtesy of Chandrasekar



Starbuck relocations come to a close as investigation continues

Starbuck employees and other faculty speak about their concerns and experience in this process

By Julia Leef, Additional reporting by Adrian Appleman
On Sat, Feb 18, 2012

This week concludes the three-week process of relocating the Starbuck Center offices to various places across campus while the center undergoes tests in response to unidentified health concerns expressed by employees.

The new locations include the second and fourth floors of Palamountain Hall, as well as the Game Room in Case Center, which has been redesigned to accommodate the new offices.

"I work with a great group and we all pulled together, got packed up, relocated and then set back-up for business in two days," said Patricia Choukeir, senior administrative assistant in Academic Advising, which moved to the fourth floor of Palamountain. "I don't look at it as an inconvenience but as a safety precaution and as a temporary situation. We are settled in and the students seem to be finding us, which is very important to us as well."

Student employees who work in Starbuck also have been affected by the relocations. Madeline Clary '14, who works for the Office of Off-Campus Study and Exchanges, said she was not able to return to work until the office had settled into its new location in the Game Room.

Clary said she first received notification of the investigation in President Glotzbach's address to the student body on Jan. 25, indicating that student employees are no more privy to the health concerns that spurred the closure of Starbuck than the general community.

"They seem to be keeping on the down low, which is kind of disconcerting," Clary said. "If we work there, we have a right to know what's going on."

Other students have expressed their concerns to Health Services, who, while keeping student information private, said these were being taken into account.

"I did hear from several students asking appropriate questions and their concerns are being addressed by the college administrators looking into the Starbuck situation," said Patricia Bosen, director of Health Services.

This confidentiality and reluctance to distribute information have been the source of much confusion and worry on campus, and is something that Public Relations must address, especially when confronted by prospective students and their families.

"Our stance is not to shy away from the issue," said Aaron Wallace '12, the head tour guide at Public Relations. "We believe that Skidmore has been handling the situation in the best way possible, so there is nothing for us to shy away from when regarding this issue."

Others share this confidence in the way the College is handling the situation, such as Kellyn Jackson '12, head resident of Wilmarth Hall. She said she is not concerned about Wilmarth's close proximity to Starbuck.

"Though it did cross my mind, I have no reason at this time to be concerned. I have seen maintenance address mold problems when I lived in Howe-Rounds, and their treatment was fully effective," Jackson said. "Since all they have found in Starbuck so far has been mold, I am sure there's no reason to worry."

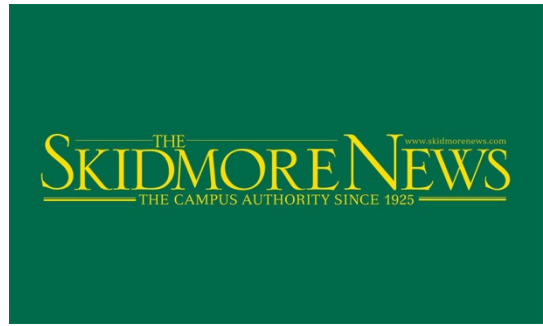
For more detailed information on the progress of the Starbuck investigation, students may view [this article](http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/results-from-initial-starbuck-testing-released-1.2759090#.Tz7Rl3aQdbw).

#1.2787046:1061749703.JPG:Starbuck Photo

Emptied of its offices, the Starbuck Center will undergo further health-related investigations.

Meredith Simonds/The Skidmore News





The Daily Crossword

By Pulp Editors

On Sat, Feb 18, 2012

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Review: Adele dominates the 2012 Grammys, as others pick up awards

Work of Skidmore alumna helps Foo Fighters garner awards

By Will Eldredge, Contributing Writer

On Sat, Feb 18, 2012

What a night for Adele. The soulful British singer swept the 2012 Grammys with her second major effort, "21," capturing Best Album and its smash single, "Rolling in the Deep," earning both Best Song and Best Record. By the time the evening ended, the songstress held six tiny golden phonographs, and had tied Beyonce for most awards won by a female performer in a single ceremony.

But Adele did more than just deliver acceptance speeches. She performed for the first time since undergoing vocal chord surgery last November, electrifying a packed Staples Center with a spirited rendition of "Rolling in the Deep."

Skidmore College even had its share of representation at the ceremony. Emily Lazar graduated from the College in 1993 and worked with the Foo Fighters as the mastering engineer for the group's album "Wasting Light." The alumna's work helped the Foos garner a field-leading seven nominations, and the band managed to turn five of them into wins, including Best Rock Album, Best Rock Song and Best Rock Performance.

Lazar was also the first female mastering engineer to be nominated for Best Album, a feat that Foo Fighters' frontman Dave Grohl took notice of.

"Not only was it an honor to work with Emily on Wasting Light, but an incredible (and historic) privilege... We're very, very excited for her," Grohl said.

Other winners of the night included Kanye West, who took home four awards, three on behalf of his 2010 masterpiece "My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy," whose single "All of the Lights" received both Best Rap Song and Best Rap Collaboration. The record itself won Best Rap Album. Yeezy, a popular nickname for West, shared his final award with Jay-Z, as the duo captured Best Rap Performance for "Otis" from their "Watch the Throne" album.

Sonny Moore, better known these days by his stage name Skrillex, managed three awards of his own, including Best Dance Recording and Best Dance Album. The dubstep producer's victories displayed the attempts of the Awards to adapt to the modern musical landscape, as past Dance categories had been

dominated by more mainstream pop artists such as Rihanna and Lady Gaga. One award that Moore did not capture, however, was the prestigious Best New Artist, which went to Wisconsin's Bon Iver, the atmospheric indie-folk act that revolves around singer-songwriter Justin Vernon.

The ceremony itself had its share of memorable moments, which included a surprisingly dynamic 60s rock-n-roll performance from Bruno Mars, who showed that he is more than just a hook man for radio-ready hits. On a more somber note, the industry paid tribute to its fallen, including a tear jerking performance of the late Whitney Houston's "I Will Always Love You" by Jennifer Hudson and a collaboration between Alicia Keys and Bonnie Raitt in memory of Etta James. Sir Paul McCartney closed out the show with a medley of classic Beatles tunes, sharing the stage with the likes of Bruce Springsteen, Joe Walsh and the aforementioned Grohl.

The night was not without its share of controversy. Bon Iver's nod for Best New Artist raised eyebrows for a variety of reasons, with some criticizing Vernon as too obscure in the face of Nicki Minaj's commercial dominance to deserve the award. Others noted that the act had already generated a significant following as well as critical acclaim for its 2007 recording "For Emma, Forever Ago."

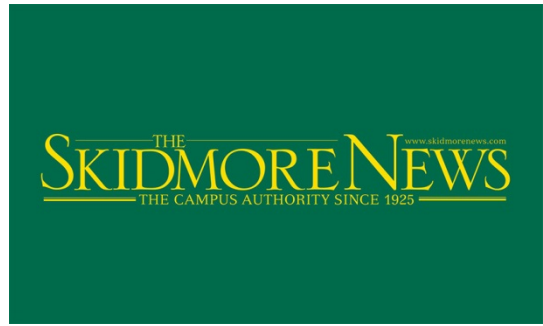
Perhaps the biggest snub of the night went to Kanye West, given that "My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy" did not even garner a nomination for Album of the Year. Its forceful range of emotions and masterful production transcended the rap genre, and critics cited its omission as another example of the Grammy's marginalization of hip-hop in favor of more traditional acts.

Music #1.2787403:3247086457.jpg:adele

Adele at the 2012 Grammys

Courtesy of Jornal De Ibaiti





Comic: Skidmore News, Office Assistant

By Michael DuPré, Op-Ed Editor

On Sun, Feb 19, 2012

Blurbs Overheard! Feb. 20

The wait is over! everyone's favorite eavesdroppings are back.

By Pulp Editors

On Sun, Feb 19, 2012

"She couldn't make it, she was feeding blind orphans or something."

Overheard at Sailing Club Meeting

"Gospel choir should clap more."

Overheard in the Newsroom

"I just got my eyebrows did."

Overheard second floor of Case

"She's like super-Jewish, you know...one hundred percent."

Overheard at second floor of Dining Hall

"If you polish a turd, it's still a turd."

"Yeah...why would you ever be polishing a turd, though?"

Overheard in the Atrium

Will the Linsanity continue?

With Carmelo Anthony expected to play Monday night against the Nets, will Jeremy Lin still dominate?

By Andrew Shi, Sports Editor

On Sun, Feb 19, 2012

With Carmelo Anthony expected to return on Monday against the same team that left him limping off the courts, not only critics raise the question of what will become of Jeremy Lin.

It has now been over a week and a half since Jeremy Lin started for the New York Knicks and Linsanity has swept New York and the rest of the nation. Eight games after a win against the Nets, with only a small road bump against the New Orleans Hornets, Linspiration- (couldn't help myself)-is still on the rise.

The Knicks' Lin jerseys are selling out in high demand, and his face is on the front page of every website, and magazine. Since Lin started for the Knicks he has averaged 25 points, and 9.2 assists per game. He has become the face of the team and only with his help has it broke even with its win-loss record. The announcers at Knicks home games in Madison Square Garden are drowned out as the stadium roars "Lin" and "MVP," both in the same sentence. In the past nine games Lin has gone from zero to hero, from an unknown to a serious contender for the All-Star games.

It was Lin who carried the team to victory when Knicks' All-Star Carmelo Anthony left early in the Nets game with a groin injury and All-Star Amar'e Stoudemire was forced to go home soon afterward due to family matters.

However, critics of Lin have pointed to the fact that out of the first eight games he has started in, seven of them were against teams below .500, and the was other against the Los Angeles Lakers, a team that is not in its golden age anymore.

Sunday's game against the reigning champions, the Dallas Mavericks, put all of that doubt to rest though. An early Knicks lead faltered into a 10 point deficit until the fourth quarter when the Knicks rallied behind Lin. With a little over two minutes left into the fourth Lin drained a long shot over reigning Championship MVP Dirk Nowitzki to give the Knicks a five point lead. The Knicks went on to defeat the Mavericks 104-97 with Lin leading the Knicks with 28 points and 14 assists.

With this paramount win, what critic could now doubt the serious playoff Knick contention led by the 6 foot-'1 inch guard? And winning eight out of the past nine games, who could doubt the pattern that shows Lin continuing to dominate the courts? Apparently still a lot of people.

Critics now claim that Lin's Linfluence- (my apologies again)- was only a result of the absence of powerhouse small forward Carmelo Anthony, and that may be true. But when Anthony is expected to return on Monday against the same team that left him limping off the courts, not only critics raise the question of what will become of Lin.

Stoudemire is still slowly recovering from the tragic death of his brother, but his dominance which he has complacently shelved for Lin will only soon return. Anthony is infamous for taking over games and playing multiple positions, including Lins' and the recent acquisition of shooting guard J.R Smith only leaves Lin with less space to make big plays. This is not to even mention Knicks' Tyson Chandler, a former defensive player of the year and large factor in the Mavericks championship last year, as well as Baron Davis, who was initially intended to play Lin's position once his back healed. Yes there is a good argument that Lin will likely be pushed back to the margins.

With the numbers he's put up in the last nine games, though, and the even greater number of jerseys flying off shelves around the world, it is doubtful Lin will be returning to the bench.

He might not be averaging 25 points a game anymore, but perhaps that is a good thing. The Knicks do not need a Derrick Rose- (Chicago Bull's MVP point guard)- who will dominate, but win the game. The Knicks need a Rajon Rondo (Celtics All-Star point guard). They need a point guard, deft and agile, who can dribble the ball up the court and make plays. After seeing numerous passes to shooting guards Landry Fields and Steve Novak at the sides and lobs to big man Chandler, it is clear that Lin is more than qualified to fill this role.

In fact, it might be best that his role be reduced to assist machine alone. Anthony is an All-Star for a reason, he's the man who can make the shots that only a select few can. Anthony though, was arguably also the reason the Knicks were way below .500, taking unnecessary shots that hit nothing but air. With Lin at point, he'll dish the ball out to the players that didn't touch the ball in the Anthony dominated days, and the Knicks will see better shots and more go in.

The Knicks, with so many new, high caliber players, have a lot of work to do to become the efficient, league leading, championship team that they certainly have the potential to be, but there is undoubtedly a spot for Lin there at the front. We won't be seeing Lin hitting 25 plus points a game anymore, but he'll still get his fair share, and the loss in points will only be reallocated to his assist stats.

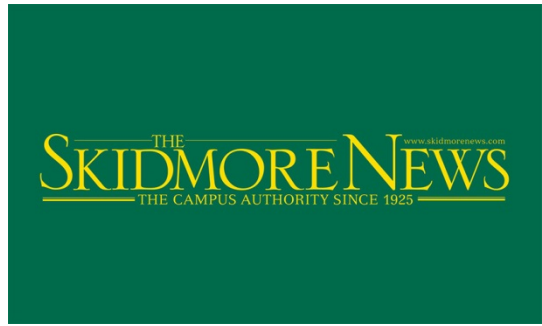
The Knicks can only get better from here on out as long as Carmelo Anthony lets Lin do his job and make the plays that we know he can execute(Lin is a smart guy, after all he did go to Harvard).Make no mistake: with a powerhouse lineup and a depth in their bench to be envied, the Knicks will surprise the NBA in the playoffs and the Linsanity will continue.

#1.2788255:918494816.jpg:Jeremy Lin

Jeremy Lin raked in 28 points, 5 steals and a career-high 14 assists against the Mavericks on Sunday

Photo by DvYang





Comic: Trivia

By Nat Nagar, Pulp Editor

On Sun, Feb 19, 2012

Healthful Hints: Drink to your health

The kind of consumption everyone can get behind

By Zoe Silver

On Sun, Feb 19, 2012

Sometimes, the best thing you can do for yourself is to drink a glass of water. Even though this sounds painfully simple, it actually has a lot of proven benefits for your health.

Drinking the recommended eight glasses of water per day can prevent you from getting the seasonal cold that's going around, put moisture back in your skin, hydrate your body to prevent headaches and energize you. The increasing number of alternative beverages available today makes it difficult to choose bland water over a tangy, carbonated drink, but if you begin to alternate between the two, you will quickly see improvements in your health.

Learning to incorporate drinking water into your daily routine is just like forming any other habit; it takes time and willingness. The general consensus is that it takes two weeks of concentration to form any habit. If you make it a point to drink eight cups of water a day for 14 days, you will soon find yourself craving it, and you will mindlessly reach for your water bottle throughout the day. In the meantime, while you are starting your water-drinking habit, try to spice things up and make it more appealing by adding lemon or lime. Another helpful hint is to drink one glass immediately upon waking up in the morning - this will "set the mood" for the rest of the day and keep you reaching for the glass. Carry a water bottle with you to class, the gym and elsewhere, and always drink at least one glass of water with each meal. These small actions will make a big difference in your life.

A large percentage of the human body consists of water. During the harsh winters that we have here in Saratoga, this percentage can decrease, which is very rough on our health. The heat that blasts through the vents dries up both the air and our bodies. A simple fix like using a humidifier is another way to keep water in your system.

