

Letter: Classic Advice for a Bacchanal (Updated)

By Dan Curley, Classics Department Associate Professor and Chair

On Sun, Apr 1, 2012

Dear Editor,

How glad I am to be on a campus with an active and strong LGBTQ community! I read with interest your Facebook advertisement for your upcoming party, the Bacchanal, and I have every wish that the event will be a success. It's been a long time coming, and you deserve it.

That said, as a public service to any and all groups that have had or will have the notion of hosting classical-antiquity-themed events, here are some ground rules to follow from now until the end of time.

(1) The Greeks did not wear togas, especially not Greek gods. You're thinking of the Romans. Please do not ever associate "Greeks" and "togas" again. If, however, you want to advertise your party with the catchphrase, "We put the TOGA in Saratoga," go ahead. You're welcome.

(2) The word "Bacchanal" is, ultimately, a Latin word, derived from the name of the god Bacchus. Bacchus, as you seem to be aware, was the god of wine and of partying in general. (Though there is more to him than that.) However, since he's more famous as a Roman god, it's very unlikely that Greek gods would show up to his party. Hence, please encourage your attendees to unleash their inner Venus (the Roman Aphrodite) instead -- if she must be unleashed in public and all that.

(3) Apollo is an exception to this rule, since Apollo's Roman name is also Apollo. So encouraging folks to unleash their inner Apollo at a Bacchanal is fine -- provided that you remember he is a god of enlightenment rather than drunken revelry. In fact, he's usually so busy providing oracles, making prophecies, and healing the sick, that I doubt he has time for too many parties. Hence, unleashing one's inner Apollo at a Bacchanal might not be the thing, unless you're looking to end the party. That bright orb that stings your eyes the morning after and calls you back to reason? THAT'S Apollo. Invite him at your own risk.

(3a) Also, the laurel wreath is Apollo's emblem. Hence, when you urge your prospective audience to "think laurel wreaths," you are in fact inviting them to behave like Apollo. (See my remarks under number 3, above.) Please encourage them to "think ivy wreaths" instead: ivy is Bacchus' plant.

(4) You do know that you have a picture of Mercury in the upper left-hand corner of the Bacchanal Facebook page, right? Just checking. On the one hand, he's an apt messenger to get the word out about your event. On the other hand, when you call your event the Bacchanal, it's a little jarring not to see

Bacchus himself, or at least his minions: a satyr here, a maenad there. I've mentioned ivy. Consider also a leopard or a stalk of fennel topped with what looks like a pine cone. Or a deer being torn to pieces. If tonight you're going to party like it's 99, then please at least use the appropriate iconography. I'll be watching for the posters.

(5) Thank you in advance for not using Greek sigmas (our s-equivalent) as the letter E to make things look more Greeky and stuff. You know: GRÏËKY. Don't do that. (You didn't.) It is rumored that such offenses against the language will cause Alexander the Great to rise from the dead and take names. That wouldn't be so bad -- especially if he came looking like Colin Farrell or even Richard Burton -- but (pro tip) you really don't want to hedge your bets when Alex is in one of his moods. For instruction in the proper usage of Greek letters, I invite everyone to take CG 110: Elementary Greek this fall.

(6) So far, I've dished out what I hope will be perceived as good-natured snar. But let me be serious for a moment. Here is perhaps the most important rule of all for any Bacchanal, and one the Greeks and the Romans understood very well: nothing in excess. Forget what you've seen on Spartacus: Blood and Sand or HBO: Rome. To truly shatter some stereotypes, have a party that remains safe in all senses of the word. Safe for people to be themselves without judgment, and safe for everyone's health and well-being. We the faculty and staff (if I can say it myself) care more about your safety and your sanity than you might imagine. This is our campus, too.

(7) Did I mention that the Greeks did not wear togas?

Your compliance with the above rules will be appreciated, both now and in perpetuity.

Wishing you a safe and sound Bacchanal,

Dan Curley

Associate Professor and Chair

Classics Department

Course registration system to change for Fall 2012

The new system eliminates the use of a planning sheet and has class years register on the same day

By Kojo Amarteyfio, Contributing Writer

On Mon, Apr 2, 2012

After two years, the Office of the Registrar is rolling out a new student course registration system as part of a process that will affect the way students register for fall classes.

The College is changing to the Banner Student System, a registration system that offers new functionality, although it dispenses with other features that were available with the old system.

“We were forced to change systems because the old system was no longer supported by the old vendor,” said David DeConno, interim registrar.

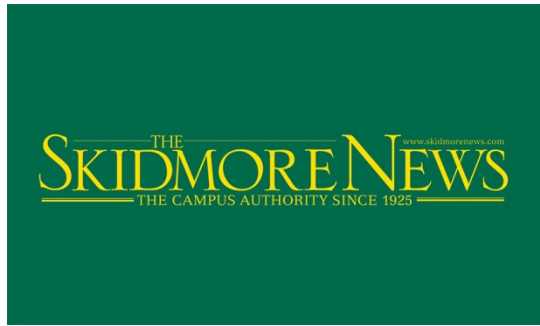
The most noticeable difference between the two systems is the disappearance of the planning sheet, as, according to DeConno, the new system doesn’t offer the capacity for it. To compensate for this, he suggests students download and plan out their schedules on worksheets that are available on the College website.

Students should also check the catalog to make sure that they have fulfilled all prerequisites for the classes in which they want to enroll. DeConno will also send out e-mails about registration that should lay out the changes in more detail. A step-by-step guide is available online as well.

The second major alteration is in the allocation of registration time slots. Previously, students were assigned to registration groups within their class years with staggered registration times. To determine the groups, an initial start name was selected and the groups created by picking a set of students below the start name, which were arranged alphabetically. By changing the start name every semester, the Registrar’s office hoped to allow every student the chance to eventually obtain a premium registration slot.

Beginning this fall, students in the same class year will register at the same time on the same day. Juniors will register on April 10, sophomores on April 12 and freshmen on April 17.

“The system may slow down a bit in the beginning but we’re not expecting it to crash,” said DeConno, in response to questions about how the system would be able to handle the great number of students registering at the same time.



Although the new system will not give one set of students priority over another, it does leave a group of students who were in line for a priority slot under the old system shortchanged.

“It had to start somewhere. And the system doesn’t exactly allow us to arrange by start letter,” said DeConno, explaining that the new process would be easier to manage.

The wait-list procedure also has adjusted accordingly. When space opens up in a course for which a student is wait-listed, the student will receive notification about the opening. The student then has 36 hours to register for the class, after which the opportunity passes on to the next wait-listed student.

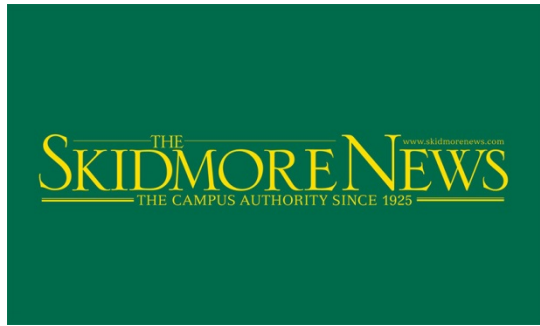
Additionally, students no longer have to drop a class in order to meet credit limit requirements if they want to be wait-listed for another class.

In another modification, the enrollment cart has been removed, eliminating an extra layer in the registration process that had been a source of confusion to students who had items in the enrollment cart that they thought they had moved onto their schedules.

The new system has already been tested by a group of students, who were awarded premium time slots for their participation.

“It is fairly straight-forward. However, I do really miss having a planning sheet. I can write it all down and make sure my schedule works out fine on my own, but I miss the ability to store that information so I can just press submit when it’s my registration time,” said one of the beta-testers, who declined to have her name published.

During the registration period beginning on April 10, students with difficulties can e-mail, call the Registrar’s office or visit the office itself. On registration day, the Registrar’s office staff will be available in Harder 101 to provide technical support or to walk students through the new process.



Campus Safety Incident Reports: March 23 to 28

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Mon, Apr 2, 2012

Campus Safety incident reports for the week of March 23.

Incidents of Note:

Saturday, March 24

Fireworks: Reporting person advised individuals at 3:40 a.m. who were setting off fireworks in front of the Macrury apartments. Officers dispatched report that the subjects were gone on arrival. No damage reported.

Sunday, March 25

[Forcible Sex Offense](http://www.skidmorenews.com/acquaintance-rape-reported-1.2831336#.T3ktCHYoNbw): Person reports a sexual misconduct incident at 7:50 p.m. from an off campus location. Officers and the Saratoga Springs Police Department conducting an investigation. Report issued.

Monday, March 26

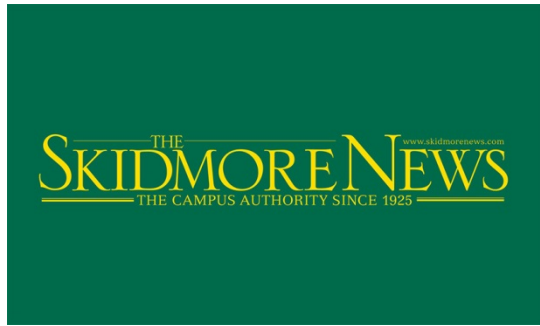
Assist: Students report they are stuck at 4:45 p.m. between floors in the South elevator of Jonsson Tower. Unit 10 and officers responded to the location. Officers report that the elevator is fixed and the students are off. No injuries or concerns reported. Report issued.

Friday, March 23

College Violation: A loud banging noise reported at 4 a.m. outside of Howe-Rounds. Officers dispatched and searched the exterior of the entire hall. No noise was detected. Unfounded call.

Parking: Vehicle booted at 4:13 a.m. in the Jonsson Tower lot for excessive tickets. Report issued.

College Violation: Three empty boxes from air rifles reported at 8:15 a.m. in the trash in the housekeeping closet on the third floor of Wiecking Hall. Officer dispatched to investigate the ownership of the rifles. Report issued.



Campus Safety Assist: Reporting person requested a transport at 10:32 a.m. from Barrett Center to Case Center. Dispatched officer completed a personal escort.

Campus Safety Assist: An ongoing problem with parties at off campus residence reported at 9:30 p.m. Report issued. Administration and Saratoga Springs Police Department to address the situation.

Saturday, March 24

College Violation: Noise complaint reported at 12:08 a.m. at Whitman Way. Officers report a large group causing a noise disturbance outside. Officers dispersed the crowd and ended the gathering.

Larceny: Reporting person requests assistance at 12:15 p.m. claiming a missing construction sign and traffic cones behind Oak apartments. Officer dispatched confiscated and returned the property to owner. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist-911: 911 emergency line activated at 2:40 p.m. on the third floor of Wiecking. Dispatched officers and notified the Saratoga Springs Police Department who reports they did not receive a 911 call. Officer on the scene reports no one in the area. False report.

Stolen Property: Person reports an abandoned college-owned vehicle at 4:28 p.m. in the parking lot of the Saratoga Arms Hotel. Officers dispatched report locating a stolen utility cart from Media Services. Vehicle towed to campus. Report issued. Investigation pending.