You may not recognize the symptoms of dehydration, but it can commonly consist of a headache, thirst, joint pain, an upset stomach, nausea, dizziness, or even just a slight drowsy feeling. Our environment can dehydrate us persistently, so we need to be very cautious about rehydrating our body to prevent these symptoms and remain lively and able to go about our days. So, run over to the Skid Shop ASAP and pick out a stylish water bottle that you can flash to your friends and encourage them to follow you in your new healthy habit.

I know that water can be expensive, which is why I suggest that you purchase a reusable bottle. This is both eco-friendly and cost-efficient. Still, some of us will not be satisfied with the taste of tap water. That's an easy fix: buy a Brita to keep in your fridge or a reusable water bottle with a built-in filter. This will eliminate any contaminants in your water and also get rid of that "tappy" taste. If you don't feel like purchasing a reusable bottle and a filter, you will likely be overwhelmed with the number of different choices of water available at the store. These different labels and slogans are marketing ploys to get you to spend more money. I say go for the least expensive, but some people will tell you that bottled waters are no different than tap water, so it's a personal decision.

I hope that this article finds you in a state of thirst so that you are inspired to follow my healthful hints. Whatever your reason, whether it is to beautify and hydrate your skin or to get rid of that daily headache, I guarantee that the two weeks of work will pay off in the long run! Until next time, stay warm, stay healthy and drink, drink, drink!

#1.2787589:2870880293.jpg:Water Fountain

photo by M90 Photography



Flow Jam aims to tackle stress at Skidmore

Fight Club unveils a week of on campus workshops and lectures for wellness

By Sarah Barry, Features Editor

On Mon, Feb 20, 2012

Many students and faculty alike consider stress an inherent part of the college experience, with endless deadlines, workloads and commitments. However, Skidmore's Flow Jam was designed to remind students to step back from the daily struggle and focus on the moment.

Flow Jam consists of a week long series of events, lectures and workshops that promote strategies for energy and well being for the Skidmore community.

Monday marked the start of the campus' first Flow Jam, which will run until Feb. 26. Plans for the event started this October when Chris Lord '12 felt the Skidmore community could benefit from some new perspectives on health and wellness. "Throughout my Skidmore experience, I have seen many of my friends fall into a stressed out way of being," he said.

Most choices they make are to fit into what they think they should be doing rather than what they are intrinsically motivated to do. "Flow Jam was created with the intention of helping students enjoy the present moment," Lord said.

Flow Jam events include yoga and meditation classes, Brazilia Jiu Jitsu and an access consciousness workshop with Barbra Gilman, a therapist, life coach and the founder of Stress Strategies for Life.

"As a liberal arts institution, it is expected that students have access to as many perspectives as possible. Flow Jam is meant to give students an opportunity to experience a multitude of wellness and healing practices," he said.

Lord worked with several other clubs, groups and individuals to realize the week of events such as Health Promotions, Religious and Spiritual Life and Fight Club. "There are many others who are in the fair on Monday and who are holding workshops throughout the week. Some are student clubs, some faculty, and other practitioners from the area. Almost no one is being paid," he stressed.

Lord found many willing participants for the event, but welcomed anyone who wanted to be involved. "I am open to anyone who wants to share their techniques for peace and happiness with others. It just worked out, all that I needed to do was trust."

One of the week's biggest events is a lecture by Dr. Brian Seaward who will speak on stress management at 7 p.m., Feb. 21 at in Ganett Auditorium. Dr. Seaward is an expert in the field of stress management and head of the Paramount Wellness Institute. The SGA Speakers Bureau supplied most of the money for his fee, \$1500 including airfare. "I thought that because he is well respected in academia, his message for wellness might reach some more skeptical students" Lord said.

Flow Jam's mission is to help students reduce and manage stress and maintain wellness in daily life. Lord urged students to take an hour out of their schedules and try and attend any workshop or event.

"Everyone involved in this has given so much time and energy and is so passionate about this. It has been months of work, but if it helps even one person it's worth it," Lord said.

If the week goes well, Lord hopes someone will take up the challenge to continue the event next year. For more information and a full list of events visit the [Facebook page](http://www.facebook.com/events/300987026603740/).

#1.2797184:2195443773.JPG:yoga flow jam

Among Flow Jam events was a yoga class with Kelly Jackson in the dance studio.

Meredith Simonds '15/ The Skidmore News

#1.2797190:278795557.JPG:flow jam

Flow Jam events throughout the week focused on stress relief and well being.

Meredith Simonds '15/ The Skidmore News



Megabus coming to Saratoga Springs

The new stop will allow students to travel from Saratoga to New York City for \$1

By Michael DuPré

On Mon, Feb 20, 2012

As early as April, Skidmore students will have greater transportation options as Megabus expands to Saratoga.

The popular, low-cost bus company will be adding Saratoga Springs to the list of more than 70 cities that it services. Starting April 2, buses will travel daily, offering express service between Saratoga Springs, Burlington and New York.

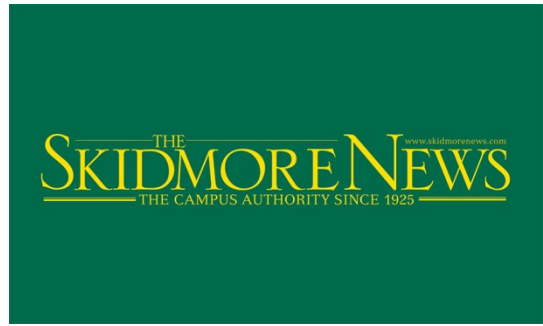
As of yet, there is no determined location for the stop in Saratoga Springs, and booked customers will receive an email, according to the website.

Fares begin as low as \$1 and can be purchased at <http://megabus.commegabus.com/>.

#1.2789756:2826248958.jpg:MEGABUS!

Photo by LA Wad





Comic: To the top Pt. 3 & 4

By Wyatt Erchak, Cartoonist

On Mon, Feb 20, 2012

Pages 3 and 4 of Wyatt Erchak's upcoming crime graphic novel, "To the Top"

Hallo Deutschland! Buon Giorno Italia!-Study Abroad Programs

By Ani Lordkipanidze, Contributing Writer

On Mon, Feb 20, 2012

Skidmore's 136 study abroad programs allure a new and increasingly large batch of students each semester. The national Open Door survey conducted by the Institute for International Education, ranks Skidmore No. 2 among baccalaureate institutions with an estimated 65 percent of students studying abroad for one semester in 2009-2010. Diana Baron '13 and Chaoer Chen '13 volunteered some recent experiences abroad.

Baron chose Berlin, Germany, as her destination because she fell in love with the city when she first visited the country a few years ago. Berlin offered a departure from the atmosphere of Saratoga Springs. As the capital city of Germany, Berlin houses a population of 3.5 million and offers more mobility. "It was so easy to get around the city since it's easy to walk and there is a fantastic public transportation system. On the weekends, the trains run all night, and on weeknights, when the train stops, there are night buses," Baron said.

Chen, like Baron, fell in love with Italy on a prior visit. "Two years ago I visited Rome with my family. I felt in love with that city and since then wanted to visit Italy again." Chen chose Florence rather than Rome for her semester abroad.

Chen, as a Sociology major, focused on fulfilling all-college requirements while at the Lorenzo de Medici University. She praised the program for the strength of its art classes. However, Chen advised students interested specifically in language to at least consider other Italian cities, such as Rome or Milan.

"Language was a barrier. My Italian is not very good. There is a big separation between foreigners and local Italians. The problem in Florence is that it is very popular place for American students," Chen said.

Chen also shared advice for prospective abroad students. "Learn more Italian before you go there. It's a country in Europe where less people speak English. If you like art or art history, you should definitely go there and you should also respect the country, people and their history."

Baron explained that language barriers did not detract from her time in Berlin, as many residents speak English. Baron took an introductory course to German while abroad, and she is currently continuing her German studies at Skidmore. "Berlin was also a great place to study art history since I'm mostly interested in modern and contemporary art," Baron said.

Baron had a positive home-stay, living with a family during her time in Berlin, which she said helped her adjust to life abroad. "It really helped that I had amazing friends on my program and a great host mom in my home-stay."

Baron offered some parting advice for students who are considering the abroad experience. "Visit Berlin! I cannot say enough good things about it. At the end of the semester I got upset because I realized how many things I had missed in the city - it's a good excuse to go back though. But in general I would say take advantage of all the chances you get, even if it's intimidating. Explore new things and immerse yourself in the local culture," Baron said.

Despite her love of the Italian city, Chen expressed nostalgia for Skidmore's food. "Nothing compares to the cookies in D-Hall," Chen said.

For a more information on study abroad and a detailed list of forms and deadlines visit the OCSE webpage at <http://cms.skidmore.edu/ocse>.

#1.2791381:351862579.jpg:chen restaurant

A view of Florence and one of its many restaurants.

Chaoer Chen '13

#1.2791397:150389424.jpg:Chen river

The Ponte Vecchio over the Arno River in Florence, Italy.

Chaoer Chen '13

#1.2791412:3450172678.jpg:Chen and friend

Chen '13 during her fall semester abroad.

Chaoer Chen '13







Campus Safety Incident Reports, Feb. 5 to 16

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Tue, Feb 21, 2012

Campus Safety incident reports from the week of Feb. 5.

Sunday, Feb. 5

Criminal Mischief: Officer found hole at 1:11 a.m. in wall of second floor stairwell east side of McClellan Hall. Unknown perpetrator at this time. Damage recorded and report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Campus Officers dispatched at 1:09 a.m. to Jonsson Tower for report of male forcing female down stairs near Wait. Officers canvassed entire area, including exterior lots and interior of dorms. No further disturbance observed or reported.

Campus Safety Assist: Reporting person called at 2:56 a.m. requesting medical transport from Case Center to the Saratoga Hospital Emergency Room for an injury sustained when she slipped on ice. Transport completed by dispatched officers. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Officer transported student at 12:45 p.m. from Jonsson Tower to Wilton Medical at the request of Health Services. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Reporting person requested transport at 5:42 p.m. from the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall to the Saratoga Hospital ER for an employee who was feeling ill. Officer dispatched completed transport. Report issued.

Monday, Feb. 6

Suspicious Activity: Officer observed a male at 1:20 a.m. sifting through trash in Northwoods area. Officers located subjects and warned him off campus. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Reporting person requested transport at 7:30 a.m. from Poplar Apartments to ER. Officer completed transport. Report issued.

Criminal Mischief: Damage to the Tennis Shed door reported at 11:10 a.m. No known perpetrators at this time. Damage reported and report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Reporting person requested welfare check of her daughter at 11:40 a.m. Officer dispatched to Wiecking Hall made contact with subject and delivered message. Subject in satisfactory condition.

Missing Person: Student reported at 1:42 p.m. that one person from her group at Palamountain Hall had become separated and requested assistance. Officers and the Saratoga Springs Police Department advised. Subject located safely.

Criminal Mischief: Staff on duty reports at 9:45 p.m. additional damage to wall in McClellan second floor east stairwell. Damage recorded and report issued. No known perpetrator at this time.

Suspicious Odor: Suspicious odor reported at 9:32 p.m. in Howe Hall. Dispatched officer canvassed area and was unable to detect odor. Call unfounded.

Wednesday, Feb. 8

College Violation: Noise complaint reported at 12:17 a.m. in Jonsson Tower. Officers dispatched canvassed area to no avail. No noise detected. Persons gone on arrival.

Suspicious Odor: Suspicious odor reported at 12:30 a.m. in Rounds Hall. Officer dispatched reports incense burning. Officer issued report regarding violation and advised resident of fire hazard.

Larceny: Reporting person filed a report at 12:19 p.m. of a stolen instrument from a locker in the Zankel Music Building. Saratoga Springs Police Department and Campus Safety reports issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Transportation requested for an employee for medical assistance at 1:10 p.m. from Jonsson Tower. Dispatched officer completed transport. Report issued.

Accident: Reporting person notified via email at 1:39 p.m. that person (s) unknown hit her vehicle while it was parked in Palamountain Lot sometime between 8:30 a.m. and noon. Dispatched officer issued report. No known perpetrators at this time.

College Violation: Officer reported at 4:48 p.m. observing approximately seven individuals skateboarding outside JKB Theater. Officer approached the group, asked them to cease and leave campus as they are not members of the community. All complied without incident.

Emergency Phone: Tang Walkway emergency phone activated with no response at 9:13 p.m. Dispatched officer canvassed area and found no disturbances. False activation.

Thursday, Feb. 9

False Report: Fire alarm activation reported at 3:12 a.m. in Howe/Rounds. Officers and maintenance dispatched. False alarm activation determined. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Transportation requested at 9:35a.m. for a student from Jonsson Tower to her Doctor per the request of Health Services. Transport completed. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Transportation requested at 5:14 a.m. for student from Health Services to ER. Officer completed transport. Report issued.

Animals: A problem with a dog and owner reported at 4:42 p.m. outside of Greenberg Childcare. Subject was confrontational when requested to leash dog. Officer dispatched located dog owner and advised him to leash the dog when on Skidmore Property. Report issued.

Liquor Law Violation: Reports at 10:55 p.m. of loud music near Hickory. Dispatched officer observed unauthorized party and liquor law violations. Report issued.

College Violation: Noise complaint reported at 11:35 p.m. in Whitman Way. Dispatched officer reports residents complied with request to lower volume.

Friday, Feb. 10

Security Alarm: Falstaff's security alarm received at 12:09 a.m. Office dispatched checked entire building and property. No disturbances. Building secure and alarmed. Additional alarm received at 1:05 a.m. Unfounded.

Drug Law Violation: Noise complaint reported at 1:45 a.m. in Whitman Way. Officers dispatched observed drug violations at unauthorized gathering. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Transportation requested at 5:14 a.m. for student from Health Services to ER. Officer completed transport. Report issued.

Security Alarm: Security alarm reported at 2:56 a.m. in the Spa. Officer in vicinity dispatched. Officer reports no one in area and no disturbances reported. Officer to remain in vicinity.

Found Property: An unsecured cash drawer reported found at 5:30 a.m. in Case Center. Officer dispatched counted and secured money at Campus Safety. Report issued. Owners claimed.

Accident: Report at 8:20 p.m. of Kids Night Out participant cutting his head at the Sports Center pool. EMT on the scene already treating, parents called and en route. No EMS needed at this time. Officers dispatched to take report and complete accident report.

Campus Safety Assist: An accident reported at 9:40 p.m. which occurred off-campus involving a coach and two students who were taken to the ER. Report issued. Appropriate contacts made.

Complaints: Unruly crowd reported at 8:45 p.m. off-campus. Dispatched officers for assistance. Officers report upon entry situation corrected by officer assigned on scene.

Saturday, Feb. 11

Campus Safety Assist: Reporting person advised at 12:33 a.m. that two subjects were seen on the ice at Haupt Pond. While approaching subjects exited the ice and ran. Subjects gone on arrival.

Campus Safety Assist: The Saratoga Springs Police Department advises Campus Safety at 12:51 a.m. to be on the lookout for a vehicle involved in a hit and run accident off-campus. All officers advised.

College Violation: Exceedingly large gathering at apartment reported at 12:59 a.m. in Oak Apartments. Officers dispatched report dispersing over 100 subjects from area. No problems resulted.

College Violation: Noise complaint reported at 4:25 a.m. in Howe Dormitory. Officers spoke with three male subjects being loud and report subjects lowered the volume upon request.

Campus Safety Assist: Student reports at 9:18 a.m. that she believes the tire of a friend's vehicle that she borrowed for the weekend was slashed in the Tang Parking Lot. Dispatched officer reports the tire was flat previously off-campus and driving it in that condition caused additional damage. Report issued. Unknown perpetrator (s).

Campus Safety Assist: Report at 10:37 a.m. regarding concern for a student who is having difficulties with room change. Officer willing to provide assistance. Subject declined.

Criminal Mischief: Officer reports at 11:55 a.m. observing a burnt poster outside of Howe Hall. Damage recorded and report issued. No known perpetrators at this time.

Campus Safety Assist: Reporting person requests transportation at 8:04 p.m. from the Sports Center to the Saratoga Hospital ER. Officers dispatched completed transport. Report issued.

Sunday, Feb. 12

College Violation: Noise complaint reported at 1:48 a.m. in Rounds Hall. Dispatched officer reports resident complied with request to lower volume.

College Violation: Noise complaint reported at 1:54 a.m. in lounge at Jonsson Tower. Officer spoke to several people and they complied with the request to lower the volume.

College Violation: Noise complaint reported at 2:17 a.m. at Cane Crossing. Officers on scene advised no one at the residence. Unfounded.

College Violation: Noise complaint reported at 2:54 a.m. in Jonsson Tower. Dispatched officer reports subjects complied with request to lower volume.

Campus Safety Assist: Reporting person requests at 2:09 p.m. a welfare check on her daughter in Jonsson Tower. Dispatched officer advised resident to contact parent.

College Violation: Excessive noise reported at 8 p.m. in Moore Way. Officer dispatched reports no noise detected. Unfounded.

Monday, Feb. 1

Harassment: Reporting person states at 2:41 a.m. receiving several harassing calls at WSPN radio station in Jonsson Tower. Officer dispatched initiated investigation. Report issued.

Criminal Mischief: Criminal mischief reported at 11 a.m. in third floor hallway of McClellan Hall. Officer dispatched. Damage recorded and report issued. No known perpetrators.

Suspicious Activity: Officer observed student entering room through an exterior window in Penfield Hall. Student located, identified, and advised of hazard. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Reporting person requested transport at 1 p.m. from Dayton Drive to Health Services. Officer dispatched and transport provided. Report issued.

Tickets Issued: At 3:05 p.m., a person reported a car driving on the sidewalk at the Sports Center. Officer dispatched and tickets were issued accordingly. Report issued.

Larceny: Reporting person requests assistance at 4:31 p.m. at the bookstore with <http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/two-men-arrested-outside-of-case-center-1.2780147#.T0MCrHaQdbw> a shoplifter in Case Center. Dispatched officers and the Saratoga Springs Police Department. Subjects located arrested. Report issued.

College Violation: Noise complaint reported at 11 p.m. at Moore Way. Dispatched officer reports that he has requested residents lower the volume. Residents complied.

Tuesday, Feb. 14

Parking: Booted vehicle reported at 1:51 a.m. in Cane Crossing for excessive tickets. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Reporting person requests a transport at 9:04 a.m. for a student from Wilmarth Hall to Health Services. Officer completed transport. Report issued.

Animals: A bat reported at 6:43 a.m. in trash room of Wiecking Hall. Officer and wildlife nuisance dispatched. Bat removed with human exposure. Report issued.

Wednesday, Feb. 15

Found Property: Person reports at 5:11 a.m. finding ID and keys in green leather holder in Taxi off-campus. Secured in found property. Owner emailed and signed for her property at 4:26 p.m. Stated all intact. Receipt signed.

Found Property: Reporting person dropped off a student's Skidmore ID card at 2:45 p.m. that was found on the Barrett Center Walkway. Owner picked-up her ID at 3:36 p.m. and signed receipt.

Lost/Missing Property: Reporting person states at 5:11p.m. that she left a thumb drive in a computer in the Library. If turned over, call her campus number. Reporting person is going to check the Library computers.

Campus Safety Assist: Reporting person requests a transport at 7:31 p.m. from the Sports Center to the Saratoga Hospital ER for an injured friend. Dispatched officer. Transport provided.

College Violation: Noise complaint reported at 10:14 p.m. in Northwoods Apartments. Dispatched officers who spoke with residents to turn down the bass. Subjects complied.

Found Property: Reporting person turned over an ID at 5 p.m. Emailed the owner. Place in lost and found.

Thursday, Feb. 16

Parking: Vehicle booted at 3:45 a.m. in Jonsson Tower Lot for excessive tickets.

Campus Safety Assist: Person reports at 3:45 p.m. that someone has been following him at various times on Tuesday. Reporting person declined any involvement through local Police or the College and since there is no indication of threat, the request was granted with the understanding that the reporting person agree to keep in contact with the dispatched officer regarding this incident. Incident being monitored.

Parking: Various vehicles reported booted at 10:26 a.m. as they are unregistered with the College and have received numerous tickets for the same violation. Report made.

Campus Safety Assist: Reporting person requests transportation at noon for a student from the Art Center office to Health Services. Due to the fact that Health Services is closed for lunch, the student was taken to the Wilton Medical. Dispatched officer. Transport completed.

Campus Safety Assist: Reporting person requests transportation at 3:29 p.m. for a student from Jonsson Tower to the Saratoga Hospital ER. Dispatched officer. Transport provided.

Found Property: Person reports at 6 p.m. finding a purse at the Spa. Dispatched officer who retrieved the item, which was inventoried and the owner contacted. Owner retrieved her purse at 6:07 p.m. A found property receipt was filled out and signed.

Lost/Missing Property: Student reports at 7:21 p.m. missing key ring containing four to five keys with a Gnome keychain. If found, please turn into Campus Safety office.

Lost/Missing Property: Reporting person called at 11 p.m. asking if anyone turned in his black bi-fold wallet as he lost it sometime over the past few days. No wallet has been turned in. If found, please turn into Campus Safety office.

Suspicious Odor: Suspicious odor reported at 11:18 p.m. in Wait Hall. Dispatched officers report they are unable to locate any odor at this time. Call unfounded.

Soapbox: Slashing defense budget need not leave us defenseless

The Obama administration asserts America's military power while slashing wasteful spending

By Eric Shapiro, Columnist

On Tue, Feb 21, 2012

It has become increasingly clear over the past few years that the Obama administration is devoted to making the the U.S. military leaner and more efficient. It's necessary for the U.S. to strike an appropriate balance that will allow it to maintain its military supremacy while simultaneously cutting back on unnecessary expenditures.

After a decade of post-Cold War dithering, 9/11 provided the U.S. with a clear and unambiguous foreign policy direction. The attack seemed to mandate a vigorous and immediate response from the world's only superpower; hence, the rare displays of bipartisanship from Congress that culminated in the Afghanistan and Iraq Wars.

The next decade of conflict abroad served as a long and painful wakeup call, with the U.S. forced to question its role in the world to an extent not seen since the Vietnam War. By the 2008 elections, the drawbacks of the War on Terror had become painfully clear.

For one, the economic crisis called new attention to the spiraling national debt, in part the product of two costly wars largely funded by China. Furthermore, the often hostile reaction of the international community, coupled with America's failure to win the hearts and minds of the very people's it sought to "democratize," caste serious doubt on the viability of nation-building as a counter-terrorism strategy. These disconcerting realities have given rise to a new skepticism in the U.S. regarding what role, if any, the world's only superpower should play in international affairs.

This sense of doubt comes at a very dangerous time, with the Middle East in a state of chaos and Iran on the verge of acquiring nuclear weapons. It seems likely that the prospect of intervention in Iran and/or Syria will put foreign policy back on the political agenda in advance of the 2012 elections. If this is the case, voters will be bombarded with all manner of extreme positions in the coming months, advocating everything from isolationism to a ground war with Iran. The key will be to maintain a balanced approach to foreign policy, one that takes the nation's dire economic situation into account while also remaining mindful of America's security commitments abroad.

The latest military budget proposed by the Obama Administration, which would bring troop deployment abroad back to 2005 levels and cut funding from conventional weapon development, aims to do just that. Unsurprisingly, the new military budget has drawn criticism from both sides of the aisle. Hawks and reflexive Obama-bashers on the right have accused the president of neutering the military and speeding American decline. The Left (and Ron Paul), still bitter that many of the Bush Administration's controversial counter-terrorism policies are still in place, have accused Obama of squandering precious funds on the military that could be better-utilized to stimulate the economy at home. The eventual GOP nominee will almost certainly cite Obama's proposed military cuts as evidence that the president is leading America into decline.

However, it is important that Americans don't overreact to mismanagement of those conflicts and retreat into isolationism. There are myriad of practical reasons that this would be a bad idea. For one, U.S. economic power is inextricably tied to its military capacities. In this globalized economy, the smallest of events could set off a major economic chain reaction, and the U.S. is better equipped than any other state to prevent rogue regimes from disrupting the world economy. The perception that the U.S. no longer has the will to defend its interests could embolden hostile states to be more belligerent.

Suppose, for example, the Iranian regime decides to block off the Strait of Hormuz, which numerous states in Europe depend on for the shipment of oil. The best way to prevent such things from occurring is with the threat of military force. The U.N. and international institutions have time and time again proven incapable of dealing with rogue states with irrational regimes that flout world opinion. As the major world power, the U.S. is in a unique position to keep these regimes in line. There are also humanitarian benefits to the considered and well-applied application of force in international affairs. The recent intervention in Libya - nominally "led" by European states but dependent on U.S. military and logistical support - comes to mind.

And what of our perpetually imperiled allies? Numerous states (Taiwan, South Korea, Georgia, Israel) provide valuable strategic and ideological footholds in otherwise unfriendly regions of the world. These countries depend on the U.S. for economic and military assistance. Send the impression that we are no longer unconditionally devoted to their security and we risk not only damaging our credibility, but putting countless lives at risk. Without the threat of U.S. military retaliation, who can seriously doubt that North Korea would immediately overrun its Southern neighbor and spread its brutal totalitarian regime as far as its enormous military allows? What incentive will competitors like Russia have to take us seriously if they get the impression that the U.S. is no longer willing to defend the allies it has committed itself to protecting?

None of this is to say that the status quo is acceptable. There are ways for the U.S. to cut back on military expenditures without sacrificing economic and security interests. Long, drawn out wars and

"nation building" ventures of the kind undertaken in Iraq are both costly and impractical. They bear a great deal of responsibility for the crippling national debt, and it remains to be seen whether Iraq and Afghanistan will be better off in the long run thanks to our efforts.

In addition, the military industrial complex is very real and as devoted as ever to lining the greedy pockets of military contractors by cranking out endless lines of expensive new aircraft and missile defense systems. This is in spite of the fact that many experts are saying that conventional military forces are becoming less relevant (although still essential) in the post-Cold War world.

The key is for the U.S. to strike an appropriate balance that will allow it to maintain its military supremacy while simultaneously cutting back on unnecessary expenditures. It has become increasingly clear over the past few years that the Obama administration is devoted to this goal. Moral implications aside, the use of drones has proven to be an effective and relatively inexpensive way of hunting down and killing our enemies. And it was not an army, but an elite squad of Navy SEALs that took out Bin Laden.

It is reasonable to expect that these kinds of small-scale specialized operations will become progressively more effective and hence, more common. Unfortunately, such methods of warfare are no substitute for maintaining military bases in certain key regions to check hostile states. America's future will hinge in part on whether U.S. citizens comprehend the need for a common sense approach to military expenditure rather than retreating to ideological extremes that will not serve the nation well in the long run.

#1.2791038:4175471989.jpg:Hormuz

USS Carl Vinson transits the Strait of Hormuz.

Photo courtesy of Official U.S. Navy Imagery



Friendly Fire: In Defense of Stress

Or: How I learned to keep worrying and despise the Flow Jam

By Brendan James, Editor-in-Chief

On Tue, Feb 21, 2012

****Editor's Note:*** Given the number of responses from members or supporters of Fight Club and the Flow Jam project, we would like to make it known that anyone may submit a reply to this (or any) article for the Letters to the Editor section by emailing skidnews@skidmore.edu.

As I drifted through the spiritualist swamp that overtook Case Center on the first day of Skidmore's new-age festival, <http://www.skidmorenews.com/features/flow-jam-aims-to-tackle-stress-at-skidmore-1.2789195> [Flow Jam](http://www.skidmorenews.com/features/flow-jam-aims-to-tackle-stress-at-skidmore-1.2789195), the first words to surface in my mind came from Edna St. Vincent Millay's imperishable poem, "Renascence":

"Ah, awful weight!" she groans. "Infinity pressed down upon the finite me!"

This week, "Infinity," in its various <http://youtu.be/PJaxd1BQr9g?t=1m37s> [crystal](http://youtu.be/PJaxd1BQr9g?t=1m37s), liquid and tablet forms, is weighing heavily on our finite campus. Flow Jam's sponsor, the college's student mediation club, is hosting nightly seminars on miracles, chi, and transcendence, and the SGA Speakers Bureau has contributed \$1,500 to a lecture on the topic of "mind-body-spirit healing." Last week, in this space, Rick Chrisman, Skidmore News columnist and Director of Religious and Spiritual Life, penned a <http://www.skidmorenews.com/op-ed/i-daydreams-i-stress-be-gone-1.2784894> [battle hymn](http://www.skidmorenews.com/op-ed/i-daydreams-i-stress-be-gone-1.2784894) for the war against bad vibes.

Rest (rest!) assured, Flow Jam is here to dissolve our anxiety, our darker thoughts, our sense of struggle - in other words, what makes us young and alive. As chief organizer Chris Lord '12 put it: "It's about learning how to eliminate stress, and becoming just totally in-the-present and at peace."

Since it appears almost everyone is in agreement on the desirability of this pacific ideal, on campus and elsewhere, permit me here to say a few things in defense of stress. My case is no rhetorical exercise; there is something to Flow Jam that brings to bear a larger ill plaguing our campus.

First let us locate the necessity of stress where it is most obvious. Here, at an academic institution, the engine of the intellect does not take idle, mellow tranquility as its fuel. Academia is a world in which the conversation is only advanced by the opposition of ideas, brought on by dissatisfaction, argument and projects both taxing and nerve-wracking. And what paper or presentation has any of us ever worked on

that was both supremely rewarding *and* devoid of a struggle? Stress, in fact, is the midwife of every great achievement and hard-won effort, particularly in the collegiate setting.

The suppression of conflict and anxiety also has dismal aesthetic consequences. Under the influence of the new-age, "stress-free" enterprise, all art becomes ambiance. A vibrant canvas usually does more to disrupt one's "energy" than to chill one out - and so under the direction of holism and stress-management the visual arts shrivel into lifeless renderings of triggerfish and lotuses. (If the reader finds herself bemused here, she need only look up at the nearest terrapin tapestry hanging in her dorm or apartment.)