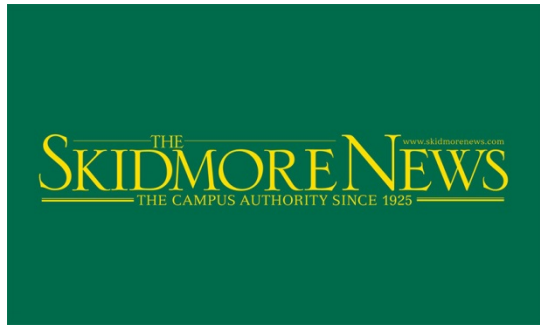
Criminal Mischief: Officers while on patrol at 9:12 p.m. observed a scorched paper attached to a corkboard in Wiecking Hall. Officers removed the paper and placed it in evidence. No additional damage done to the building. Report issued.

Sunday, March 25

College Violation: A possible party reported at 12:10 a.m. at a Sumac apartment. Officers on the scene advised an unregistered party to disperse. Report issued.

College Violation: A noise complaint reported at 12:20 a.m. in Penfield Hall. Officers dispersed a large gathering in a room.

Criminal Mischief: Criminal mischief reported at 2:05 a.m. on the fifth floor of Jonsson Tower. Officers report witnessing subjects shattering large fluorescent bulbs in the stairwell. Subjects caught and a report issued.



Parking: Vehicle booted for an excessive amount of parking tickets at 3:11 a.m. at Cane Crossing. Report issued.

Parking: An unregistered vehicle towed at 3:40 a.m. for parking in the fire lane at Dayton Drive for an excessive amount of time. Report issued. Saratoga Springs Police Department advised.

Criminal Mischief: A hole reported at noon in a hallway wall near Rooms 225 and 226 in Kimball. No known perpetrators. Damage recorded. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Reporting person requested transport at 2:05 p.m. from Wiecking Hall for medical assistance. Officer dispatched completed the transport. Report issued.

Drug Law Violation: Excessive noise reported at 6:43 p.m. from a third floor Penfield room. Officer dispatched reports observed a drug law violation. Report issued.

Fire Alarm: Fire alarm activation received at 10:55 p.m. for a Cane apartment. Officers and Maintenance dispatched. No smoke or fire. Activation due to burned food. Report issued.

Monday, March 26

Suspicious Activity: Person reports an unauthorized student using a computer in a secured area at 10:21 a.m. in Dana. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Officers assisted a Saratoga Springs Police Department investigator at 1:18 a.m. in locating a student in Penfield Hall for an interview. Report issued.

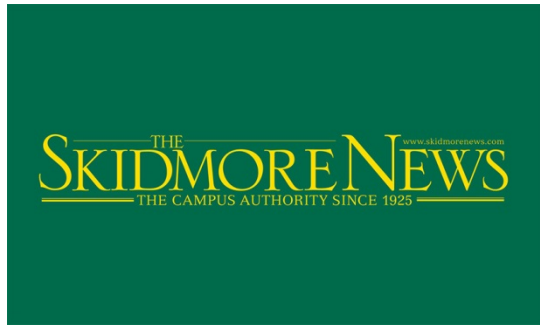
Suspicious Odor: Person reports marihuana odor at 11:16 a.m. in and near room on the first floor of Wiecking Hall. Officers report that the residents were interviewed. Odor detected but nothing in plain view. Report issued.

Tuesday, March 27

Suspicious Odor: Marihuana odor reported at 4:44 p.m. near Wait Hall. Officer dispatched reports a check of the area with negative results.

Fire Alarm: Fire alarm activation received at 10:55 p.m. for a Cane apartment. Officers and Maintenance dispatched. No smoke or fire. Activation due to burned food. Report issued.

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Campus Safety Assist: Parent of a student in Jonsson Tower requests information at 9 p.m. regarding a concerning call that they received. Officer discussed the concern with the parent and assured the parent that the student was okay. Report issued.

Suspicious Activity: Person reports a male subject expelled a fire extinguisher outside the Dogwood apartments at 11:55 p.m. for no apparent reason. Dispatched officer interviewed the subject who stated that the extinguisher was his personal property and apologized for his actions. No damage recorded.

Wednesday, March 28

Animals: Person reports observing a "rat" at 4:35 a.m. in her room in Wait Hall. Officer and housekeeping dispatched. Officer observed a small mouse in the room and maintenance checked the window seat. Housekeeping set traps. Reporting person declined staying in an alternative residence.

Fire Alarm: Person reported that smoke was coming out of an ash can at 11:50 a.m. near Palamountain Building. Dispatched officer and Maintenance who properly extinguished the smoldering ash can.

Found Property: Reporting person found a cell phone at 3 p.m. on a chair in Case Center. The phone was given to a Campus Safety officer. The student was notified by email. Phone was placed in the lost and found.

Letter: Losing My Religion?

By Douglas Pllawa, Class of 2012

On Mon, Apr 2, 2012

Dear Editor,

This is a reflection on and response to last week's <http://www.skidmorenews.com/op-ed/editorial-appreciating-religion-at-a-secular-college-1.2834111> [editorial](#) concerning religion and its place on campus.

My first day of school at Skidmore College marked a moment in my education that was radically different than before. It was the first time I attended class in casual clothing - not a uniform. It was the first time I did not start a class with prayer. It was the first time that I did not have at least one nun as a teacher. Before Skidmore College, I attended a very strict, conservative school run by the sisters of Notre Dame. Not only was my schooling Catholic, but also, I was raised in a Polish-Catholic family. Even my town, Chesterland, Ohio, was focused around St. Anselm's Church. I have been baptized, received reconciliation, had my first communion, and I've been confirmed. I am a Catholic, and I will continue to be Catholic.

Yet, as my freshman year progressed, I noticed certain remarks or generalizations regarding my faith. For example, a classic line I heard when explaining my educational background was, "Were you brainwashed?" Or even the more lewd and obscene comments like, "Did a priest molest you?" Obviously, the latter was said in a joking manner - though it still stung.

I could not decide if I should take offense to such ignorant, and stupid remarks. For the most part, I shut my mouth. What was becoming alarmingly clear was the misunderstanding of Catholicism - given its recent debacles concerning homosexuality, birth control, and molestation cases against priests. I personally believe it is this misunderstanding that allows people to easily dismiss a religion like Catholicism. I am lucky enough to have some sense of the history of the Church, and I have seen the good that religion can do. Yet, I would venture to guess that people (like those who made comments about my faith) only notice the Catholic Church when it makes the news.

I often wonder how many people have actually read a good portion of the Bible. To most Catholics, it's not some enormous doctrinal text that illustrates the best way to go to heaven - it's more like a huge novel. Why else would we have a class at Skidmore called "The Bible as Literature," taught by Regina Janes? I'm sure she discusses the poetics of the Gospel of John, or the beauty of the Psalms. Pick up the Book of Revelations and get lost in the insanity of an apocalypse - it's like a scene out of a bad trip.

It's clear that religion is misunderstood at Skidmore College. And to be perfectly honest, I consider this lack of awareness to be a huge deficit to students.

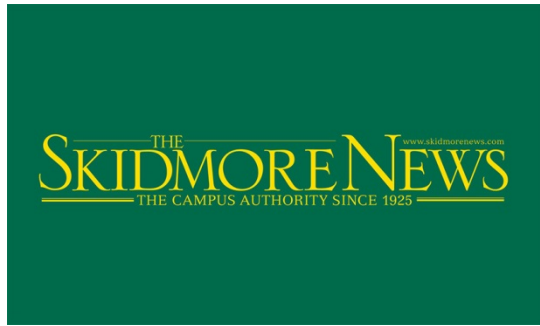
Almost every day in one of my classes here, religion becomes part of the discussion. I was actually one of the students in the John Donne class and it was my favorite course throughout my entire year abroad. My research paper was, "John Donne: Irreverent Poetry." It was an analysis of Donne's "apparent" irreverence in his work. It consisted of a historical outline of the Church in Donne's time, as well as how he implemented his own problems with the Church in his poetry. My religion helped me in that class. Even my thesis, the culmination of an English Major's work at Skidmore, was entitled "Catholicism and *Ulysses*: The Place of the Roman Catholic Church in 1904 Dublin." Once again, I researched the major events of the Catholic Church in the 19th and 20th centuries of Ireland, and examined how they manifest themselves in the novel.

Right now, I'm taking Susannah Mintz's course on Milton - you can imagine how much fun I have in that class. What I am getting at is how much religion is a part of a Skidmore student's academic life. My studies in English and in French literature have shown me even more that religion is just as important to writers as Classics and History. More often than not, all three blend together - as they do in Milton's *Lycidas*.

I'm not suggesting that students should immediately research the history of all religions. What I am suggesting, however, is to understand that religion is extremely complex and extremely *personal*. I am a Catholic. But, I am liberal. I am pro-choice, and I accept homosexuality. I believe in evolution, and I believe in heaven. Like myself, many Catholics will tell you that, no matter what, it's the personal relationship with God that matters.

Douglas Pilawa

Class of 2012



Invisible Children to present "Kony 2012 Part II" at Gannett

Activists to discuss controversy over documentary

By Brendan James, Editor-in-Chief

On Mon, Apr 2, 2012

On Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., Invisible Children's Tri-State team will be coming to Skidmore to screen their film "Kony 2012 Part II."

On the heels of their viral documentary "Kony 2012," detailing the crimes of Joseph Kony and Lord's Resistance Army of Uganda, the new film, "Kony 2012 Part II," is "aimed at digging deeper and giving the audience a closer look into the actions of the LRA, what Invisible Children is doing about it, and what every one of us can do to help end the longest running conflict in Central Africa," according to the group's Facebook page.

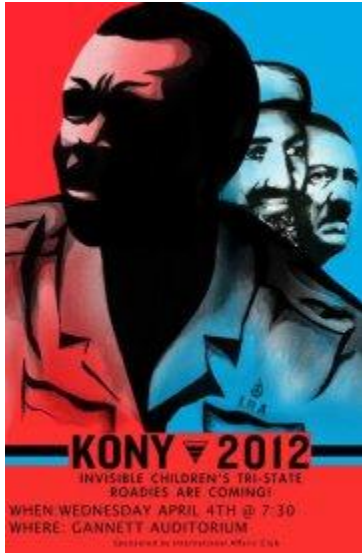
The film will be presented by three Invisible Children members, or "roadies," and a native Ugandan. "I have been involved with Invisible Children since 2009, it was my senior year of high school and I found the organization on the Internet," says David Katz '14, an Invisible Children activist and treasurer of Skidmore's Environmental Action Club.

Katz has organized the event to continue to publicize the crimes of the LRA as well as the controversy surrounding the "Kony 2012" documentary.

"Unfortunately, [Invisible Children's] newest film Kony 2012 has brought immense publicity but not without criticism," he notes. "I for one, as a longtime supporter of the organization took a lot of the criticism personally at first. However, the truth remains that constructive dialogue can never hurt."

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Image courtesy of David Katz '14



Review: Giant Panda Guerilla Dub Squad stirs it up at the Putnam Den

By Dale Obbie, Staff Writer

On Mon, Apr 2, 2012

Whether you are a fan of heavy-hitting reggae, homegrown acoustic folk music, or better yet, a fan of music in general, March 22 was a great night to spend at the Putnam Den. Playing for a den full of their dedicated fans, Rochester, NY's psychedelic-roots-reggae band Giant Panda Guerilla Dub Squad (GPGDS) kept the energy flowing for a full three hours of music.

Celebrating the Jan. release of their acoustic-Americana album, "Country," as well as the upcoming April 10th release of their latest reggae album, "In These Times," GPGDS played two sets - one acoustic and one electric - of entirely new music.