Most disturbing is that music, the most vivacious of the arts, is replaced by fuzzy, meditative humming. The sublime manipulations of Debussy, Gershwin and Waits are hardly a good background for your 24-hour craniosacral therapy; much more reassuring and unifying is the tuneless synth module. Now that we're listening with care, surely we must recognize the inherent dissonance between a college's cultivation of the arts and that creeping drone of yoga sound therapy.

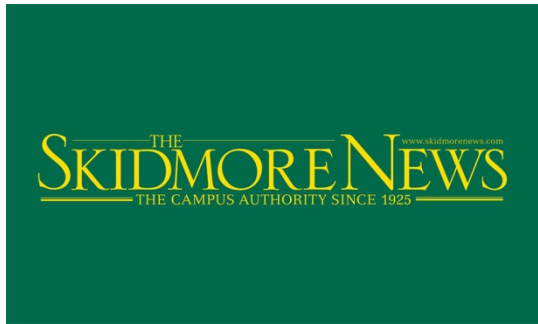
Look even closer. Friction, anxiety, pressure - such things are all, quite literally, the prime source of any movement, any activity, any sensation or exhilaration in the physical world (and, if I might insist, the only world we've got). The buzzing resistance between each and every atomic particle must say something about the life-affirming character of what spiritualists and quacks contemptuously refer to as "stress."

And so Aldous Huxley, no stranger to either the pleasures or dangers of transcendent spirituality, quoted Ephesus on the matter: "Homer was wrong in saying: 'Would that strife might perish from among gods and men!' He did not see that he was praying for the destruction of the universe; for if his prayer was heard, all things would pass away."

Before you accuse me of taking this all too seriously, I'll state for the record that I chuckled all the way through the carnival of pseudoscience and shamanism that passed through Case Center on Monday afternoon. It was a kind of sick treat to see all the snake oil and magic healing crystals on display in the student center of an accredited institution of higher education. G.K. Chesterton would have been delighted to see his thesis validated, as every neon pamphlet avowed to its reader that X brand of psychic treatment requires no religion or "belief system."

No, of course one can't help but giggle at all this claptrap. I even sat down to have my "auric field" prodded by a grizzled veteran of the Reiki trade, if only for the conversation.

But beneath the beads and incense I submit that there lies a genuine concern that goes beyond Flow Jam. (By the looks of the faces on prospective students and their parents walking through Case on



Monday, I am not alone.) What makes this lethargic festival a particularly undesirable thing for Skidmore is that, quite frankly, much our college community already suffers enough from a decadent and near-pervasive idleness.

Looking around, it increasingly appears as though many of us here want things easy and stress-free, or not at all: students advise one another on what class garners the easiest A's; both faculty and students desire timid "dialogue" over rigorous argument; even Integrity Board justice deals with each offender's "narrative" rather than her transgression.

It should be no surprise, then, that we see ventures such as Flow Jam blossoming; it is only one face of a very limiting and frivolous aspect of our campus culture. For that reason, I would emphasize that I don't mean to pick solely on the good people at Fight Club - there are plenty others who require a little stressing out.

But where to begin? I wonder if the lotus-eaters, the consensus-lovers, of Skidmore will make the first move. The idea of them stimulating a debate doesn't seem consistent with the current state of affairs. But if they do take a hard look at what I've brought to bear, perhaps with their help we can change all of this. After all - to stay consistent with this week's theme - the reader might remember what the hotdog vendor told the Buddhist after the pious customer asked for change back for his \$20 bill:

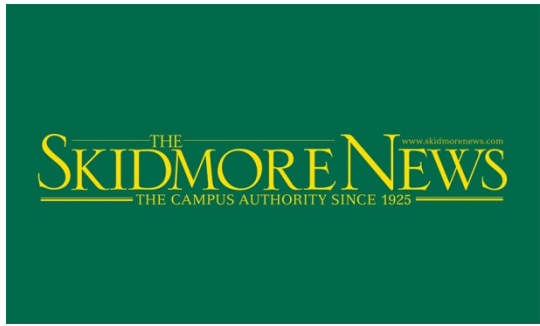
"Change comes only from within."

#1.2790161:1267634495.jpgFlowwNooo

"The essence of all is the godhead of the true." Thanks, but no thanks.

Image courtesy of Daveeza





Comic: Trivia

By Nat Nagar, Pulp Editor

On Tue, Feb 21, 2012

Saratoga Springs Police remove students from basketball game

Officers speak with subjects and witnesses at the Sports Center

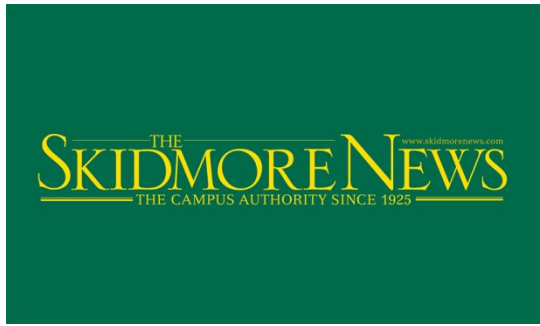
By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Wed, Feb 22, 2012

Members of the Saratoga Springs Police Department were called to the men's basketball game on Saturday, Feb. 18 at the Williamson Sports Center to remove two Skidmore students involved in an altercation with a Union student.

According to Lawrence Britt, associate director of Campus Safety, the police spoke to those involved, including witnesses, to determine the full extent of the situation.

The Union student did not wish to press charges, but the two Skidmore students were escorted from the Sports Center.



Photos: Albany Symphony Orchestra performs in Zankel

By Skidmore News

On Wed, Feb 22, 2012

Last Sunday, Feb. 19, the Albany Orchestra performed in Filene Ladd Concert Hall of Zankel Music Center. The orchestra's next performance at the College will be Sunday, March 18, also at Zankel Music Center.

Music #1.2792697:408200037.JPG:Alb

Albany Symphony Orchestra performed in Ladd Concert Hall.

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News

#1.2792702:3126930876.JPG:Alb

David Alan Miller, center, conducted the performance.

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News

#1.2792730:624200405.JPG:Alb

David Alan Miller, center, conducted the performance.

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News

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Albany Symphony Orchestra performed in Ladd Concert Hall.

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News

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Members of the Albany Symphony Orchestra performed in Ladd Concert Hall.

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News











Weekly Zankel preview: Thursday Feb. 23 - March 1

Upcoming concerts and performances in Zankel

By Sandy Zhang, A&E editor

On Wed, Feb 22, 2012

Thursday, Feb. 23 - Isle of Klezbos performing in Ladd Concert Hall of Zankel Music Center at 7 p.m.

An all women's klezmer sextet, Isle of Klezbos plays inventive forms of traditional Jewish and Yiddish folk music. The group also plays original music inspired by a wide array of musical styles - from funk, to Latin jazz to classical. Free and open to the public.

Friday, Feb. 24 - In Stiller Nacht, 5 pm in Ladd Concert Hall of Zankel Music Center.

Vocal students of Katie Gardiner, Anne Zwick Turner and Gene Marie Callahan combine to perform a vocal and choral concert.

Saturday, Feb. 25 - Senior Recital

Seniors Alena Chuber, flute, and Alexandra Guest, cello, join to perform a shared senior recital.

No events are scheduled from Sunday, Feb. 26 to Thursday, March 1.

Natural foods market coming to Wilton Mall

The new café offers fresh food and drink, cooking classes and community lectures

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Wed, Feb 22, 2012

The Healthy Living Market and Café, a natural foods supermarket based in South Burlington, Vt. will fill the anchor space at the Wilton Mall, that J.C. Penney vacated five years ago.

Construction is scheduled to begin this summer and an opening date is tentatively set for mid-winter. The market will provide about 140 jobs and bring a new level of culinary possibilities to the area.

The Healthy Living Market and Café will occupy the approximately 35,000 square foot space and offer shoppers a one-stop destination for natural groceries, fresh organic and local produce, locally sourced meats and poultry, crusty artisan breads, a world of cheese, health and beauty products, a complete vitamin/supplement department, freshly prepared foods and a broad selection of microbrews and wine.

When looking to open a second location, Katy Lesser, CEO of the family-owned business, said she recognized a vibrant, growing community in Saratoga Springs.

"We took a long time to find the ideal place for our second location," she said. "The energy and spirit I see in Saratoga Springs matches the kind of environment we love to support, where good food and agriculture play important roles. We're anxious to begin partnerships with businesses and farmers, schools and organizations in the area, and start working to become part of the community."

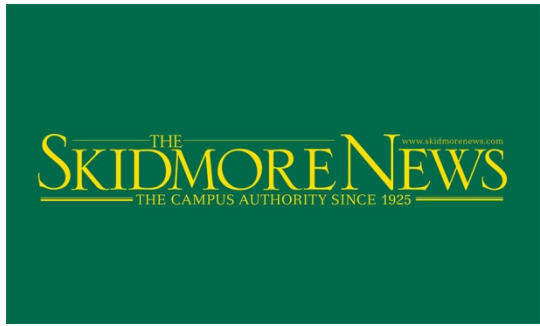
The market at the Wilton Mall will include a café for dining in or taking out, which will feature a menu, made fresh daily, that includes vegetarian and vegan options for breakfast, lunch and dinner. A full barista area will offer a wide variety of coffee and tea drinks.

There will also be a Learning Center, which will offer cooking demonstrations, hands-on cooking classes and community lectures focusing on wellness.

For more information on Healthy Living Market and Café, visit www.healthylivingmarket.com. Job inquiries may be directed to HR@healthylivingmarket.com after July 1.

#1.2793366:3851243952.jpg:Healthy Living Photo

Customers walking in at the Healthy Living in South Burlington, Vt. are greeted by a wide variety of fresh foods.



Courtesy of PMG Public Relations

#1.2793377:1896820002.JPG:Healthy Living Photo2

People may take hands-on cooking lessons at the Café's Learning Center in South Burlington, Vt.

Courtesy of PMG Public Relations





Professor Arciero explores effects of interactive exercise

By Sarah Barry, Features Editor

On Wed, Feb 22, 2012

When riding the bus downtown, students may give little thought to the Embury Apartments and those who live there, but Exercise Science Professor Paul Arciero has spent the last three years working with this community to discover the effects of interactive exercise on the elderly.

Arciero's research focuses on groups he feels are some of the most in need of nutritional and physiological aid. His most recent research focuses on the elderly and interactive exercise. Arciero's ongoing research focuses on a physical and nutritional intervention for healthy and diseased populations.

While Arciero focuses on nutrition, he has collaborated with friend and Union College Professor Cay Anderson-Hanley, who works in Union's Psychology department. The research combines the two fields to explore the effects of interactive exercise on brain function in the elderly.

"The unique feature of our study was that we're interested in simultaneously examining the physiological and psychological effects of the cyber-cycling," Arciero said.

Arciero and Anderson-Hanley were honored with a Robert Wood Johnson grant, which allowed them to complete the research. They received one of 11 grants out of 120 applicants. The findings from the research were published this January in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine.

The researchers drew participants from eight local and regional independent but communal living facilities for older adults. The recent publication explains that dementia cases could reach 100 million by the year 2050 rendering the findings increasingly relevant. The researchers installed traditional exercise bikes and exer-gaming interactive cycles and compared the progress of the control group, who exercised on the traditional stationary bikes and the participants who used cyber-cycles.

"The greatest thrill for me was working with a unique group of independent living seniors, it is one of the fastest growing segments of our population, and we were able see them really come alive in just three months and observe a remarkable change in their appearance. When we first enrolled them in the study, some were a bit set in their ways and resistant, but by the end, they were glowing," Arciero said.

Results showed a significant improvement in executive function and a 23 percent reduction in of risk Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) suggesting that interactive exercise yields greater benefit than traditional exercise alone.

Both Skidmore and Union College students were involved in the research process and Arciero expressed his gratitude for the collaboration. "I was able to collaborate professionally with other outstanding researchers, but the greater outcome was the student involvement from both institutions on this publication" Arciero said. Arciero's research is yet another example of student-professor research collaboration on campus.

Arciero's research also bridges a gap between the Skidmore and Saratoga Springs communities. "The project was rewarding in the educational experience for Skidmore, but it is also great community outreach. Science was able to provide something useful to the larger population. The public health benefit applies to everyone in that age group," Arciero said.

Arciero will also continue his research with Anderson-Hanley on exer-gaming. "The next step is to specifically determine the most salient feature that produced these cognitive changes. I expect it will be a combination of gaming features that are responsible. What's so exciting about this research is there are a number of other researchers who are pursuing similar questions. In the end, the collective and collaborative approach by all the scientists should provide important answers of how combined exercise and gaming may enhance brain health," Arciero said.

Arciero will also continue his research of at least 25 years, which has culminated in a dietary and exercise protocol to improve overall health. "The program is designed to be incorporated into the daily routine. It is not a complete overhaul or a disruption. The true benefit is when you incorporate simple lifestyle strategies one at a time where you can work with it for a week alone and let your lifestyle adopt it," Arciero said. For more information on Arciero's research visit www.drpaulsprotocol.com.

Arciero's office in the Williamson Sports and Recreation Center lies distant from the bustle of main campus, but he continually expressed his gratitude to both the Saratoga and Skidmore community, and urged community members to be aware of future opportunities to participate in his research. "We get to do every day what we love and what we're passionate about," Arciero said.

Blurbs Overheard! Feb. 22

By Pulp Editors

On Wed, Feb 22, 2012

"That's what happens when you put a tiny sweater on a tiny pumpkin."

Overheard in the Newsroom

"Alright, what I want you to do is take that blue crystal and rub it against your chest."

"No, no, I'm not gonna do that. This sweater is cashmere."

Overheard at Flow Jam

"I'm gonna squat my way right to the top."

Overheard in Northwoods

"Oh, sorry! I thought you said -phile, not -phobe! I thought you were saying you were, you know, a mega-pedo."

Overheard in first floor of Case

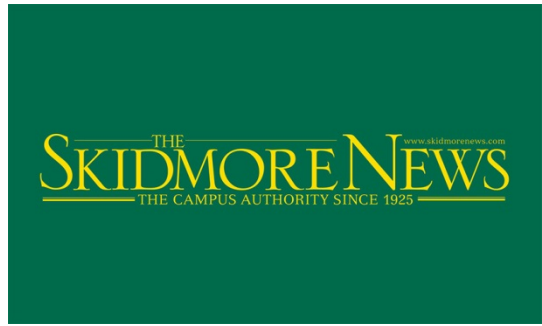
"They brought back Blurbs Overheard!"

Overheard in Spa

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Meredith Simonds/ The Skidmore News



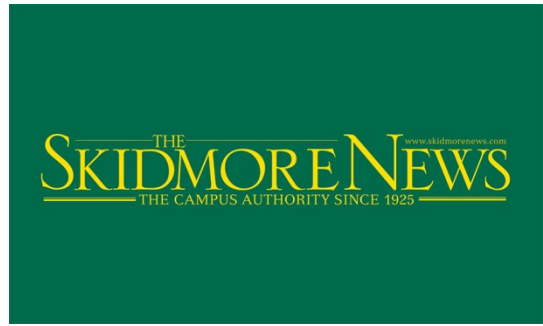


Investigating Faces 2

By Nat Nagar, Pulp Editor

On Thu, Feb 23, 2012

Francine's face is hidden within the background. Her face may be on a diagonal, attached to another character, backwards etc. Try and find out where she is waiting for her friends at the Case Center...



Comic: Trivia

By Nat Nagar, Pulp Editor

On Thu, Feb 23, 2012

Restaurant Review: Cantina

By Tegan O'Neill, Columnist

On Thu, Feb 23, 2012

People talk and laugh as they scoop salsa onto chips made in-house. Tattooed waitresses man the retro-outfitted dining space like its nobody's business and lively tunes give the atmosphere an upbeat rhythm. Candles in small metal cans flicker on the tables and bounce shadows off the dark wood interior and the antique tin ceilings above.

Cantina serves traditional Mexican-inspired fare (read: tacos, burritos, enchiladas), but they notch up the menu by infusing a twist of creativity into each dish. Take for example, the guacamole. Usually guacamole is simply a mishmash of avocado, tomatoes, onions, and spices. At Cantina, order the Seasonal Guacamole and it comes with goat cheese, pears, and toasted pistachios - a stroke of gustatory genius. At first the stage is dominated by the rich taste and texture of avocado. Once the intensity of the green vegetable subsides, you are left with only the mellow goat cheese to melt in your mouth. It is amazing how the two different taste sensations can stay distinctly segregated and yet blend into bliss. The subtle flavor of pear is not strong enough to fight its way through the avocado and goat cheese but the small pieces do add a cool, smooth texture.

Lemon and cilantro lace the salsa accompanying the complimentary turret of chips. It is a light and airy salsa that carries with it a spicy kick for good measure. On salty tortilla chips, it is irresistible. Take a chip, dip, repeat.

The soft, chewy duck taquitos appetizer is a comforting pre-entree treat. The tender Hudson Valley duck meat rolled inside each taquito pulls apart like butter. It seems like a natural fit for the succulent meat to be wrapped in a tight blanket of fried tortilla shell. The black-berry habanero salsa served on the side was rather watered down and seemed to have missed the memo about delivering heat but the taquitos themselves are enjoyable enough even without a dipping sauce.

The gigantic SF Mission Burrito is worthy of the praise it garners on the ever handy restaurant rating source, Yelp. The reviews on Yelp about Cantina yo-yoed up and down from positive to negative, but consensus was consistent about the burrito: it was huge and it was good. I recommend choosing the adobo pulled-pork option. The heavenly flavor of the pork lands smack dab between savory and sweet. Packaged inside a fresh flour tortilla, it serves up the best of both worlds. I would not have minded if Cantina had skipped the lime-zested rice and Tecate-simmered black beans also stuffed in the burrito since they stole some of the show away from the meat.

Although not home made, the tortilla tasted like it was pounded out of flour just seconds ago. It was thin and light but sturdy enough to preform its function and tore apart easily so as not to delay enjoyment of the pork for even a moment. With a dollop of sour cream and a tease of cilantro, the whole dish is lovely.

Often a heavy hand with cheese on classics like enchiladas is the downfall for Mexican restaurants. At Cantina, the cheese on the chicken enchiladas verdes was not overpowering; instead, the amount of creamy Chihuahua cheese sauce that topped the enchilada was just enough to complement the enchilada's other flavors. Tender chicken and a soft tortilla shell gave this dish the qualities of good comfort food. The salsa verde was tame in terms of spiciness but not devoid of flavor, although a bit too salty. The refried beans on the side had a consistency that suggested the beans had been mashed, beaten, and blended before being re-fried. They too were loaded with salt. The smoky spanish rice mysteriously (and wonderfully) had plenty of flavor while still maintaining a level of simplicity.

At Cantina, the portions are large and the food is fairly heavy. The best approach is probably to share entrees since plodding through one gigantic portion might get old by the end. The meal itself is more than filling but don't worry about saving room for dessert. The main event at Cantina is clearly the savory and the spicy not the sweet. I was curious about the fried ice cream but the novelty wore off after the first bite of ice cream cased in chewy fried dough met my mouth. The texture, a conglomeration of cornflakes (that were more soggy than crispy) plus dough, plus ice cream, plus a superfluous helping of lackluster whipped cream seemed like an insult to the purity of vanilla ice cream.

The chocolate hazelnut churros proved more enjoyable. Still warm, lightly dusted with powdered sugar, and peppered with tiny slivers of hazelnuts, the churros delivered an excellent end to the meal. They did not at all need the accompanying ultra-sweet chocolate dipping sauce. The robust flavor of hazelnuts and the savoriness of fried dough dominated the taste of sugar which seemed a fitting end for the meal as a whole. Anything too sweet would have seemed out of place after such a filling and satisfying spread of good Mexican food.

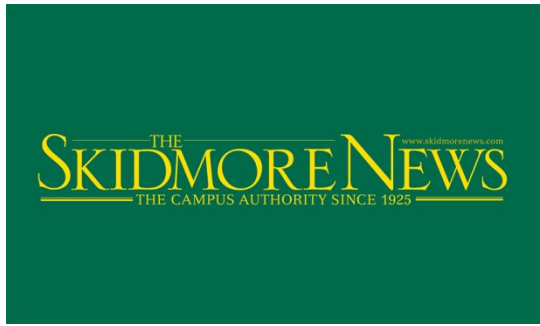
To read more of Tega O'Neill's outings visit her <http://tegan-and-sarah.blogspot.com/2012/02/cantina.html> target="_blank">blog.

#1.2796049:1358001341.jpg:cantina

Tegan and Sarah sat down at Cantina for their latest review.

Sarah Weitzman/ The Skidmore News

#1.2796053:271169479.jpg:guacamole



Cantina's seasonal guacamole combines avocado, pear and pistachios.

Sarah Weitzman/The Skidmore News

#1.2796056:2674475623.jpg:duck ap

The duck taquitos appetizer is made with Hudson Valley duck.

Sarah Weitzman/The Skidmore News

#1.2796061:1200516788.jpg:churros

Cantina's churros with hazelnut slivers, fried dough and chocolate dipping sauce.

Sarah Weitzman/The Skidmore News

#1.2796067:1144140385.jpg:broadway

Cantina's restaurant front located at 430 Broadway.

Sarah Weitzman/The Skidmore News







Red Room acts as alternative outlet for student artists

Local student-run arts center hosts collaborative art projects and gallery shows

By Max Siegelbaum, Contributing Writer

On Thu, Feb 23, 2012

In an unassuming apartment building on Washington Street, six Skidmore students sit among cardboard boxes, egg crates, discarded construction materials and a vast array of other salvaged items. The students are diligently cutting, painting, and gluing. Slowly, the material is repurposed as the room becomes more organized and less like a strangely clean trash heap. The students work through the night, and the next day, a tiny city stands.

Crooked City, the miniature city produced by the night of work, is the second community-sourced show of Red Room, an art gallery and project center located in the apartment of four Skidmore seniors, Grace Hale, Victoria Manganiello, Aliza Cohen and Sarah Rosenblatt.

For "Crooked City," the curators scavenged the streets and dumpsters of Saratoga Springs for materials to use in the project. They then used these materials to create a surreal vision of a metropolis - complete with a religious center, shanty town, miniature swimming pool, a motel and of course, a pornography theater.

Fed up with the limited opportunities for artistic expression at the College, the four housemates decided to repurpose an unused room in their apartment into their very own art gallery. What differentiates Red Room from the established galleries of the College (other than its color) is that it is completely student run and funded.

The gallery is a community-sourced project, rather than a space curated by a select group of individuals. "We want everyone to be involved, [so] all students are invited to contribute," Cohen added. In this sense, Red Room is more a local arts center than a gallery.

One of the goals of Red Room is to provide a space for the students' friends to show their art works. "We wanted from the beginning for it to be a space for our community," said Manganiello.

Red Room is a dynamic venue for collaborative art projects. Shows like "Crooked City" demonstrate that Red Room is a venue for a more collective style of art.

As an organization, Red Room connects with potential collaborators through email chains, social networking, and word-of-mouth in order to amass likeminded students to participate in their projects. "We want members to be involved," Hale said.

All of the students expressed frustration with the constrictions of the conventional gallery space on campus. Compared to the Schick Art Gallery and Case Art Gallery, there is a greater degree of freedom at Red Room. It is an open venue for artists who choose to explore taboo and potentially offensive imagery in their work. Hale described the gallery as "open to explicitness. The works do not have to undergo censorship for fear of [college] tours."

Red Room is also free of the pressures of the College's faculty. "We want to avoid the politics of the art department," Cohen said.

The four housemates emphasize that there is a curatorial process behind the shows, and they "don't want it to just be put your art on our walls." Rosenblatt admits that although the curators have their own subjective biases, they are open to different ideas.

Crooked City was the second community-sourced show in the gallery. Red Room's first show, "Responses to Red," invited campus artists to interpret the color red in an array of media. From found sculpture to oil painting and woodblock prints, artists studied the color red, the emotions it evokes and the ways it is perceived.

The opening reception for the next Red Room event, a solo show by Ashton LeCraw '12, is on Saturday, Feb. 25, at 6:30 pm. Red Room is at 72 Washington Street, Apartment 8. The show, called "Animal Behavior, Human Obsession," will explore themes drawn from human and interactions with animals. According to LeCraw, it "comments on the hierarchy of humans and animals that need to be broken down."

More information on the Red Room is available at redroomgallery.wordpress.com.

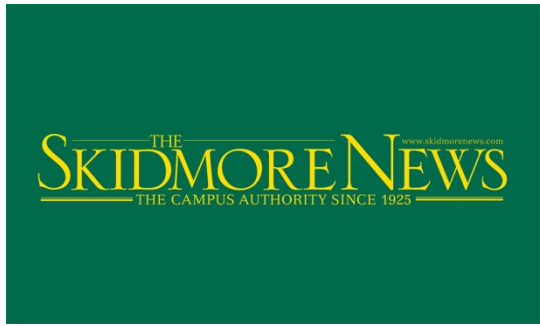
#1.2796825:2696242664.jpeg:crooked city

A glimpse of "Crooked City," a collaborative exhibit in the Red Room.

Courtesy of Red Room

#1.2796322:2050141162.jpeg:wolfA piece from "Animal Behavior, Human Obsession."

Courtesy of Red Room



#1.2796312:2834955494.jpg:Pan

Panoramic view of Red Room

Courtesy of Red Room

#1.2796324:206334226.jpg:red

A work from "Responses to Red," Red Room's first exhibition.

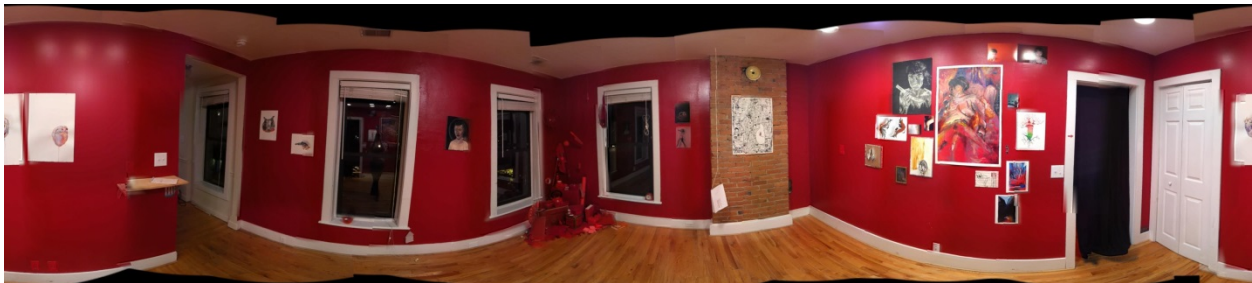
Courtesy of Red Room

#1.2796306:726944494.jpg:RED

"Crooked City," a collaborative exhibit in the Red Room

Courtesy of Red Room









Editorial: Skidmore admissions gets the balance right

As Supreme Court case looms, we can reflect on Skidmore admissions

By the Editorial Board

On Thu, Feb 23, 2012

On Tuesday, the Supreme Court agreed to hear a [case](http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/22/us/justices-to-hear-case-on-affirmative-action-in-higher-education.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=supreme%20court%20agrees%20to%20hear%20affirmative&st=cse) on affirmative action in institutions of higher education. While Skidmore College is a private institution and is not subject to the same admission guidelines, the case provides us the opportunity to examine our own diversity-ensuring policies - including our past and our vision for the future.

The Supreme Court's decision in the new case, *Fisher v. Texas*, has the potential to undo its 5-4 decision in 2003's *Gutter v. Bollinger*, which forbids public universities from using a points system to ensure minority enrollment, but allows race and ethnicity to be taken into consideration in a less explicit manner. *Fisher*, who was denied entry into the Texas public university system, argues that the state cannot supplement their race-neutral admissions policy with one that is race-conscious.

While the outcome of the coming decision will not have an effect on private institutions like Skidmore, it provides the occasion to examine our past policies and how our admissions process will shape Skidmore's classes in the future.

Skidmore's current admissions policies and commitment to ensuring diversity has come a long way from the practices enacted at the college's founding. Professor Mary C. Lynn, in her book, "Make No Small Plans: A History of Skidmore College," details some of Skidmore's embarrassing policies of previous decades. "Certain admissions practices, while common at the time throughout the country, were unfair, undemocratic, and opposed the early values of Skidmore's own history," she writes.

African American students were not welcome at Skidmore until the 1940s and Skidmore's admissions policy heavily discriminated against Jewish students for decades.

Despite the undesirable admissions practices in the 20s and 30s, in 1943 English Professor Joseph Bolton, under the direction of President Henry T. Moore's, wrote a quickly adopted non-discrimination policy: "Skidmore College as an institution favors a policy of non-discrimination as regards racial, nationality, and religious group relations."

“By 1949, Skidmore returned to the values of its founder and actively recruited students of color, even searching for scholarship funds so that more African American students could attend,” Lynn adds.

Skidmore’s admission process considers several factors in a student’s academics and background in their decisions. Admissions prefers to see that, for the most part, when advanced courses are offered, applicants have chosen to challenge themselves. Grades are obviously an important factor in the admissions decision, but it is secondary to a rigorous course load.

Dean of Admissions, Mary Lou Bates, explains how the Admissions Committee selects a class from thousands of qualified applications: "This year we have nearly 5750 applications, the vast majority of whom are qualified, yet we can only accept about 40% of them. We look for students who have taken rigorous academic programs and done well in them but we look at other factors, as well. We don’t simply admit a class by the numbers of gpa and test scores. We are committed to creating a community that is diverse and inclusive, representing students from different ethnic, racial, social economic and geographic backgrounds so these are plus factors as we sort amongst thousands of qualified applicants."

Skidmore, as an institution, does a lot right when it comes to selecting prospective students. In addition to a student’s academic credentials, the Admissions Office makes an effort to ensure several levels of diversity are represented in each incoming class. The office considers a student’s socioeconomic situation, geographical location, athletic ability and musical talent. The combination of all of these factors prevents a homogeneity and ensures both academic excellence and a diverse student body.

However, still it may behoove us look for other ways to make our student body more representative of the general population.