After paying homage to "the great Robert Nesta Marley," they kicked things off with countrified versions of "This Train" and "Dew Drops" from Marley's classic "Acoustic Medley." Singing "this train is bound for glory," all five members of the band blended their voices in harmony while multi-instrumentalist Aaron Lipp added a bluesy aesthetic with his steel guitar and harmonica.

Lipp continued juggling instruments during "Country" - the title track of their new album - closing the tune with a lap steel guitar solo. "That's one we wrote on the roads of this great nation," explained bassist and vocalist James Searl. "Country" owes its name to more than the folksy sound of its Americana music - both the title and the music evoke images of the American countryside rolling past the band's van, where they wrote the album. "Playing our acoustic guitars in the van is really what made the feel of the porch-rockin' sound happen," says Searl.

The acoustic set reached its highpoint when the band played a spot-on cover of the Grateful Dead's "New Speedway Boogie," which got all of the tie-dyed fans in the audience dancing up front. In true Grateful Dead fashion, they slowed the tempo down, ending with a spacey breakdown before launching into an upbeat bluegrass version of the fan favorite "Burkina Faso."

According to Searl, GPGDS approaches folk music and roots reggae from the same direction at shows: "There is a lot of commonality between these different styles we play, mostly because it's us playing it...Similar energy and similar song forms. When it goes to space, it goes to space." The acoustic set definitely did not lack any space voyages: every song ended with a highflying jam, and at the end of

"New Speedway Boogie," guitarist Dylan Savage sent ripples through the ambiance by channeling his acoustic guitar through a wah-wah pedal.

When the reggae set began, Searl's pulsating bassline brought the crowd in from their smoke break and up to the front of the stage. Lipp had set down his guitar and began spreading a thick layer of organ jabs on top of the bass, while guitarists Dylan Savage and Dan Keller exchanged percussive plucking.

Several songs into the second set they really dropped the bomb, departing from the otherwise lyrically driven set to play some heavy downbeat dub. Searl had on his bass face, locking into drummer Chris O'Brian's groove to lay the foundation of the jam. Lipp's warbling organ jabs syncopated with Searl's knee-bending bass notes and O'Brian's echoing percussion to create a web of tightly knit rhythms.

As Searl explains, this tapestry of sounds is not unique to the live experience, but essential to "In These Times" as a whole: "It is definitely a great album to sit and LISTEN to and let it take you around. The imagery from the songs, the fatness of the analog instruments we use, the amount of dub that comes in and out, all amounts to a pretty reflective listen. I find myself reflecting, probably because I feel like we bled into this record, but I think others will agree."

The new songs from "In These Times" were both sonically and emotionally varied. It wasn't just "feel-good" reggae, but a mixture of both the cheerful with the darker and more pensive sides of their songwriting. For Searl, "In These Times" is "a walk around the past six years of living life in the developed world." It is a vivid illustration of both its beauty and its injustice. "Pockets," which they played at the show, laments the economic division that has led to the Occupy Wall Street Movement and exemplifies their reggae at its most righteous.

GPGDS did not end the night on a low note. At around 1:30 a.m., right when it seemed as though the show was about to end, they launched into "All Night Music," another sunshiny tune off of "In These Times." The song's melody was simple but infectious: "Play all night music, jam until the sun comes up."

And jam they did, going on to play some of their mainstays. During "Seasons Change" Searl sang "I feel you comin' when the rhythm gets slow," while the band decelerated and fiddled with the array of effects pedals strewn across the stage - or, as he would put it, "went to space."

Then, reentering orbit, they played "OK," an energetic Afrobeat song a la Fela Kuti. As a pleasant surprise, Keller (truly channeling the Kuti) picked up a saxophone and played a wailing solo before the band segued seamlessly into "Change You," the final song of the night and the catchiest from "In These Times."

All in all, the show was fantastic, and although the crowd thinned out as it got late, GPGDS gave it their all, delivering a consistently enthusiastic and impressive performance.

For more information about Giant Panda Guerilla Dub Squad, visit their site at giantpandadub.com

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Members of Giant Panda Guerilla Dub Squad

Photo courtesy of Giant Panda Guerilla Dub Squad



Dr. Catherine Golden gives the prestigious Moseley Lecture

English professor unpacks the complexities of the Victorian era

By Sarah Barry, Features Editor

On Tue, Apr 3, 2012

Professor Catherine Golden, Skidmore's award-winning jam maker and Victorian literature and culture expert, received the College's highest honor conferred by other faculty last Thursday when she presented the Edwin M. Moseley lecture in Gannett Auditorium.

Golden's lecture, titled "Victorian Culture on Display: Decorative Objects in "the time of chivalry...the age of steam," explored the relevance of material objects to Victorian life.

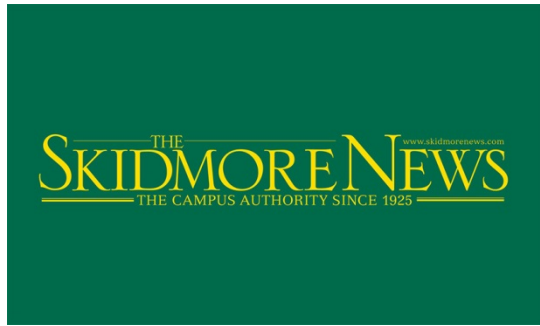
"I'm not at all sure if Catherine regards herself as a woman of the 21 century," said vice president for Academic Affairs Susan Kress in her introduction.

Golden took the packed auditorium on a trip through historical moments in the Victorian era. She highlighted events during Queen Victoria's reign, including the first World Fair and the writings of Charles Darwin. Golden explained that although Victoria's rule lasted from 1837-1901, the term Victorian characterizes British life up to the start of World War One.

Golden illustrated the complexities and character of the Victorian era through an examination of five objects: (list them here).

"Popular culture has sterilized the Victorian age and idealized it," Golden said. She described that in reality, the era is full of contradictions and dualities. The moral and refined lifestyle was paired with prostitution, poverty and religious crisis.

Golden delved into the importance of a tea chest or tea-caddy, a mulready envelope, a lap desk or Victorian writing desk, a Tussey Mussey (a petit vase) and a fully gilded book. Upon closer examination, these objects indicate the intricate customs and history of Victorian culture. Unlike our smart phone gadgets, most objects served only one purpose in the Victorian age. The Tussey Mussey for example would hold a small bouquet of flowers. However, Golden explained how specific colors and species of flowers carried specific meaning. This "language of the flowers" allowed Victorians to communicate without words.



Animated throughout the lecture, Golden drew the audience in through demonstrations of fan poses, popular Victorian texts and popular period works such as Lewis Carroll's "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" and the current trend called "steam punk" which emulates Victorian culture.

"I loved seeing real objects with the lecture. She was funny and animated as usual," said Phoebe Pundyk '12.

"I enjoyed the lecture, she was a really entertaining speaker," said Eleazer Amarteyfio '15.

A member of Skidmore's faculty for 26 years, Golden teaches and writes on the Victorian era in the English department. The classes she teaches include: the Victorian Illustrated Book, Children's Literature and the 19th Century British novel among others. Golden was also named director of Skidmore's Periclean Honors Forum in 2011 and she leads an Honors Forum travel seminar to Bath English, titled "Jane Austen in Bath."

More information about Professor Golden's research and publications can be found on the English Department's <http://cms.skidmore.edu/english/faculty/golden.cfm> faculty page.

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Dr. Catherine Golden presented the Edwin M. Moseley faculty research lecture Thursday March 29 in Gannett Auditorium.

Meredith Simonds/ The Skidmore News

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Dr. Golden is a member of the English Faculty and an expert in Victorian Literature and Culture.

Meredith Simonds/ The Skidmore News

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Professor Golden displayed five objects and explained each object's significance to Victorian Culture.

Meredith Simonds/ The Skidmore News







Healthful Hints: Sexual Misconduct

An informative response to the recent Safety Alert on campus

By Zoe Silver, Columnist

On Tue, Apr 3, 2012

We were all a little alarmed earlier this week when we received a notification that there had been an acquaintance rape on the Skidmore campus. Unfortunately, this is not uncommon, but we do not hear about it very often, because victims tend not to report incidents. This week, I'd like to provide my readers with some information on what to do if they are involved in an incident involving sexual misconduct and some steps they can take to protect themselves.

Although it is reasonable to fear incidents such as rape or other incidents of sexual misconduct, do not let this fear get in the way of having a good time. Take the necessary steps to stay safe.

These steps include awareness; you are probably a good judge of character, so trust your instincts and avoid people and situations where you feel uncomfortable. Before you go out, make a plan with your friends so that they know where you are and whom you are with. Maybe set up a few check-points throughout the night where you will promise to contact one another, or at least make it a point to stay in touch by sending a text every couple of hours. Try not to venture out alone. Take a buddy, preferably two, with you to parties or wherever you are going. This way, if one of your friends decides to go elsewhere, you will not be alone.

If all of your precautions fail and you are involved in an incident, there are many resources on and off campus equipped to help you. First, go to a safe place, and ask a trusted support person to stay with you. Know that it wasn't your fault, and that you should now do what is best for you. Also realize that if you had an erection, if you ejaculated or had an orgasm, it does not mean that you gave consent or desired it: these are natural responses to sexual stimulation.

Consider reporting the incident to campus safety. They can preserve the evidence, making a record of the event in case you decide to sue. Campus safety can also find you immediate medical attention which could help reduce any physical harm to your body. If you are having evidence collected, do not shower until you have done so. Campus safety will probably take you to Saratoga Hospital for this process. The more these incidents are reported, the more aware the entire campus will be and the likelihood of them occurring should decrease.

Also consider going to the counseling center, which is a wonderful resource on campus to talk about the incident and work through any emotions you are experiencing as a result. You can also talk to your Peer Health Educator (PHE), Resident Assistant (RA), a trusted Professor, or someone off-campus. A PHE is required to report the incident to campus safety but will do so anonymously (just for statistical reasons). Your RA is required to give names by contract. The counseling center is completely confidential and is not required to report to campus safety.

You can also call 1-800-799-SAFE (the National Domestic Violence Hotline), visit Saratoga Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Services in Saratoga or a number of other off-campus resources. If you are worried that you might have contracted STI and/or, for effected women, gotten pregnant, Health Services at Skidmore provides pregnancy tests and a wide variety of STI tests. The staff there is very friendly and will make you feel as comfortable as possible during the testing, so do not be embarrassed.

I recognize that this topic is difficult to think and talk about, but given recent events, it is clearly an important one. Until next time: stay safe, remain alert, and continue to enjoy your college experience!

Learn more ways to stay healthy in Zoe Silver's bi-weekly column Healthful Hints.

Skidmore softball splits doubleheader

The Skidmore Softball team won the first game but lost the second in a doubleheader against Sage

By Skidmore Athletics

On Thu, Apr 5, 2012

SARATOGA SPRINGS -The Skidmore College softball team split Wednesday's doubleheader against Sage, winning the first game 5-0 but falling in the second 16-2.

In the first game, Sam Crose '12 pitched eight strikeouts, enough to prevent Sage from scoring. On offense, a pair of errors and fielder's choice loaded the bases in the second inning. Katie Amo '15 drove in one run on a sacrifice fly and Carol Brown '14 batted in two more runs on a single.

A sacrifice fly from Julia Martin '15 and a stolen base from Julia Schwartz '13 in the sixth finalized Skidmore's score at 5.

Unfortunately, Skidmore could not retain the spectacular offense and defense they demonstrated in the first game. Sage got an early lead on a two-run homerun. Skidmore was able to answer back in the second as Martin '15 batted in a run with a double. In the third Abby Shea '15 scored on an error and tied it up.