One of the factors that Admissions considers is a student’s financial means. Skidmore College is not a need-blind institution. Our sister institutions are split on whether or not to consider a student’s ability to pay. Our sister institutions, such as Hamilton, Vassar and Smith are all need-blind. While Skidmore’s need-conscious policy helps ensure that the school’s balance sheet is in the black, it does have some effect on the school’s demographics.

Since its accreditation as a college in 1922, Skidmore has come a long way in expanding its opportunities. In general, our efforts to ensure a multi-faceted diversity on campus are effective. In addition to the good work that we are already doing, it may be worthwhile to weigh the pros and cons of our current need-conscious policy and what effects it has on the incoming classes.

#1.2796335:4147225879.jpg Supreme Court

Supreme Court where Fisher v. Texas will rule on the legality of affirmative action in public universities

courtesy of Phil Roeder



Opinion: Where does Jordan stand in the Arab Spring?

A student from Jordan reflects on the upheavals in the Arab World

By Mohannad Aljawamis, Contributing Writer

On Thu, Feb 23, 2012

****Editor's Note:** Mohannad Aljawamis is a Skidmore student and a Jordanian citizen who was born and raised in Jordan.*

"Not a single Arab citizen can practice democracy!" complains one performer on a Syrian comedy show. "In America, for instance, any American citizen can roam the public streets while freely denouncing the American president's policy," he says.

"That is not true!" says another performer. "It is identical here; any Arab citizen can roam the public streets while freely denouncing the American president's policy."

The deeper message delivered by these two Arab comedians is that the term democracy is often subjectively defined. Those of us interested in the developments in the Arab Spring would do well to remember this. In this time of tumultuous change, many Arabs are not seeking the liberal, Westernized version of freedom, the kind held in such high and exclusive esteem here in America.

What so many commentators on the Middle East miss is that such a Western understanding of democracy is unsuitable for the social, cultural, and religious structure of the Arab nations. Jordan is the exemplar of Middle Eastern countries that can respond to the frustrations of its people within its own democratic framework, rather than one imposed from outside.

Jordan, like any nation, experiences its internal debates and strife, but the reason we have heard of so little trouble within the country is not a result of some stifling force or oppression, as I personally believe that these terms do not exist in King Abdullah's vocabulary. Rather, it is rationality and good education that motivates Jordanians to scrutinize their problems instead of combating them violently.

We have our fair share of troubles: Jordan is a poor country that is suffering from poverty, inflation, and other economic crises. But in comparison to other countries such as Libya, where abundant wealth was monopolized by a dictatorship, Jordan is theoretically hopeless in solving its predicaments. Jordan is one of the water-poorest countries in the world and it lacks most of the natural resources that other Middle Eastern countries relish (i.e. oil.)

Thus far, Jordan has been able to maintain its tranquil environment due to the prosperous public diplomacy of His Majesty, King Abdullah II. King Abdullah has built strong, trust-based relationships with many states in the region and the world. He has also emphasized the importance of education for Jordanian citizens as the best recourse they have to meet the nation's challenges (especially the economic situation.)

There are several initiatives that are worth mentioning in regard to King Abdullah's educational vision: to name only one, there is King's Academy, a prestigious, independent, American boarding school that aims on fostering global understanding by all means. It is this type of foresight and understanding that sets Jordan apart when dealing with the sort of movements sweeping an otherwise chaotic region.

As the world has witnessed, the spark that Mohammed Bouazizi lit in his act of self-immolation set the whole Middle East on fire: it was the "a-ha!" moment, when Arabs realized that violence might have to serve as a catalyst to democracy. And so Arabs refused to have their future jeopardized by rulers of despotic regimes. This precipitous revolutionary fever spread to the majority of the Middle Eastern countries, including Jordan. Nonetheless, when contrasting the Jordanian Arab Spring with the Egyptian, the differences are rather critical.

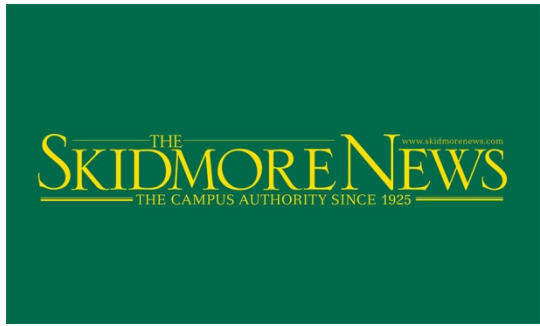
In Egypt, oppression, poverty, and unresponsive government were the major drives of the popular movement. In contrast, in Jordan the revolutionary drive was fueled by the public's frustrations of the fragmentation of political parties, which have never had a meaningful existence. Those parties, such as the Muslim Brotherhood, control most of the radical movement by standing against the King and the government.

The majority of Jordanian citizens, however, are proponents of the current system and they are responding to those dissenting parties with "loyalty" processions. One must be careful not to confuse the loudest opinion with the majority's opinion.

Once more, when speaking of democratization it is crucial to acknowledge and account for the country and/or the culture that is being addressed. We must understand that democracy can exist in many different forms. Those who anticipated that Jordan would descend into similar chaos as Libya or Egypt have been wrong up to this point, simply because they have not realized this fact.

Jordan's owes its endurance as a nation to a style of democracy that works for it, even if it is not the model preferred by Western pundits or policymakers. The sooner these more nuanced realities enter into the conversation of this most important topic, the better.

#1.2796334:1587451466.jpg:Abdul



King Abdullah of Jordan at the World Economic Forum.

Image courtesy of the World Economic Forum.



Men's lacrosse gears up for the start of the season

With 15 freshmen on the team, is the men's lacrosse team positioned for victory?

By Andrew Shi, Sports Editor

On Thu, Feb 23, 2012

For the past four weeks the Skidmore men's lacrosse team has, in all types of weather, been running drills for, two hours a day, six days a week. All this work has been in preparation for a season that kicks off this Saturday. A precursory scrimmage against Fairleigh Dickinson University proved to be an early confidence boost as the Thoroughbreds left with a win, but also a lesson that there was still much upon which to improve on.

"We need to work on our consistency. We are very skilled across the board but our new faces are still learning the tendencies of how our team plays," Head Coach Jack Sandler said. The new faces to which Coach Sandler refers are the 15 freshmen that have joined the team this year.

"Usually the team has had a strong upperclassmen presence but with 11 seniors graduating last year and a few injuries to my grade we are actually the minority," said Brian Milazzo, one of the six seniors on the team of 40. "Our weakness right now is that younger players are going to have to fill in important roles and it is up to them to step up and perform in those roles."

Coach Sandler says that the freshmen have assimilated well into team play though, and despite the fact that he will have to start at least one freshman on the defense he is confident in the overall ability of the new class.

Milazzo also expressed his confidence in the overall team. "Although we are young on the defensive side of the ball with only one returning starter in myself, our offense is better than ever before returning two All-Americans in Mike Holden '14 and Mike Perlow '14. We also return starters to the two most valuable positions on the field in our goalie Connor Dowling '12 and faceoff man Ryan Paradis '12," Milazzo said

The fact that a large proportion of the team is made up of freshmen didn't deter either Coach Sandler or Milazzo's confidence in their success for the upcoming season. "I do not think it will take long for the inexperienced and younger players on defense to develop, and by mid-season the defense will feel comfortable as a unit and be better than last years. I fully expect we will win the liberty league championships this year and make some serious noise in the NCAA tournament," Milazzo said.

As for Saturday's game at Babson College Coach Sandler concedes "that it is tough for freshmen for their first game to be on the road," but both Coach Sandler and Milazzo are confident in a Skidmore win.

The men's lacrosse game is at 2 p.m. on Saturday at Babson.

#1.2794697:967437105.JPG:Men's lacrosse preview

The men's lacrosse team practices for its first game of the season against Babson College

Meredith Simonds '15/Skidmore News



Using The Power of Distinction to stand out and move up

Karen Hinds to help students prepare for their careers

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Thu, Feb 23, 2012

At 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 29 in Davis Auditorium, CEO and founder of Workplace Success Group Karen Hinds will speak to the students about the seven master strategies of The Power of Distinction, covering topics such as how to be globally competitive by developing strategic alliances, strengthening communication skills, projecting a professional image and operating in your natural talent.

A graduate of Bowdoin College, Hinds emigrated from the Caribbean island of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and has worked and traveled internationally as a Watson Foundation Fellow and as a consultant and author. She is the author of five books and is a regular guest on TV and radio programs.

Hinds helps young professionals discover their power of distinction and use it to stand out and move up. Through her Power of Distinction College Tour, Hinds travels to colleges, inspiring and offering practical and strategic advice to college students.

“I do this work because I made my fair share of career-limiting moves right after college and want to see students avoid those costly errors. It’s not just about avoiding mistakes, but [also about] being savvy enough to act strategically throughout the career-building process,” Hinds said.

The Power of Distinction College Tour will make stops at campuses in Connecticut, New York and Tennessee later this spring.

Hinds said she hopes she will have students leaving with a newfound sense of drive, a strategic approach to building their careers and the motivation to succeed beyond graduation.

For more information on Karen Hinds and Workplace Success Group, visit: powerofdistinction.com.

Comic: Overlooked Bias Incidents, 1/25 - 2/21

By Brendan James and Thom Meadows, Editor-in-Chief and Contributing Humorist
On Fri, Feb 24, 2012

To see the rest of this semester's Bias Response Group's summary, look [here](http://cms.skidmore.edu/bias/upload/BRG-Updated-12_1_11.pdf)

Men's basketball does it again

Men's basketball defeats Hobart to win second consecutive Liberty League Championship

By Skidmore Athletics

On Sun, Feb 26, 2012

GENEVA, N.Y.-The Men's basketball team in a thrilling game for the Liberty League Championship bested Hobart with a 69-66 win. For a second year in a row Skidmore will participate in the NCAA Division III tournament.

This win not only sets a record of 19 wins for the Skidmore program, but also ends a seven game losing streak to Hobart, which started in January of 2010.

Shooting 55.3 percent from the floor, including 8-of-18 from the 3-point range, Skidmore took a 30-28 lead by halftime. At the start of the second half Skidmore went on a 12-2 run but its effect was negated when Hobart returned the burst of momentum and went 13-3 to leave Skidmore with a 58-57 lead with 3:39 left.

The game took a turn for the worst for Skidmore as Hobart Statesmen Joe Gibbons '14 grabbed a sixth offensive rebound and laid it up for two. Terron Victoria' 12 gave Skidmore back the lead with a 3-pointer only to have it lost as Hobart's Richie Bonney'14 tied the game. Determined for a second Liberty League championship, Victoria fired off a second 3-pointer that gave the Thoroughbreds a lasting lead. With seconds left and the score at 69-66, Hobart had a final shot that just missed its target to end the game.

Victoria finished the game with 16 points. Gerard O'Shea '12 added 16 points of his own as well as a game-high eight assists. Brian Lowry '13 chipped in another 10 points and John Mantas '12 had six points and a team-high five rebounds. Victoria was awarded Tournament MVP for his skill and leadership.

The Thoroughbreds get an automatic bid to the NCAA Division III tournament. The Championship field is to be announced Monday, Feb.27 on NCAA.com.

#1.2798106:4005997248.JPG:Liberty League Championship 2011-12 1

The men's basketball team poses for a celebratory photo after a huge win over Hobart

Glenibel Cruz '15

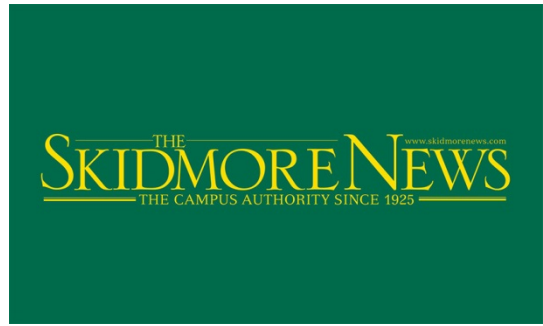
#1.2798112:2842087440.JPG:men's basketball liberty league championship 2011-12 2

Kyle Clark '12 shoots from the free throw line to increase Skidmore's lead

Glenibel Cruz '15







The Daily Crossword - 5/7

Work it out.

By Pulp Editors,

On Sun, Feb 26, 2012

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<a href="http://freecrosswordpuzzles.com.au">Crossword Puzzles</a></div></div>
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Communications works to redesign the Skidmore College website

A survey distributed to the student body will allow participants an early look at the new designs

By Julia Leef, Additional Reporting by Bradley Morris

On Sun, Feb 26, 2012

The Skidmore College website will undergo a complete transformation in its design, the details of which an ad hoc committee, comprised of members of the faculty and the Student Government Association, discussed on Feb. 20.

"We aim to improve many aspects of the College's Web presence, including the site's design and navigation," Forbush said. "The way we engage prospective students, and the way we package and display news, events and profiles of students, alumni and faculty."

Members include Dan Forbush, executive director of communications; Daniella Nordin, the College's online community manager; Robin Adams, interim director of Leadership Activities; Raiza Nazareth '12, vice president for communications and outreach on the SGA; Aaron Shifreen '13, vice president for Residential Affairs; Jessica Strasser '14, president of Wiecking; and Senator Amanda Roddy '14.

The College uses several online systems with a wide range of functionalities, such as Blackboard for course management, Acalog for the online catalog and the Content Management System, a customizable template responsible for displaying all of these systems.

"We have decided to switch from our current CMS to a new, very powerful one developed by OmniUpdate, which is being used by more than 600 colleges and universities," Forbush said. "It will run on OmniUpdate's servers and will be regularly maintained and upgraded by OmniUpdate staff, so that we will always have its most advanced version."

The new system also comes with a mobile platform, which facilitates access with smartphones, offers a more intuitive interface and integrates better with the College's student database, making the site easier to personalize.

Among the areas of the site that will be renovated are the home page, the current students page and the admissions page.

"We are looking for a website that will not only attract high school students to Skidmore, but also serve as an accessible and helpful platform for current students, faculty and staff," said Nazareth, whose ad hoc focus group consistently reviews the website redesigns. "Additionally, we would love for the website to be visually appealing and truly representative of Skidmore's creative nature."

In addition to making the site more appealing and helpful to prospective students, Forbush said the team would also like it to better reflect the creative thought ideal of the College by focusing more on student work and activities.

One way in which the committee hopes to achieve this is by exerting more effort in training student clubs and organizations to use the website's content management system's built-in template to create their own websites. This would keep them from having to outsource to a local designer, something that requires a budget most clubs do not have.

"It's basically like glorified Microsoft Word," Adams said. "Each person can control [his or her] own club's website, and it eliminates all need for HTMLs."

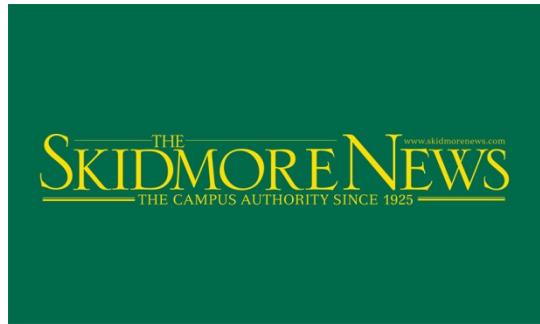
Another idea the committee discussed was expanding the Creative Thought Matters Photo Gallery, currently featured online, to places around the campus, such as the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall, the Williamson Sports Center and Palamountain Hall.

Other ways in which the committee hopes to emphasize student projects and activities on the website is through a new section in which students could talk about their experiences in internships, collaborative research and study abroad programs.

This area would also include links to the past projects and achievements of alumni, allowing current students to benefit from the foundations laid by graduates. Furthermore, the committee discussed the possibility of students posting their initiatives and fundraising efforts to reach out to the rest of the student body for donations and support, though there would most likely be a limit on the number of students who could post.

"We could take this space and say 'here are the 10 Skidmore students who are raising money trying to do something fantastic,'" Adams said.

Along similar lines, there also will be a new section of the website called "Creative Space," which will most likely focus on students engaged in creative activities and spotlight student efforts. This area is available for viewing in the sample designs.



To receive feedback on their initial designs, the committee members distributed a survey to an audience comprised of prospective students, Junior Admissions Workshop participants, Saratoga Springs High School students, early decision admits, SGA members, members of the Alumni Board and members of the staff and faculty. The staff and faculty received the survey on Jan. 20, while the remaining groups received it at intervals over the following three weeks.

Those surveyed were offered two possible designs for the new website, Design A and Design B . Of the 364 participants who responded, the majority preferred Design A, although many described both sites as having too much information.

“The websites are very overwhelming and my attention couldn’t stay focused on the real reasons why I would be looking at this college,” one participant said.

Overall, the participants concluded both designs were an improvement over the College’s current website.

“We feel that if we were to implement either one of them, we would be ahead of where we are now,” Forbush said.

Along with a new design, the committee is considering different ways to improve communications with current and prospective students. One possibility is increasing the College’s usage of Facebook and other social media.

The committee plans to draft a new student survey, run it by the SGA and then distribute it to the student body the week of March 5. The survey will also invite students to sign up for focus groups that will look at the new designs, which Forbush says will most likely happen the week of March 12.

The committee also decided to meet the following Monday for further discussion, and to consult further with Andy Camp, director of Web Development, about the redesigns.

Students who are interested in expressing their opinions on the new website designs should contact Forbush at dforbush@skidmore.edu.

Students may also follow Forbush’s blog for continual updates on the redesign process.

#1.2797118:3144891885.jpg:Website Redesign Committee Photo

The redesign committee will continue to meet every Monday to discuss further ideas for the new website designs.

Meredith Simonds/The Skidmore News

#1.2799812:3148001711.jpg:Website design survey scan

The participants in the Web Redesign Survey chose Design A as the better option for the College website.

Courtesy of Communications



Web Redesign Survey: Results

Total Survey Responses: 364

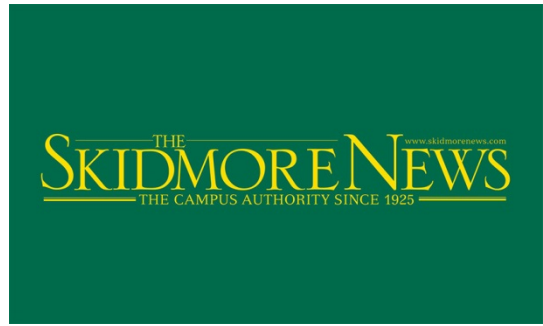
Audience	Design A	Design B	Like Both	Like Neither
Prospective Students	6	7	0	1
JAWS Participants	10	12	3	0
Saratoga HS Students	42	34	3	3
Early Decision Admits	24	12	3	1
SGA Members	11	7	1	3
Alumni Board	0	4	0	2
Skidmore Staff	50	42	7	5
Skidmore Faculty	28	29	7	7
Total	171	147	24	22

Responses from Young People: 148

Audience	Design A	Design B	Like Both	Like Neither
Prospective Students	6	7	0	1
Saratoga HS Students	42	34	3	3
Early Decision Admits	24	12	3	1
SGA Members	11	7	1	3
Total	83	60	7	8

Responses from Faculty, Staff, Parents and Alumni: 206

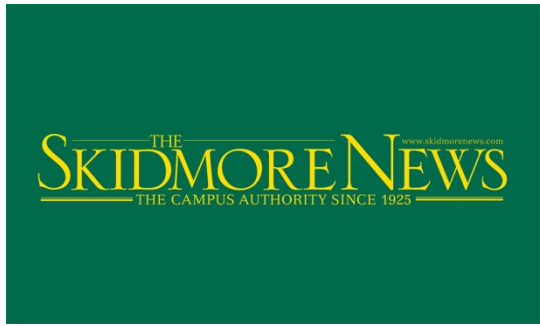
Audience	Design A	Design B	Like Both	Like Neither
JAWS Participants	10	12	3	0
Alumni Board	0	4	0	2
Skidmore Staff	50	42	7	5
Skidmore Faculty	28	29	7	7
Total	88	87	17	14



Comic: Fluorescent Lighting

By Maxx Salat, Pulp Editor

On Mon, Feb 27, 2012



Comic: Trivia

By Nat Nagar, Pulp Editor

On Mon, Feb 27, 2012

Faces of Israel panel to visit Skidmore College

Panelists will speak about their experiences in Israel as part of their US college tour

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Tue, Feb 28, 2012

Six Israelis will come to Skidmore College on Wednesday, Feb. 29 as part of their tours to colleges in the U.S. to discuss their experiences in Israel. They will address current issues including women's rights, Israeli-Palestinian relationships and the effect of war on civilians.

These panelists will visit the College as a result of the efforts of Hillel President Erika Wohl '14, Hillel Publicist Zoe Silver '14 and Hillel Treasurer Claire Rossi-de Vries '14. Hillel is the student-run organization for Jewish campus life. Wohl, Silver and Rossi-de Vries are organizing the panel for their Honors Forum Citizenship project. The project is one of the requirements for Honors Forum members and provides students with a chance to give back by performing some kind of service to the community.

"We want to make sure that this is a useful and important thing for a lot of people," Rossi-de Vries said. "I think it will be a pretty interesting panel."

Wohl said she received an email informing her that the "Faces of Israel" members would be in the New York area for one week, and that interested schools should apply to ask them to speak.

"It was really competitive to be able to get them. There were already a bunch of schools that had asked for them," said Wohl, adding that the group was able to secure the panelists only after Union College cancelled its appointment.

The panelists all come from different backgrounds, thus providing a diverse set of views on various aspects of Israel.

The panelists will include:

- Kinneret Beltzer, who served in the Northern command center during the second Lebanon war in 2006 assisting civilians to safety. She is pursuing her Bachelor of Arts in political communication at Tel-Aviv University.
- Amir Shibli, who specializes in the contemporary relationships and conflicts between Israel and the Palestinians and is currently a doctoral candidate in Arabic literature.

- Esther Solomon, an ultra orthodox who pursues women's rights, promotes youth at risk and integrates the orthodox community within the general society.
- Gal Menasheh, a partner and owner of the law firm Metzner, Spielman, Menashe & Co., which specializes in real estate, litigation and commercial law. He is also a legal officer in the Israeli reserves.
- David Zviel, who served in the Israel Defense Force as a military medic during the breakout of the second intifada, and who witnessed acts of terrorism.
- Reut Portugal, who holds a master's in conflict research, management and resolution from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where she also earned her Bachelor of Arts in Islam & Middle Eastern Studies and Sociology-Anthropology. She also served as logistical officer in the Search and Rescue Unit of the Home Front Command, where she allocated military equipment, managed logistics and lectured soldiers.

The three students worked with several faculty members to execute the event, including Lollie Abramson, coordinator of Jewish Student Life, and Rick Chrisman, director of Religious and Spiritual Life. The "Faces of Israel" is taking place in conjunction with the In-Between program at 7:30 p.m. on March 6 in the Dance Theater, featuring Ibrahim Miari, a theater artist and educator and a member of the Acco Theatre Center Ensemble, which sponsors projects for young and adult audiences throughout Israel, Europe and the U.S.

Miari will perform a 50-minute one-man show regarding his dual Palestinian-Israeli identity. Students will have the opportunity to engage in a question-and-answer session following the program.

"We wanted a program that would share and educate people," Wohl said. "It's important to stay educated and to be able to meet people who live there and can share their experiences."

#1.2801979:1918363437.png:Faces of Israel Photo 1

Kinneret Beltzer

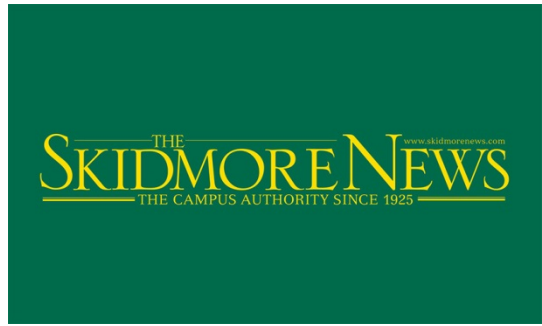
Courtesy of Erika Wohl '14

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Amir Shibli

Courtesy of Erika Wohl '14

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Esther Solomon

Courtesy of Erika Wohl '14

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Gal Menasheh

Courtesy of Erika Wohl '14

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David Zviel

Courtesy of Erika Wohl

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Reut Portugal

Courtesy of Erika Wohl '14



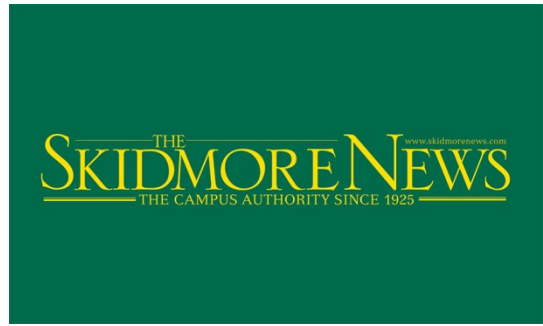








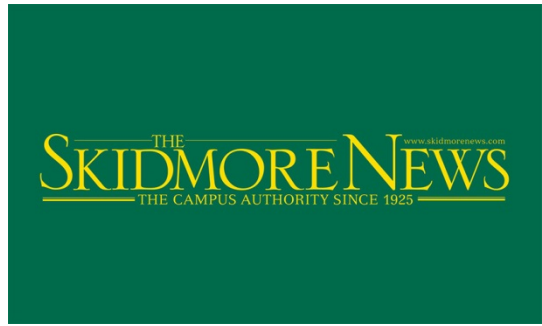




SGA Senate Live Blog: Feb. 28

By Joanne Schwartzberg, Communications Director
On Tue, Feb 28, 2012

The Student Government Association Senate meeting on Feb. 28.



Comic: Gluttonous Meal

By Wyatt Erchak, Cartoonist

On Tue, Feb 28, 2012

Changing the Culture-Centered Inquiry requirement and the Faculty Handbook

Faculty members discuss proposals for addressing these concerns

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Tue, Feb 28, 2012

Faculty members convened on Feb. 24 to address several motions concerning changes to the student curriculum and the faculty handbook, including a Culture-Centered Inquiry that proposes to change the nature of the "Non-Western" and "Cultural Diversity" course requirements.

Lisa Aronson, associate professor of art history, spoke on behalf of the Curriculum Committee to propose the elimination of the Dance-Theater Interdepartmental Major, saying students would be better served by choosing either dance or theater as a major, rather than splitting their time between both. The motion passed.

Aronson also announced the establishment of the new education studies minor, which would replace the early childhood education minor, and voiced the idea of creating a discussion board for faculty that would relay updated information about new minors. The board, she said, would perhaps be a more appropriate venue for such announcements, rather than taking up time during faculty meetings.

Finally, Aronson said the committee was working to revise the wording of the policy for the creation and elimination of minors in the Faculty Handbook.

Following Aronson's presentation, Josh Ness, associate professor of biology and a representative of the Committee on Educational Policies and Planning, proposed to expand the types of courses offered in the Culture-Centered Inquiry requirement by replacing the existing "Non-Western" and "Cultural Diversity" requirements with a singular category, "Interrogating Difference."

The new category (DF) would include all the courses in the two existing categories up through the 2013-2014 academic year. After this point, the courses will need to meet the criteria of the new requirement.

Since 2008, the Curriculum Committee has sought clarification regarding cultural diversity courses; specifically, these courses currently require incorporation of a non-Western element, hence disallowing certain courses that appear to be otherwise appropriate, the proposal states. "The revision of the requirement will enable an increased emphasis on these dynamics and will help students reflect on their own social and cultural positions."

- According to the proposal, a DF course should address one or more of three criteria:
- Students will examine one or more of the basic categories of social difference and scrutinize how identities within those categories may lie along a continuum of cultural power and status
- Students will investigate the relationships among social identity, cultural capital, and economic mobility among individuals, social groups and institutions
- Students will explore frameworks and social structures/systems that allow for oppression as well as those that attempt to bridge differences in pursuit of inclusivity

Several faculty members asked for clarifications of language and specification of the details in the proposal, citing it as vague and unclear in terms of guidelines establishing cultural differences. In the interest of time, President Phillip Glotzbach proposed to shift the conversation to a later time. The motion will lie over until the next meeting.

Barbara Black, associate professor of English, announced an open forum for March 2 that would address this inquiry.

Following this discussion, Vice President Susan Kress and Black brought up four motions to revise various sections of the Faculty Handbook. The first motion would revise Article X, "Discipline of Tenured Faculty," to the terms outlined in the proposed "Discipline and Dismissal of Faculty."

This new Article X will address the limitations of the previous version, which does not provide for the termination or reduction of status of non-tenured or tenured faculty members, and also does not provide specific procedures for resolving complaints against faculty members.

In short, the proposed new procedures allow the College to weigh both the interests of faculty members accused of misconduct and the interests of community members who may be adversely affected by the alleged misconduct, the proposal states.

The second motion, which will only go into effect if motion one carries, as will all subsequent motions, will amend the description of the function and membership of the Faculty Advisory Board, which convenes to investigate a charge made against a faculty member. The proposed change in language will introduce a Grievance Panel, which will provide a panel of peers to which charged faculty may appeal.

Motion three will change the description of the function of the Committee on Appointments, Promotion and Tenure to eliminate its role in the termination of faculty service.

Motion four states that the Committee on Academic Freedom and Rights will amend its operating code in accordance with these changes.

Review: Isle of Klezbos brings reimagined Jewish folk music to Zankel

All-female sextet performs traditional and original pieces last Thursday

By Dale Obbie, Staff Writer

On Tue, Feb 28, 2012

“Don’t forget that the aisles are open for dancing,” urged Eve Sicular, the drummer and bandleader of the six-piece klezmer ensemble Isle of Klezbos, who performed on Feb. 23 in the Arthur Zankel Music Center. Although not many people jumped out of their seats at the suggestion, the idea was tempting, and when the band began playing a rowdy wedding song, several members of the audience began dancing.

For the most part, Isle of Klezbos plays Eastern European-rooted Jewish folk music, but their diverse repertoire spans many styles, including: swing, funk, Cajun, reggae, classical, and Latin jazz. They did not stray too far from their klezmer roots during Thursday’s show, but this is not to say that every song sounded the same. Some were romping, accordion-driven ballads, while others were hand-clapping, upbeat dance songs.