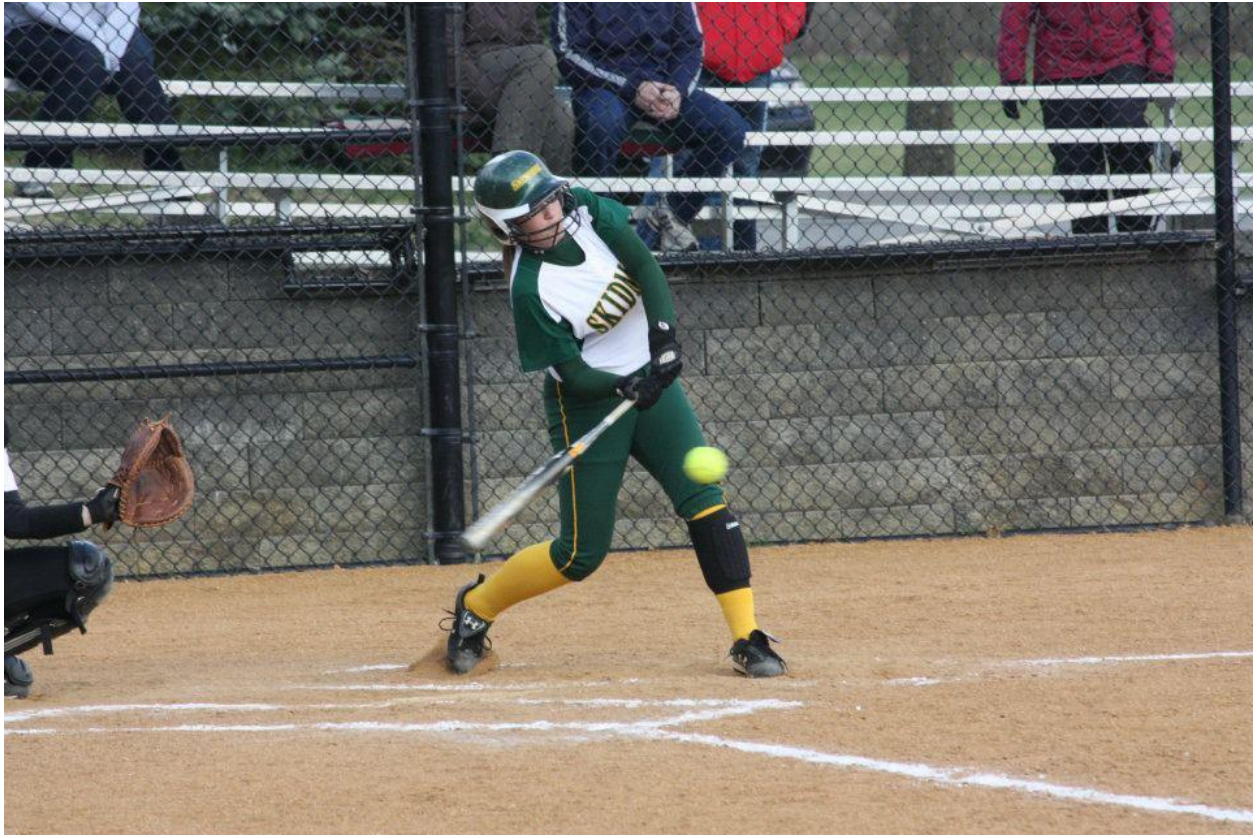
Sage took the lead for good in the fourth on a three-RBI double and added two more in the fifth to take a 8-2 lead. In the top of the seventh, Sage, on two homeruns, picked up another 8 runs to garner a 16-2 win and the split.

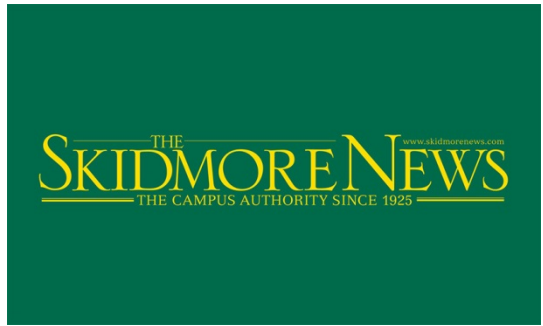
Skidmore's record is now 11-11 and the team returns Saturday for another home doubleheader, and the first of Liberty League play, against rival Union. The first game starts at 1 p.m. and the second at 2:30 p.m.

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Julia Martin '15 batted for a sacrifice fly and a double to help Skidmore win the first game in Wednesday's double header against Sage.

Isabelle Young '15/The Skidmore News





Investigating Faces 5

By Nat Nagar, Pulp Editor

On Thu, Apr 5, 2012

A crowd of passengers at an Airport stand underneath the departure screen and await for their flight information to 'pop' up. Airport security has just captured this shot and can make out 15 passengers easily, but they are told that there are 3 other passengers hidden in the photo. See if you are able to identify where these 3 passengers are: Mr. Smith, Mrs. Stanley and Ms. Jones

(Locate their faces, which are hidden amongst the other figures in the image to solve the puzzle. Their faces may be upside down, sideways etc.)

Soapbox: Santorum has convictions

Why I cannot help but admire Rick Santorum's campaign in spite of myself

By Eric Shapiro, Columnist

On Fri, Apr 6, 2012

When moneyed interests seem to have a disproportionate influence on the the nominating process, we should commend candidates who are driven by their convictions. Regardless of his politics, Rick Santorum deserves respect for running a campaign that attracts voters with his ideas rather than his bankroll.

I suppose I should start off this article with the disclaimer that I strongly disagree with Rick Santorum on virtually every single issue. His apparent appeal to a segment of the Republican base is further evidence of that party's extremism on matters of faith, religion, family and reproductive rights. His ideology resonates with many Catholics and evangelicals, as well as blue collar workers and "traditional" families. Santorum's partisans hail his pronouncements, but to my young ears they reek of bigotry (toward the gay community), outright delusion (on matters of global warming and taxes) and bellicosity on defense issues (Bomb, Bomb, Bomb Iran!). If, by some divine miracle, he were elected president in spite of Mitt Romney's huge delegate lead, I probably wouldn't move to Canada, but I would be surely tempted!

Nevertheless, I cannot help but admire Rick Santorum's campaign for what it represents in today's post-*Citizens United* world: a campaign built on consistent adherence to principles, however misguided, rather than a pyramid of special interest dollars. Those on both the Right and the Left who would prefer not to see future U.S. elections as glorified bidding wars for the 1 percent should see the success of Santorum's campaign as an encouraging sign. Surpassing all early expectations, the former Pennsylvania senator has risen to challenge the front-runner, Mitt Romney, at the top of the Republican presidential pack. Thus, his campaign should serve as an inspiration for future presidential contenders who seek to challenge big money's monopoly on the political process.

Rick Santorum spent the majority of the pre-Iowa primary contest in relative anonymity, owing in part to the consensus that his drubbing in his last race for the Senate and his anemic campaign organization made him a highly implausible nominee for president. Yet, as his fellow Romney alternatives, Michelle Bachmann, Rick Perry, Herman Cain and Newt Gingrich, self-destructed in the glare of the media spotlight, Santorum persevered through the long autumn months. He did this with a simple message that emphasized his steadfast social conservative values, which stand in contrast to the flip-flopping Massachusetts moderate, Mitt Romney. Barring a few short-lived Gingrich revivals (most notably

following the former House speaker's victory in South Carolina), the Santorum has consistently held runner-up status for the duration of the Republican primary campaign.

A great deal of Santorum's success is undoubtedly owed to the less than stellar quality of the competition. It says a lot about the current state of the Republican Party that a presidential candidate who says John F. Kennedy makes him want to vomit and opposes birth control has emerged as the most feasible alternative to a candidate whose support rests almost entirely on his alleged electability.

Mitt Romney's entire primary campaign has consisted of disavowing a political career's worth of moderate positions in a stunningly ineffective attempt to court the Republican Party's ultra-conservative base. It is an accepted fact on both sides of the aisle that Romney's Massachusetts healthcare plan served as a template for Obamacare. The conservatives who support Santorum may not have college educations (not a stereotype, but an exit-poll tested fact), but they're astute enough to see that the Republican front-runner is about as genuine as cubic zirconia.

In all fairness to Mitt Romney, Santorum is not the unwavering champion of Tea Party conservatism that he has promoted himself to be. For instance, he supported George W. Bush's Prescription Drug Program, held up by now-mainstream conservative radicals as a heretical concession to the tenets of the liberal Welfare State. As senator, he was a prolific distributor of earmarks and his intimate connection to lobbyists is no secret. Nevertheless, in spite of these inconsistencies, few doubt the fact that Santorum is a committed ideologue.

The self-avowed culture warrior's extreme statements regarding homosexuality and birth control, while deeply unappealing to the vast majority of the American electorate (including many conservatives), are enough to reassure his constituency of evangelical bible thumpers and "very conservative" voters that he will not abandon their pet causes should he win office. For those right-wingers with the paucity of political perspective to consider Mitt Romney little more than an "Obama Light," Santorum is the obvious choice.

It might be hard for anyone whose values are not stuck in the 19th century to stomach any praise for a closed-minded, sexist, homophobic bigot like Rick Santorum. But the fact is, he's run a hell of an effective campaign. Sure he has made some costly gaffes, but then, unlike Romney, he does not have unlimited resources and a comprehensive campaign organization to insulate him from the constant pressures of a contemporary presidential campaign.

In a [previous post](http://www.skidmorenews.com/op-ed/opinion-voting-for-the-vultures-1.2764337) on this very website, I argued that the Supreme Court's 2010 decision to allow unlimited campaign contributions from Super PACs undermined the very foundation of

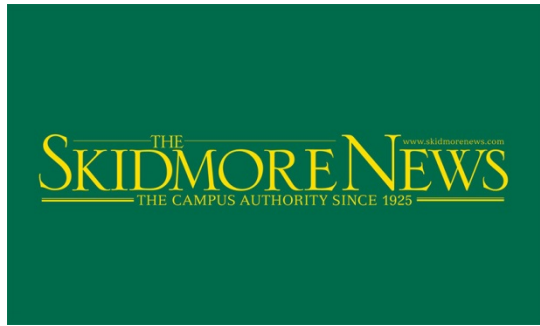
American democracy, fully handing over the reigns of political power to the 1 percent. This is still very much the case. It seems likely that Mitt Romney, a candidate who no one really likes but whose immense fundraising advantage has repeatedly resulted in victory, will be the Republican nominee for president. Be that as it may, Rick Santorum's shocking success demonstrates that there is still a place in America for presidential candidates who earn support with ideas and personal appeal, rather than just money. Mitt Romney may be inevitable at this point, but perhaps there is reason to hope that his equivalents in future presidential races might not be as unbeatable as they seem.