Featuring alumnae of The Juilliard School, Eastman School of Music, Manhattan School of Music and Harvard University, Isle of Klezbos combines the talents of top-notch musicians who have toured with the likes of Bruce Springsteen, reggae legends Burning Spear and Toots & the Maytals, avant-garde jazz composer John Zorn, and jam band Gov’t Mule. During Thursday night’s performance, guest bassist Dave Hofstra joined the group, but typically, they are an all-women outfit.

Some of their best songs were klezmer-jazz-fusion arrangements. These so-called “Yiddish swing” pieces combined elements of klezmer music - its rhythms, exotic scales, and accordion solos - with traditional New Orleans-style jazz. The resulting sound resembled the swinging group horn improvisations often heard in Dixieland music, with solos taken by saxophonist and clarinetist Debra Kreisberg, trumpet and flugelhorn player Pam Fleming, as well as Hofstra on bass.

The most noteworthy songs were all Isle of Klezbos originals, a testament to the band’s imaginative approach to playing traditional music. One such original was a slow, spacey instrumental song during which Sicular played drums using mallets rather than drumsticks. The horn players layered their interlocking melodies on top of the resounding echoes of her drums, while Hofstra used his bow to create a drone-like backdrop with the upright bass.

Pianist Shoko Nagai began another interesting original by leaning over her piano to pluck its internal wires and mallets, creating a bizarrely beautiful introduction to a dark, brooding, avant-classical piece. She played with sweeping strokes across the keyboard, caught up in the emotion of the piece. When it was over, she picked up her accordion and resumed the giddy klezmer music.

For several songs, vocalist Melissa Fogarty took the stage, shifting the audience's attention from the band's impressive instrumental prowess to her sauntering stroll around the stage. Fogarty held a sassy smirk, trailing the microphone cord behind her as she walked. She sang in English as well as Yiddish, bringing more authentic klezmer flavor with her strong soprano. During the Yiddish swing songs, Fogarty held her own against the other soloists, launching into high-reaching scat singing solos that left her bandmates grinning and the audience applauding.

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Shoko Nagai, Debra Kreisberg, Pam Fleming, Dave Hofstra, and Eve Sicular perform as Isle of Klezbos in Zankel.

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News

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Pam Fleming, Dave Hofstra, and Eva Sicular perform as members of Isle of Klezbos in Zankel.

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News

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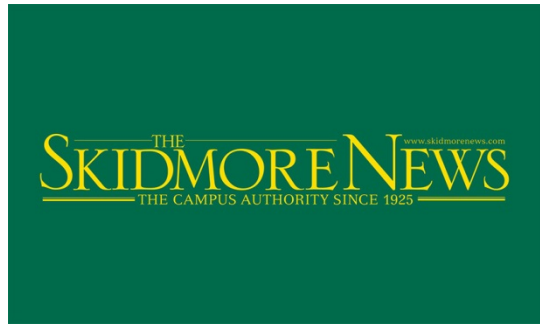
Debra Kreisberg and Pam Fleming, members of Isle of Klezbos, performs in Zankel.

Meredith Simonds/Skidmore News









Opinion: Cooking to taste

Innovating dishes to satisfy all palates at the dining hall

By Marcella Jewell, Contributing Writer

On Tue, Feb 28, 2012

Complaining about seemingly infinite amounts of food in our Dining Hall is unwarranted and unjustifiable. With the fantastic selection of chef-prepared dishes and a grill where any meal can be customized to taste, students have only their lack of imagination to blame for bland dining.

This human propensity to complain was exemplified in an Internet [meme](http://www.quickmeme.com/meme/35fl04/) I ran across the other day. For those of you unfamiliar with Internet memes, they are ironic, sarcastic statements written on a corresponding picture. This particular meme portrayed a "first world problem." The picture illustrated a person gawking at an overflowing pantry. The top of the picture read, "Opens Pantry," followed by, "Nothing To Eat," on the bottom. Of course, I chuckled to myself until I stopped to think about the absurdity of the statement. I was reminded of Skidmore's own cornucopia of food: D-hall. I couldn't help but compare the meme to how some students feel about our dining hall.

When I hear students complain about D-hall, I cannot help but shake my head in disappointment. Are they picky, or too lazy to choose from the vast amount of food that dining services provides? Though it may be in human nature to complain, those who tirelessly criticize the dining hall are disrespectful and undermine the efforts of dining services employees.

A little independence and creativity go a long way in the kitchen. When my mother finally gave me permission to use the oven by myself, I fell in love with the art of cooking. I am an avid user of D-hall's grill and will be appreciative of this unique aspect of our dining facility until the day I die. It is far less taxing than most think to put a personal spin on any meal D-hall provides. The opportunities are endless.

I have decided to take it upon myself to change this ridiculousness. In an effort to help the Skidmore community appreciate D-hall and inspire students to be creative, I've recently published a [photo blog](https://ch1prd0106.outlook.com/owa/redir.aspx?C=C515pgvaQ0CoXqPgOHcflvzKFDz0yc4IYRJs4YrAuzNNz54DyDWKk5PYLUppBqFTW77PctKKJqA.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.thisskidkidgrills.tumblr.com%2f), documenting my every day concoctions at D-hall. Future posts include: how to make caramelized bananas, breakfast burritos, "superfood" salads, personalized pizzas, and other meals that utilize the grill. My purpose is to draw awareness to the hidden aspects of D-hall

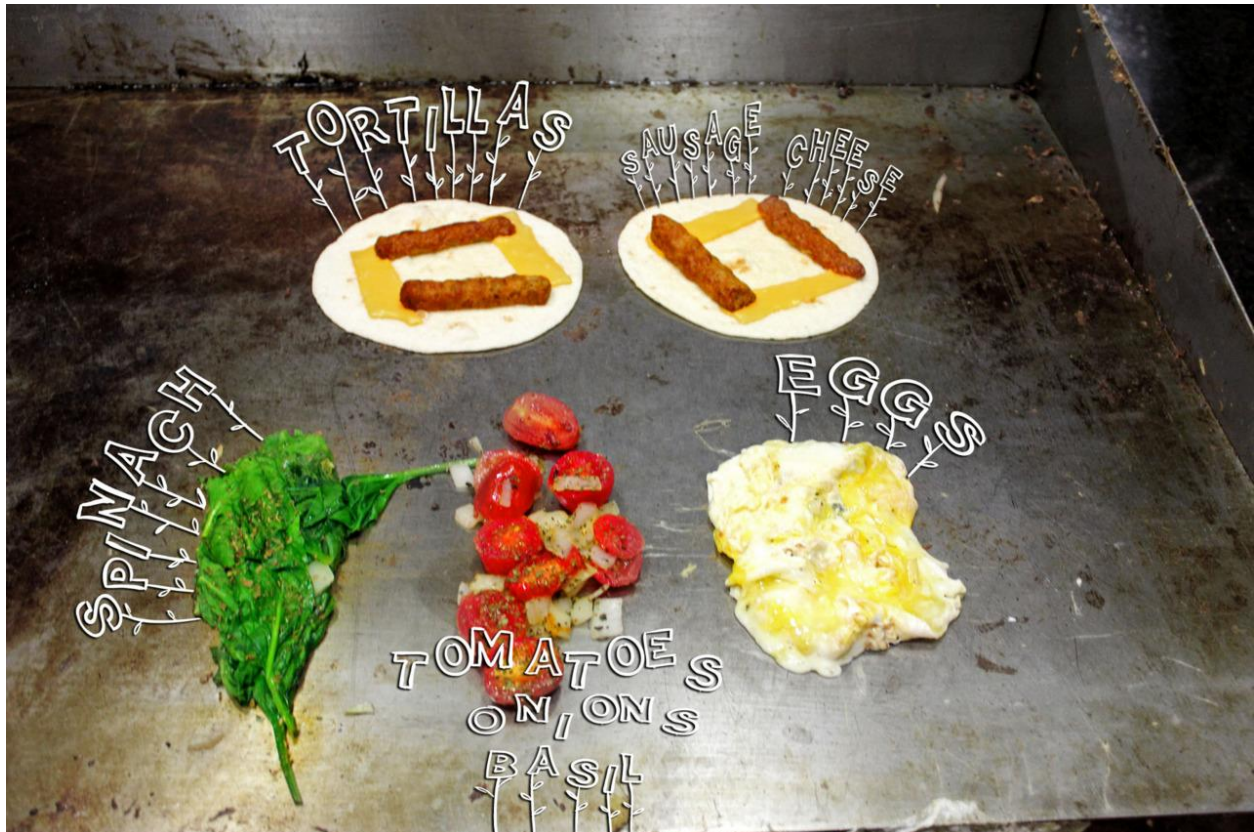
like spices, sauces, and condiments. The secrets of getting the most out of D-hall is first and foremost knowing what ingredients to work with.

Isn't Skidmore's motto "Creative Thought Matters?" Use that thought when preparing your meals as well! The more time you spend preparing a meal, the more appreciative you will be. D-hall is *your* kitchen. Do not underestimate your ability to satisfy one of the most delicate senses: taste. The next time you go to D-hall, don't forget your imagination. Happy cooking!

#1.2801434:4145753668.jpg:DIY Grill

Some of the innovative dishes that can be made in the dining hall

photo courtesy of Marcella Jewell



Can the Mavericks win the championship again?

As the Mavericks battle the Thunder, their status as Western conference champions will be decided

By Andrew Shi, Sports Editor

On Wed, Feb 29, 2012

In a faceoff during the 2011 NBA Western Conference Finals, the Dallas Mavericks handily defeated the Oklahoma City Thunder in a 4-1 series. This year though, the Thunder leads the Western Conference, and in the last five encounters between the two teams (albeit two of these games pre-season) the Thunder has taken wins in four of them. The question now is, can the Mavericks make a plausible claim for a repeat championship, or even emerge once again as the Western Conference champions?

The Mavericks have significantly reshaped their team, losing starting center Tyson Chandler, sharpshooter Peja Stojakovic, forwards Deshawn Stevenson and Caron Butler and inspirational point guard Jose Barea. In return they've picked up veteran All-Star Vince Carter, forward and sixth man of the 2011 year Lamar Odom and guard Delonte West.

Even with this newly revised team, and a rejuvenated Dirk Nowitzki, it is doubtful that they are any match for Oklahoma City. The Thunder have All-Star Kevin Durant who is currently second in the league for points per game and averaging over 8 rebounds per game. There is also All-Star point guard Russell Westbrook who is fifth in the league for points and eighth for steals. At power forward, Serge Ibaka is leading the league in blocks, and the Thunder also have former starting Celtics Kendrick Perkins at center, as well as guard James Harden who consistently adds 16 points a game.

Still The Mavericks have their own All-Stars including Nowitzki and Jason Kidd. Shawn Marion is a consistent and good forward and Jason Terry set records for threes in the 2011 playoffs.

A month ago the Mavericks were eighth in the Western Conference. After intense practices and Nowitzki taking time off to get back in shape, the Mavericks are in fourth today. The Thunder haven't faced the newly motivated Mavericks and when they play next Sunday it's not clear what will happen.

Since their last loss to the Thunder, the Mavericks have beat Denver, Portland, the LA Clippers, Philadelphia and Boston, all above .500 teams. The Thunder have done equally well, defeating Portland, Denver, Boston and the LA Lakers, but also losing to below .500 teams like the Sacramento Kings.

Still, when the two teams are statistically compared, it's difficult to determine which is the better team. This season the Thunder are averaging an outstanding 102.7 points per game compared to the Maverick's 94.4, but the Mavericks beat the Thunder in steals per game, 9.2 to 7.8, assists per game, 21.9 to 18.3 and turnovers per game 14.6 to 16.8. The Mavericks triumph the Thunder in points allowed per game as well, 90.8 to the Thunder's 96.2, but are ranked 16th in points scored to the Thunder's third place rank. In terms of Sunday's game, a Maverick's win will boil down to whether or not the Mavericks can play better defense than the Thunder can play offense.

The record, as well as reason, indicates that the Thunder will at least emerge as the Western Conference champion in May, but it's too early to rule out the Mavericks -way too early. Sunday will be a good indicator of what will happen in the playoffs, but even if the Mavericks manage to beat out the Thunder, on Sunday and in May there are still the LA Clippers, San Antonio Spurs and, once Zach Randolph returns, the Memphis Grizzlies that are just as dangerous and plausible for taking the Western Conference.

So the answer - I'm happy that Nowitzki, Kidd and Terry got their long awaited championship rings, but I'm not expecting them to win Sunday or in May against the Thunder, and even if they did, I don't think anyone but a die-hard Dallas fan honestly believes they could once again beat the Heat.

#1.2802668:4108261203.jpg:Mavericks v.s Thunder

Thunder's Kevin Durant guards Maverick's Dirk Nowitzki in the 2011 NBA playoff series

Courtsidetalk.com



Dog Sees God: Confessions of A Teenage Blockhead' premieres in Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater

By Skidmore Publicity

On Wed, Feb 29, 2012

The Skidmore Theater Department's Black Box production "Dog Sees God: Confessions of A Teenage Blockhead," written by Bert V. Royal, will premier in the Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater Friday, March 2.

In this politically charged and provocative tragicomedy, Royal re-imagines the iconic Peanuts character as teenagers and transports them to high school. The play explores social issues many adolescents grapple with, such as bullying, drug use, eating disorders, harassment, homophobia, and desperate quests to discover identity and meaning.

The director of the production, Margaret Smith '12, describes the work as "a play which addresses under-represented social issues in a frank, entertaining, and unexpected way. By using the beloved Peanuts characters as a satirical device, playwright Royal makes ethereal issues tangible for a modern audience."

Performances are March 2 to 7. All shows are in the Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater at 8 pm, except Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 pm. Tickets are \$12 general admission and \$8 for students and senior citizens. Seating is very limited, so reservations are a must. Call the SkidmoreTheater Box Office at 518-580-5439 for tickets.

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Brittany Perlmutter '13, Andrew Rousso '13, and Alison Schaufler '14 perform in "Dog Sees God"

Julia Cox/Skidmore News

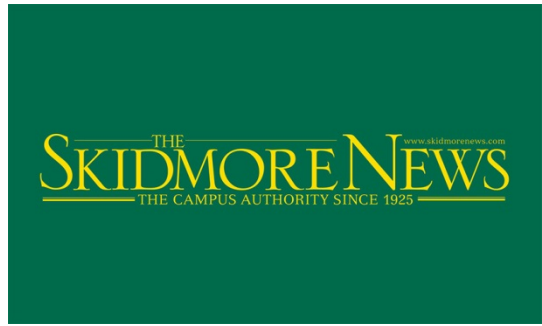
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Ben Jurney '14 performs in "Dog Sees God"

Julia Cox/Skidmore News







President Glotzbach's Fakebook Feed 3/1

AOD policy review, fresh coffee flavors, and the power of pizza

By Brendan James and Thom Meadows, Editor-in-Chief and Contributing Humorist

On Wed, Feb 29, 2012

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