#1.2841441:1916724764.jpg:Santorum

Rick Santorum speaks passionately at C-PAC

image courtesy of Gage Skidmore





Daydreams: Passover and the Christian Holy Week

By Rick Chrisman

On Fri, Apr 6, 2012

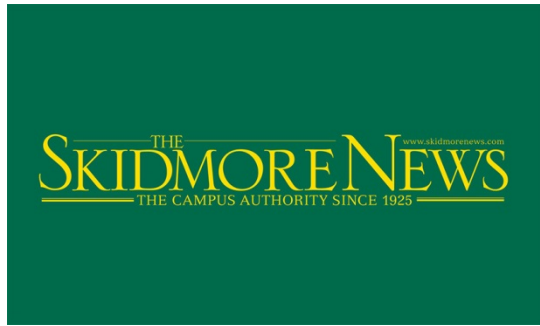
This year Christians and Jews celebrate their respective Passovers at exactly the same time. On some years, the week mimics the time when Jesus was in Jerusalem at Passover. "Death passed over" the Israelites as they embarked on their exodus from Egypt (hence Passover) just as death passed over Jesus on Easter weekend.

Something in both these stories, so interrelated, can transform us. Some fusion of good and evil in the original events, when it reaches us, surprises and excites. What could that be? How can one find out about it? To name and explain this unexpected perturbation of the soul is the job of theologians. To receive it only requires listening - quiet, reflective listening - and putting yourself where you can hear or read the stories. From there, you can go out under the spinning stars of the earthly spring, alone and in silence, and consider your life in relation to these stories.

But what might our students actually know of those events and all the stories about them in the Bible? How many here remember and observe the day or the week? For you, religion is probably off-putting, and for good reason. Legend and devotion have added much to these stories, and much unfamiliarity and mystification have obscured them. Moreover, the secular drift of Western history and the bitter polarization of these two historic religions have placed a veil between all of us and the original events. Right now, Americans are involved in controversies surrounding whether these days should or should not be considered civic or college holidays and whether creches on town hall lawns should be permitted. So you have arrived during an age in awkward transition, religiously speaking.

Nevertheless, there is more to religion than meets the eye. There is much more to this season than popular faith discloses or contentious rhetoric affords. The casual observer's doctrines superficial reading of religious texts or practices belies the richly symbolic and spiritually potent content. Although people can be fooled, people are nevertheless not fools, believe it or not. Centuries of attendance at Masses or Seders represent wordless but pregnant reflection about life's profoundest matters while the sacred words are being pronounced. Religion provides one way for society to ruminate and to talk to itself about otherwise imponderable things.

Religion also gives body to the formless intuitions and apprehensions borne daily in our active spirits. We like to say we are spiritual but not religious persons, but without "religion" of some kind, the spiritual activity in us remains largely inchoate. And religion fosters the self-government necessary to



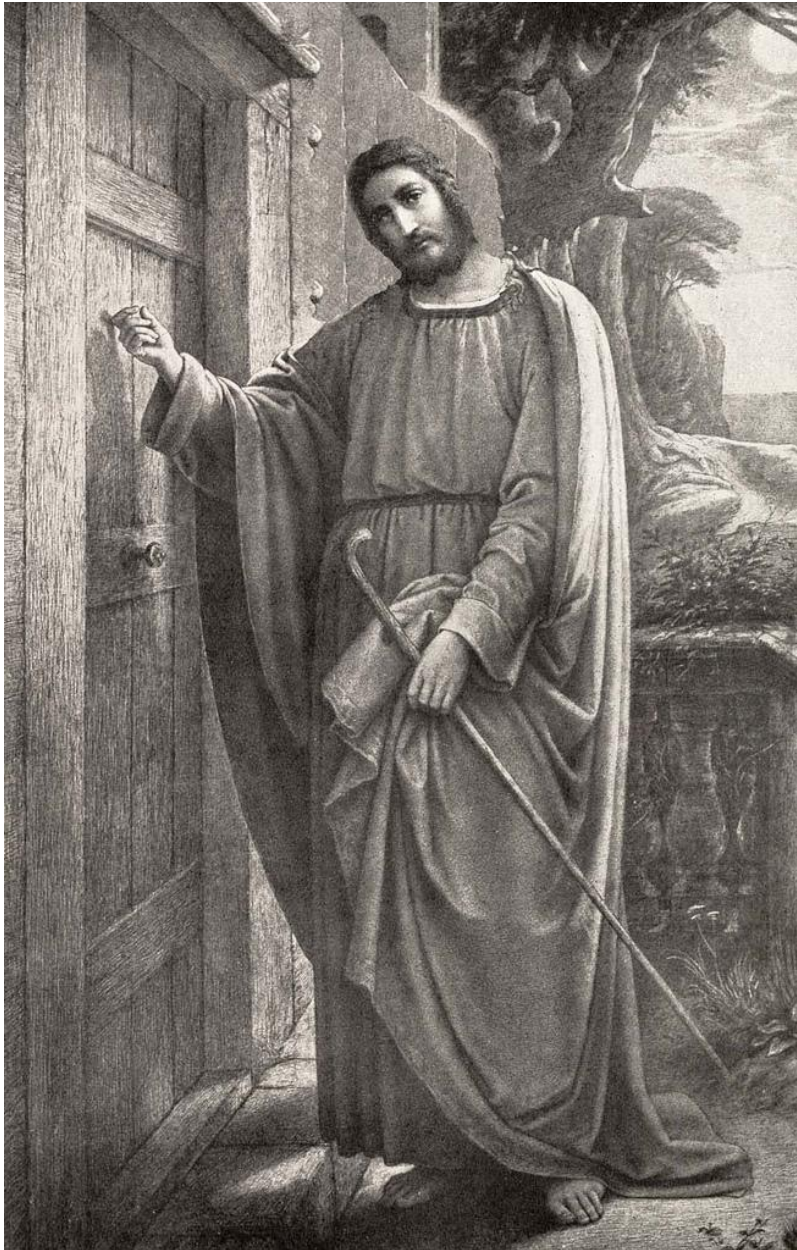
survive and flourish while meeting life and death demands. Religion also adds community to the mix, giving us human supports beyond the horizons of the nuclear family and the tribe.

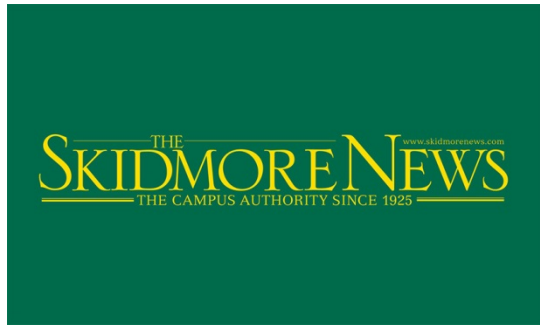
I surmise what we dislike about religion today is what is most unique about it among cultural phenomena - it makes a claim on us, it wants to grab our attention and stake a claim upon our moral consciousness. Both Christianity and Judaism say, "Do the right thing," and thereby alert us to possible citizenship in a kingdom not defined by tyrants or corporations. In the worst cases, religion also claims an arbitrary, blind allegiance to its laws and hierarchies, and that properly should repel us. Yet, the stories of Passover and of Easter oblige us to put our lives under the largest possible perspective and to make our personal, and political, decisions accordingly.

Don't underestimate religion. There are as many Christianities out there as there are Christians. There are as many more Christianities among those who don't even claim to be Christian. I don't know if that might also be true for Judaism. Maybe people can be Jewish, as much as Christian, from where they are. For my own part, I believe Christianity is just a Gentile's way of being Jewish, but I don't know if the religious of either faith would accept that. But why not, since Jesus, a Jew schooled in his scriptures, preached the mercy and loving-kindness of the God of the Hebrew Bible. We might not be celebrating Passover and Easter together, but we are celebrating the liberating love of the same God.

#1.2841434:1434485912.jpg:Jesus knocks

image courtesy of biblevector





Letter: Equality Between Academics and Wellness

Create a Balance

By Chris Lord, Class of 2012

On Fri, Apr 6, 2012

Dear Editor,

For the past four years Skidmore has been my home. Throughout my time here I have observed my own behavior and that of my peers. Consistently I have seen academics placed above personal well-being. In fact, just the other night I witnessed a friend typing away at my kitchen table around 10 pm. The next morning I awoke to the same sound of typing. It was 9 am and she had been there all night (however she had written 40 pages). Once again the pressures of school had distracted her from sleeping.

Think of your own experience for a moment. How many hours of sleep have you lost to schoolwork? How many meals have you missed? Has your anxiety about school caused your relationships to suffer? Have you or a friend used Adderall to get work done? Do you or your friends rely on alcohol and/or other drugs to leave the stresses of schoolwork behind? Do you know someone who has had a panic attack because of schoolwork? Do you know someone who is so upset emotionally that he or she cannot keep up in class? Personally, I have witnessed all of this. Is it okay that we go to such extremes to get our work done at Skidmore?

This semester I had the chance to intern at One Roof, a holistic wellness center full of people dedicated to improving personal well-being. So far I have met with a majority of these practitioners, all of whom stress balance as a key to achieving wellness. My question then is how does balance relate to academics at Skidmore?

Academics define what is important at Skidmore. Make something worth academic credit and it is immediately taken more seriously. As a liberal arts school, Skidmore exposes students to a wide variety of subjects in order to receive a well-rounded education. We have many requirements to meet, however none of them have anything to do with personal well-being. This sends the message that writing, natural science, quantitative reasoning, arts, foreign language, and non-western culture/cultural diversity are more important than tools to promote a healthier way of living. I am not saying that learning how to utilize tools for well being is more important than any of these other requirements, but I feel that they should at least be seen as an equal. I am calling for a balance between wellness and academics because, as of now, it feels very disproportionate.

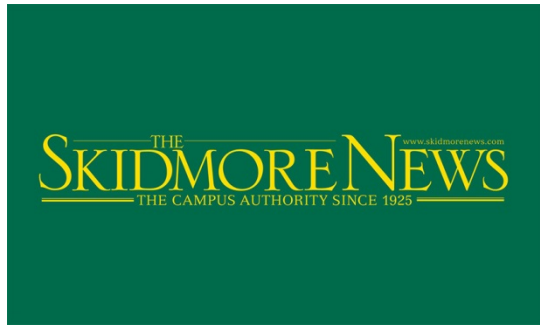
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It is true that outside of academics at Skidmore there are groups dedicated to providing students with happier and healthier lives. There is the counseling center, health services, health promotions, FIGHTClub, and the Center for Sex and Gender Relations to name a few. While the work of all these groups is valuable, their messages about how to achieve personal wellness is overrun by the call of papers, lab reports, presentations and tests.

Additionally, it is important to note that there are some classes that provide students with tools toward health and wellness. There are a slew of exercise courses, however these are seen as fillers to most students. They are electives; the term alone suggests that they are less important than the required classes. Past that, there is a 1-credit stress reduction class in the spring semester. This gives only 30 students the chance to learn techniques to live more peaceful lives per school year. As I look at the master schedule, I see that there are six people on the wait list, telling me there is a demand. There is one other option that I am aware of: Psychology of Well Being. A 300 level Psych class, this is a great opportunity to learn about the power of personal well being, if and only if you meet the prerequisites within the department of Psychology. Unfortunately, the professor of this course is retiring and it is unknown whether or not it will continue in the future. Though there may be other opportunities available, these are the select few of which I am aware.

This brings me to the pivotal question. Why does wellness matter, anyway? Personally, I use the techniques I have learned in Stress Reduction and Psych of Well Being more often than what I have learned in a majority of my other classes. There are numerous studies explaining the benefits of wellness activities. A study by Ortnier, Kilner, & Zelazo (2007), for example, shows that mindfulness meditation is not only about stress reduction. It is also linked to increase immune function and positive affect. Furthermore, it increases one's ability to focus and be present, making for greater attention control, something that is helpful to retain more during lectures.

The value of awareness and relaxation techniques is becoming more recognized and celebrated. One study implemented these techniques into a public Massachusetts high school (Foret et al., 2012). The study provided 10th and 11th grade students the opportunity to practice relaxation response behaviors taught by The Benson-Henry Institute for Mind Body Medicine. Relaxation response is meant to teach students to reduce stress and empower students to maximize their potential. Students were exposed to eight 45-minute sessions where they practiced mediation, breath focus, mindfulness, progressive muscle relaxation, imagery/visualization, and yoga. In addition, students were taught about stress awareness and positive psychology through gratitude journals and cognitive restructuring exercises. The results show that students displayed increased health promoting behavior as well as reduced perceived stress and anxiety.



The research is there, so why don't we use it? It is my goal to enhance academics at Skidmore by placing greater emphasis on classes promoting health and wellness. I am not asking that wellness be placed above other academic subjects, but I am asking for balance. As Euripides once said, "The best and safest thing is to keep a balance in your life, acknowledge the great powers around us and in us. If you can do that, and live that way, you are really a wise man."

What do you think? Is wellness at Skidmore valued as much as academic subjects? Should it be? Is the balance I ask for attainable? Whether a student, faculty, staff, or none of the above, I want to hear your thoughts. Please feel free to share your thoughts.

Chris Lord

Class of 2012

#1.2841463:3555440722.jpg:Euripides

Statue of Euripides in the Vatican Museums

image courtesy of Serguei



Editorial: Encourage students to take summer jobs as well as internships

By the Editorial Board

On Fri, Apr 6, 2012

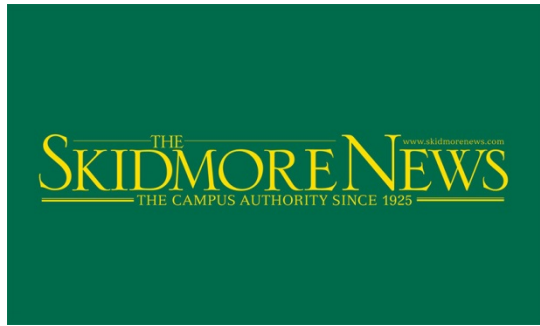
Students who have paid a visit to the Career Services center will have undoubtedly heard the same advice from counselors when asking how to best spend their summers productively: apply for an internship. Yet with the economy still in turmoil and colleges releasing students into the real world with a degree and a mountain of debt, does an internship, especially an unpaid one, do more harm than good?

There is no doubt that an internship allows students to gain experience in working in the career field, ideally in an area of their personal interest. Such experience also looks great on a résumé, giving students a boost when seeking and applying for jobs.

Unfortunately, many internships are unpaid ones, and those that do give students a paycheck might still feel less rewarding than, say, a full-time summer job. With such things in mind, one cannot help but question the College's emphasis on finding an internship over a job. In fact, students might benefit financially from taking a summer job in retail over an unpaid internship.

That said, one cannot deny the importance of an internship, especially in gaining experience and building one's résumé. In facing the problems of seeking out an unpaid internship, students should be able to rely on their college to provide them with both opportunities and support in pursuing such a path.

Skidmore offers several programs that provide funding for internships and research to cover transportation and living expenses. Skidmore's Summer Funded Internship Awards Program (SSFIAP) began in 2009 and has continued to grow in the past 3 years. In 2009 eight students received internship funding and in 2011 Skidmore received donations that enable the funding of 64 students. In addition to the SSFIAP, there are several other programs that have provided funding for summer internships, including The New World Foundation (15 internships), the Student Government Association (30 internships), The Parents Council (1 - 5 internships), the Levine Internship Awards, and the Susan Hirsch Schwartz '68 Stipend Fund. The majority of donations for funded internships come from alumni, parents, and friends of the college with some offering specific awards such as The Megan McAdams '08 International Community Service Internship Program and The Elizabeth Marie Glotzbach Memorial Film-



Industry Fund which are both new this year. This year Career Services received 126 applicants for the SSFIAP and 75 for the Parents Council Awards, which was almost a 50% increase over last year.

These programs other departmental programs all offer scholarships to approximately 100 students altogether. Yet, with all the pressure on internships being the "proper" path to take on the road to a successful career, are these programs enough?

The College recently introduced the See Beyond awards, which provides \$4,000 stipends across an 8-10 week period to support field or laboratory research or internships, indicating that the institution is taking steps to increase the financial support offered to students. Additionally, students may also partake in paid collaborative research jobs with the faculty on campus during the summer. But is this enough aid for the approximately 2,300 students all facing the pressures of life without a dorm room and a meal plan?

In addition to its many programs dedicated to helping students find and maintain internships, the College might consider putting in more effort to encourage students to seek paid jobs as well. When setting out on the path to one's future career, any kind of experience is a beneficial one, and many employers look for quality over quantity—a student who commits to a job for several years rather than one who changes constantly from one internship to another.

Perhaps the College should equally emphasize the importance of a summer job as well as that of an internship. This might alleviate the obligation students feel to apply for an internship because it is expected of them, instead of a job which might help them begin to save money for their college and future debts. By removing the trepidation students might have about committing to summer jobs over internships, the College could help them seek more opportunities and lead them to become better prepared to face life after graduation.

Representatives of the Fullbridge Program speak on campus

The program provides students with essential business skills to prepare for their careers

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Fri, Apr 6, 2012

Carter Williams and Tom Mayell visited the College on April 3 as representatives of the Fullbridge Program, which will host two sessions in Boston, Mass. from June 4 to 29 and July 9 to Aug. 3.

According to the presentation, the Fullbridge Program is a "business boot camp," that bridges the gap between college and career, and helps students learn important professional skills to assist them in obtaining and maintaining a job.

"Employers are looking for students to hit the ground running from day one," Williams, who is co-leading the university recruitment effort, said. "We saw this space and this crying need to have a program that would prepare students to bridge this gap between school and the workplace."

The two principle founders and co-CEOs of the program are Peter and Candice Olson, who started the program in May 2010. Peter Olson is the former CEO of Random House, and Candice Olson is one of the first women to lead an initial public offering, the first sale of a stock by a company to the public, in the United States.

Also involved is Timothy Butler, a senior fellow on the faculty of Harvard Business school and director of Career Development Programs, who leads the Fullbridge Program as an adviser and a Career Leader.

"The program looks to work with a diverse set of students and majors who want to impact the world and engage with their fellow classmates and teammates," Williams said, adding that as a smart, liberal arts focused college, Skidmore would be an excellent place for recruitment.

"We sort of view the program as this big mosaic that ties together in the end," Williams said. "You begin to build things as you learn. We thought a program like this would really resonate with Skidmore."

Williams broke down the fundamental ideas of the program into three basic pillars: "Find It," "Get It," and "Crush It." The program works to help students realize these three objectives in finding a vision for their career by identifying core areas of interest, developing the necessary business and professional skills, and making an impact from day one of their internship or job.

During its four week session, students spend eight hours a day learning everything from basic competencies, such as effective oral communication and financial analysis, to more complex skills, such as creative problem solving and project and time management.

“You walk away in four weeks with a pretty serious construction of powerful business, finance and professional skills and self-awareness, which of course gives you a huge amount of confidence in any job or internship,” Williams said.

Both sessions will feature the same content and material, and between the two Williams said the program is looking to gather approximately 100 students for this summer.

The program is divided into on-site and optional offsite work, in which students have the choice to work on their own online during weeks two and three. Williams said that this allows students to work on their own for part of the time if they prefer, and it also helps emphasize the team experience when they return on-site.

Students will work on individual projects and on assignments with teams, which will culminate in a final presentation at the end of the semester. They will have a variety of resources to work from, including videos, guest speakers, and each other.

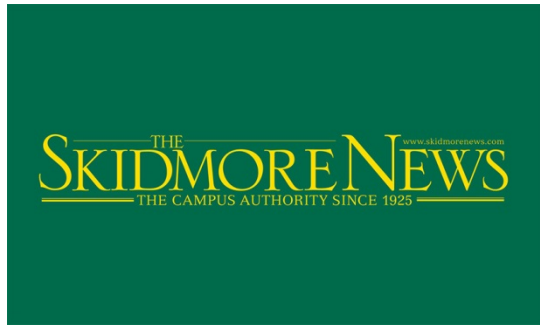
“We wanted the whole experience to reflect the workplace,” Mayell, the senior manager of college recruiting for the program, said. “It’s a global world of business, you’re going to have to work off-site and in teams even though you’re not all in the same room.”

Each student benefits from personal interactions with Fullbridge coaches. They continually assess the individuals and provide daily feedback on their strengths and weaknesses in areas of presentations, team and individual work, leadership and attitude.

“They’re not like instructors or professors in that they’ll be lecturing at you,” Mayell said. “They’re there to guide you should you need it, to tell you what your strengths and weaknesses are, to hone your strengths and to work on your weaknesses.”

Current coaches for the summer terms include Kelly Skinner and Luke Owings, both of who received an MBA from Harvard Business school. Williams, who was also once a coach, said it is not unusual for students of the program to return and become coaches in areas they excelled in.

“It’s so easy to go in and pinpoint where people are having problems in specific areas so the coaches are able to immediately intervene, figure out what’s going on, and help the participant move forward,” Williams said.



Anna Gaissert, a junior from Brown University and one of the program's graduates, said her experience with Fullbridge pushed her to go beyond her normal work efforts.

"The challenge of this program was that you were learning information and applying it and doing that really quickly," Gaissert said. "That was something that really pushed me out of my comfort zone but was so good for me to do."

"One thing that I know I can definitely say that I'm going to take away from this program is confidence," Reide McMann, a junior from Harvard University and another graduate of the program, said. "Fullbridge has really inspired me to go above and beyond, and reach for the stars."

"I am much more aware of who I am, I'm much more aware of my strengths and weaknesses, and I'm much more confident to go out into the world and show people what's up," Anatol Gudenus, a sophomore from Brown University, said.

#1.2840859:2411673776.JPG:Carter Williams

Williams, who co-leads the university recruitment effort, has been with the program since its founding.

Meredith Simonds/The Skidmore News

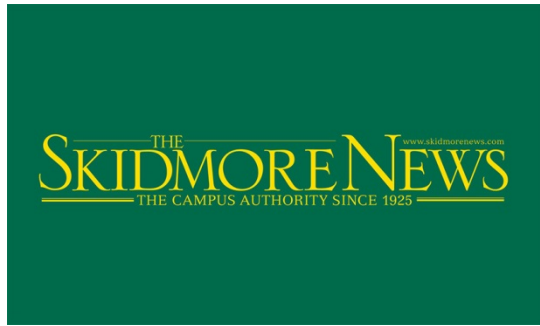
#1.2840860:1999633409.JPG:Tom Mayell

Mayell works to publicize the Fullbridge Program's efforts on college campuses through information sessions and college media.

Meredith Simonds/The Skidmore News







Communications finalizes design for the Skidmore website

The final result is a combination of two designs with new elements responding to survey feedback

By Adrian Appleman, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Apr 6, 2012

On April 4, the Office of Communications officially finished the redesign for the College's new website to be submitted on to the new content management system, OmniUpdate. This decision comes after two rounds of campus and community surveys, several focus groups, meetings with the Student Government Association, the President's Cabinet, the Alumni Association Board of Directors, and other administrative organizations on campus.

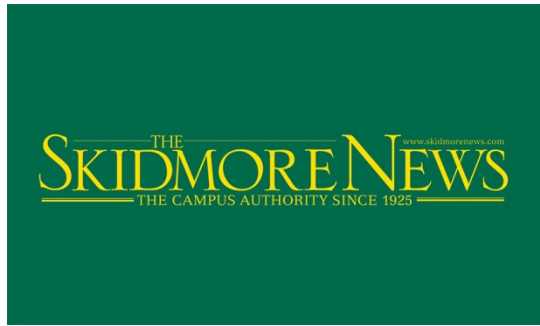
After Communications analyzed the data collected from the second round of campus surveys and the feedback from focus groups held on March 13 and 20, the website task force decided to focus on how to incorporate the most appealing and traditional elements of Design A, such as the green color scheme, into the more unconventional Design C, which uses an entirely different layout format from the other designs, including a navigation bar on the side of the website instead of the top.

These design changes include adding a slight transparency to the navigation bar to make it less obtrusive, lending more focus to the glossy background slideshow of events. The vertical navigation, instead of having cake-layer sub-navigation bars, now opens horizontal menus, similar to the menus in Design A, with an integrated content panel underneath the menu for highlighting student and alumni research and accomplishments.

There is also an "admin bar" at the bottom of the page, which allows visitors easy access to a new A-Z index and the ability to bypass the new interface. An additional "CTM banner" on the navigation bar also adds recent content about creative happenings around campus right off the main page.

The committee presented the results of the "Skidmore Web Site Redesign Survey" to the ad hoc SGA Web Site Redesign subcommittee on April 2. The survey found Design A to have the highest percentage of approval, with 45 percent of survey respondents saying they would most like to see it as the College's new home page.

Because of the overwhelmingly positive feedback, however, Communications received about the runner-up Design C from its advocates, they decided to incorporate many of the popular features of Design A in an enhanced version of Design C, which was presented to the SGA committee as well.



Approximately 400 current students, 142 faculty and staff members and 114 alumni and parents, responded to the survey. Results differed negligibly between demographics, except in the case of the design most favored, in which the faculty and staff group selected Design C by a small margin of 3 percent over Design A.

"The people who liked Design C really liked it," Andy Camp, director of Web Development, said. "Design A, which, though it received the most votes in the survey, didn't win by a majority, and never really got as enthusiastic a response."

This closeness revealed itself in a class taught by Deborah Hall, associate professor of art, and a faculty counselor on the redesign project, in which students, when shown the new designs were split fifty-fifty on the designs, but those in favor of C spoke emphatically for it.

"There was a considerable group of people who liked the more traditional feel of Design A," Dan Forbush, director of Communications and overseer of the project, said. "The 'Skidmore green,' for example, and the conventional vertical navigation, were well-received aspects. But we thought we could definitely give it a more creative feel using elements from Design C."

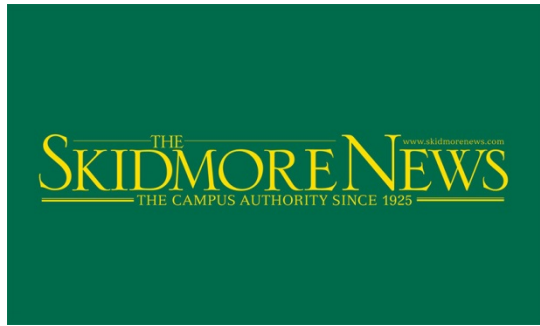
The final version of the home page, screenshots of which were sent to members of the SGA subcommittee Wednesday evening, addresses concerns brought up in the last subcommittee meeting, as well as a meeting with the Advancement Committee of the Board of Trustees earlier this week, and several meetings with the project's three faculty counselors: Hall, Flip Phillips, professor of Psychology, and John Weber, Dayton Director of the Tang Museum.

These issues included the prominence of the College logo, which now floats above the navigation bar instead of being boxed in by it, the addition of a panel allowing for navigation of the site based on demographic of the visitors (i.e., parent, alumni, student, prospective student, etc.), and social media integration.

The finished design features a social media banner below the items on the navigation bar, with easy access to the College's social media outlets. Sub-pages, the design for which are still being finalized, also now include a flag at the top right-hand corner allowing the page to be "liked" and "tweeted," as well as emailed and clicked, with the push of a button.

"We hope to integrate Skidmore's vast social media presence into this design across the board," Camp said.

The next stage of the process will solidify the design of top-level sub-pages, such as "Admissions," "About Skidmore," "Student Life" and "Alumni." On April 9, the SGA ad hoc committee will reconvene to



discuss the final home page as well as the future design of the "Student Life" sub-page, including the decision to conflate the two pages, "Current Students" and "Student Life" into one page informative to both prospective and current students. The Communications office also will organize an online focus group with alumni to collect input on the "Alumni" page.

There will still be room for fine-tuning after sending the programming to OmniUpdate, allowing for further input gathered in the upcoming docket of meetings and focus groups to polish the site even further. For now, the Communications department celebrates reaching a major milestone in the redesign process, culminating in the new site going live at some point this June.

All audiences with whom we've shared the new design have responded enthusiastically, Forbush wrote on the Communication's [web site redesign blog](http://academics.skidmore.edu/blogs/redesign/). "Andy Camp has skillfully pulled together a distinctive new design that everyone seems to agree says Skidmore."

Screenshots of the latest design can be found at www.skidmore.edu/redesign.

#1.2840876:2299535954.png:Finalized Website Design

The new website design sports a side navigation bar and a series of quick links for students, faculty and alumni.

Courtesy of Communications



SKIDMORE COLLEGE

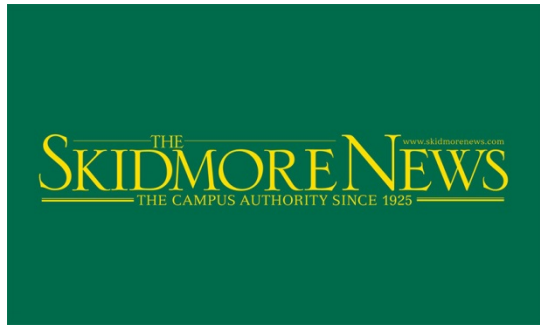
Students Faculty/Staff Alumni Parents
Sciences Global Skidmore Arts Community

- About Skidmore
- Academics
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CTM

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The second annual FIGHTWeek provides conflict-related events for students

Events continue at Falstaff's and the Wilson Chapel this weekend

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Fri, Apr 6, 2012

April 4 marks the halfway point of the second annual FIGHTWeek, a series of events for students dealing with peer mediation and conflict, sponsored by members of the Conflict Resolution Club (FIGHTClub), a student-run organization created last year to deal with mediation and conflict coaching on campus.

This year, according to Chris Lord '12, president of FIGHTClub, the club has a larger budget to work with, which has allowed organizers to add new events, such as workshops that focus on moving from discussion to action.

"Last year was hard because we were starting from scratch," Lord said. "This year we had a base. We kept a lot of the events that went well. Also, we added and tweaked some events based on the needs we heard from students. We do our best to provide an opportunity for anyone in FIGHTClub to run an event that interests them."

Lord said FIGHTClub is working this week to provide fun events that service student needs and give them the opportunity to build and strengthen relationships. The week will also advertise FIGHTClub's peer-to-peer conflict resolution service, which provides the services of New York State Certified Mediators to students on campus.

Lord cited difficulties in scheduling the various events without creating overlaps, although he added there is almost always a way to work conflicts out.

"After helping to plan FIGHTWeek last year, and planning Flow Jam earlier this year, preparing for events is beginning to be second nature to me," Lord said. "I know who to talk to in order to get what done. I want to share this knowledge with students who have less planning experience to help them implement their own ideas to better Skidmore."

The club received support from several members of the administration, including David Karp, associate dean of Student Affairs and director of Campus Life, who serves as the club's advisor.

Kris Scully, financial coordinator for Campus Life, and Robin Adams, interim director of Leadership Activities, also lent a hand in helping the club fund events and work with facilities to oversee the construction of a picnic table on April 2.

Beverly Cottrell, catering secretary for Dining Services, provided additional help by booking the second floor of the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall for a "Dialogue to Action" panel with Duke Fisher, a trainer of conflict resolution and restorative justice, on April 3. Rick Chrisman, director of Religious and Spiritual Life, reserved the chapel for an upcoming event on Saturday, April 7.

Each FIGHTClub member is responsible for a different event of FIGHTWeek, including the Compliment Booth in the Atrium of the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall all week from noon to 3 p.m. April 4 included a game of Capture the Flag, a blood drive, and an open FIGHTClub meeting, all of which took place on April 4.

Still to come is a movie showing and raffle at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday in the Spa, a "Feel Good" party with live Skidmore bands and DJs from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. at Falstaff's on Friday, and a Gong Bath Meditation with Universal Sound at 12:30 p.m. Saturday in the Wilson Chapel.

For some, like Lord, this will be the last FIGHTWeek before graduation.

"I have built some incredibly deep relationships through this club that I will never forget," Lord said. "FIGHTClub has provided me the opportunity to develop my mediation and conflict coaching skills, confidence in my abilities to make a difference, deep friendships, the knowledge that there is always a solution, and a deep rooted optimism about humanity. I just hope I can leave this club with a fraction of what it has given me."

#1.2840881:1076301418.JPG:Dialogue Action photo

Students share their opinions at the "Dialogue to Action" panel, one of the events for FIGHTWeek.

Meredith Simonds/The Skidmore News



NBA Talk: Season of the Spurs?

The San Antonio Spurs are now on a nine game winning streak but how far will the team go?

By Andrew Shi, Sports Editor

On Fri, Apr 6, 2012

The Spurs extended their winning streak to nine after Wednesday's win in Boston, but even with a rejuvenated looking team, can their momentum carry them through the playoffs?

The Spurs have beaten the best of the best this season. The team has gone 2-1 against last year's champions, the Mavericks, and 2-1 against this year's Western Conference first seed, the Thunder. They also punished the Grizzlies, who surprisingly ousted them in the first round of last year's playoffs, holding the series at 3-1. They're dominating the Western Conference and currently hold its second seed, only two games behind the Thunder

The team is still built around the three aging all-stars: Tim Duncan, Manu Ginobili and Tony Parker. All three have demonstrated that what they've lost in agility and power which have decreased with old age (for the NBA), they can make up for in team chemistry. With the big three a few supporting and younger players including center/ power forward DeJuan Blair and forwards Danny Green and Kawhi Leonard, the Spurs have become the third highest scoring-per-game team, averaging 101.62.

This top tier points- per-game statistic is despite coaching decisions to cut minutes for the big three, and to allow the younger players to take on a stronger role. The fewer-minute strategy has worked, but will it work in the playoffs? No, it won't. Tony Parker still leads the team in assists and points, and Tim Duncan leads in blocks and rebounds. The Spurs still heavily depend on the all-stars for wins, despite having them play for less time.

The Spurs is exactly the same team it was last year, minus their rookie Leonard. Everyone is just one year older and that has proven to be dangerous as demonstrated by Ginobili's early leave in the season from an injury. He only just recently returned.

Yes, a nine game winning streak- one most likely to extend to at least 12 until they play the Lakers on April 11- is very impressive, but they had a 12 game winning streak last year and look how well they did in the playoffs.

Many times Spurs' Coach Gregg Popovich has had to sit Duncan or Parker in back-to-back games because he didn't want them too exhausted or didn't think they could manage to play both games. So how do the Spurs expect to seriously contend for a title during playoffs when games, and at least four of them, are one after the other?

The Spurs are just a better version of the Celtics, although the Celtics have a young all-star point guard (Rajon Rondo) who still has yet to reveal his full potential. Back to the point though, the Spurs' latest run has been impressive, but it's all a show. The Spurs at this point are scheduled to play the Houston Rockets in the first round and definitely cannot compete against the younger and more agile team, as demonstrated in the three out of four games that the Spurs have already lost to them this season.

The Spurs are done for now, and they're going to need some time to remold their team to a championship caliber again.

#1.2841184:3212683341.jpg:Season of Spurs 3/6/12

Spur's Tim Duncan bodies past Celtic Kevin Garnett in Wednesday's 87-86 win.

Associated Press



Senate approves amendments to the CAC Policy

New additions include an article addressing club impeachment and new language about Benef-Action

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Tue, Apr 10, 2012

On April 3, the Student Government Association Senate approved the amendment to the Club Affairs Committee Policies and Procedures which, among other changes, added a uniform process of impeachment for all student clubs on campus that voids all individual impeachment procedures.

Logan Brenner '12, vice president for Club Affairs, said the committee added the impeachment clause because many clubs either do not have impeachment policies in their charters or they are vague. In addition to establishing a standard system for impeachment, all clubs must now inform the vice president of Club Affairs of the intention to impeach, keeping the SGA aware of ongoing events and situations within student organizations.

I think that a clearly outlined impeachment policy is important to ensure a greater sense of cooperation and transparency within the student groups, and by extension the student government, Wyatt Erchak '12, co-president of Friends of Anxiety Disorders, said.

Club presidents received an early draft of the changes and gave feedback to the committee on March 26. The policy was then revised based on the critiques and the finalized version presented to the SGA Senate the following week.

"I think that these new revisions are good for clubs, as they provide a good method for potential impeachment of board members, especially if the club charter of the club does not mention impeachment," Stefan Cocorelis '13, president of the International Student Union, said. "Of course, I would never want this to ever happen, but if it was necessary, I think these new revisions would definitely help in what is an uncomfortable process."

Senate members also asked for clarification on the language surrounding Benef-Action, a student-run volunteer club that supports community service within the student body.

The Benef-Action board asked Brenner to change the language in the policy to give students trying to start new clubs the option to discuss with the executive board whether they would prefer to operate under Benef-Action.

“This policy was decided because many niche community service clubs do not last very long,” Michael DuPré ‘12, president of Benef-Action, said. Benef-Action wanted to offer to help students working on community service projects without demanding that they work under us.”

This would give clubs an opportunity to work with Benef-Action on community service projects, but also allows them the freedom to engage in non-community service activities as well, eliminating the need to work towards an overall community service goal.

“Basically we’re looking for a place to help clubs be sustainable,” Brenner said. “It’s just to make sure all of the right people are consulted. I updated these also because I think policies should be looked at once a year to keep them current and keep everyone involved.”

String of false IDs uncovered in Saratoga Springs

Recent local incidents tie into nation-wide investigations

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Wed, Apr 11, 2012

In a press conference at 1 p.m. on April 3 in the Saratoga Springs City Hall Council room, the Saratoga Springs Police department announced the arrest of 15 people in possession of false identifications, including Skidmore College student, and is in the process of interviewing approximately 30 more high school students, according to Lt. John Catone, as part of a larger investigation undertaken by Homeland Security.

Of these individuals, 14 were charged with possession of a forged instrument, a class A misdemeanor, and had their New York State Driver's License suspended for 90 days.

One male, Stephen Smero, age 48, in addition to this charge, was prosecuted for unlawfully dealing with a child in a Class D Felony and also received a Class A Misdemeanor Conspiracy and a Class B Misdemeanor.

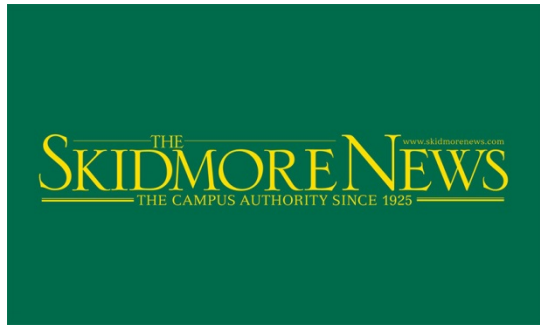
According to Catone, on March 9, 18 year-old Bradley Green entered a local wine and liquor store in Saratoga Springs to purchase alcoholic beverages for high school students at the Saratoga Springs High School Hockey Team's weekend playoff game in Utica.

Green identified himself with an out-of-state driver's license, which indicated to the store scanner that he was old enough for to purchase alcohol.

A female customer in the store identified Green as a high school student, and thus not of legal age to make the purchase. The store employees confronted Green and confiscated the liquor and the identification card.

Patrolman Dan Noeker wrote a report on the incident and secured Green's ID, in the process uncovering the possibility of the existence of more false IDs. Investigators Meghan Mullan and Jack Barney, who were assigned to the case, discovered that as many as 25 past and present Saratoga Springs High School students may have counterfeit IDs from as early as spring 2011.

The identification traced these IDs to a company based in China called ID Chief, which, according to Catone, is the focus of Homeland Security investigations in Pennsylvania and North Carolina.



In early 2011, police seized 1,700 counterfeit driver's licenses in a shipment from China at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, according to an article in [The Huffington Post](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/04/02/china-fake-ids-homeland-security-tsa-screening_n_1397970.html)

District Attorney Jim Murphy III released a statement prior to the press conference stating that the IDs were ordered through a website based in Beijing, China, the monies were transmitted to Indonesia, and the actual IDs were forged in Eastern Europe.

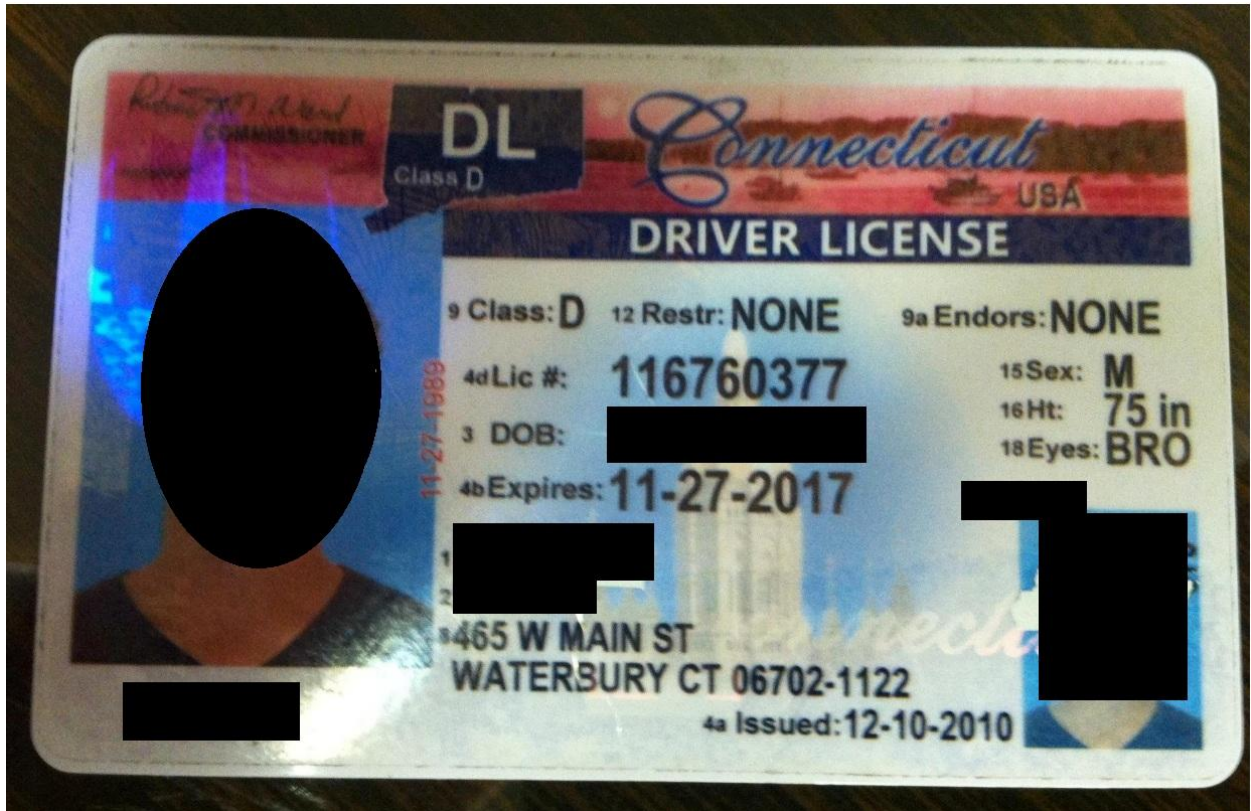
According to Murphy, the IDs are crafted well-enough to possess many of the enhanced security features embedded in genuine licenses, and thus can pass security inspection when crossing into Canada or Mexico or when boarding an aircraft.

Subjects used these false IDs to purchase alcoholic beverages from more than six stores in the Saratoga Springs and Wilton area, to enter several Caroline Street bars, and to provide alcohol to students as young as the eighth grade.

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The false identification cards are crafted so well they can bypass security checks at borderlines and airports.

Courtesy of SSPD



Educational reform speaker to address students on campus

Former Special Assistant to the President to talk about improving educational policy

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Wed, Apr 11, 2012

Andrew Rotherham, co-founder and partner at Bellwether Education, a nonprofit organization that improves education for low-income students, will speak on "Racing to the Top? The Whats and Whys of Today's Education Reforms," in an open event at 7 p.m. on April 11 in Gannett Auditorium.

Rotherham, who lives in Virginia with his wife and two daughters, has involved himself in several organizations dedicated to education reform, including the Virginia Board of Education and the Education Sector, a nonprofit organization dedicated to challenging conventional thinking in education policy.

"I met him when I took a class from him at UVA in Education Policy," said Hope Casto, assistant professor of Education Studies who invited Rotherham to speak on campus. "He has Skyped with my School and Society class in past semesters. The students have enjoyed the conversations with him so much that the department decided to bring him to campus."

Rotherham leads Bellwether's thought leadership, idea generation and policy analysis work and writes the weekly "School of Thought" column for TIME magazine. He also writes on the blog Eduwonk.com and is the co-publisher of "Education Insider," a federal policy research tool produced by Whiteboard Advisors.

Further adding to his list of experiences, Rotherham previously served at the White House as special assistant to the president for domestic policy during the Clinton administration.

Rotherham has authored or co-authored more than 200 published articles, book chapters, papers, books and op-eds regarding education policy and politics.

He also serves on advisory boards and committees for several organizations, including Education Pioneers, The Broad Foundation and the National Center for Analysis of Longitudinal Data in Education Research.

Rotherham is on the board of directors for the Indianapolis Mind Trust, is vice chairman of the Curry School of Education Foundation at the University of Virginia and serves on the Visiting Committee for the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

In the lecture, Rotherham will describe what he sees as the crucial areas in school reform in today's society, giving examples of what areas work, as well as what can be improved. He will also discuss how dramatic improvements in America's education system are essential to ensuring equal opportunity and creating a just society.

His experience with the Virginia Board of Education and in the White House allow him to shed light on both state level and federal level policy and decision-making, Casto said. "Overall, he is an excellent and engaging speaker and expert in the field, and I am sure it will prove to be an educational and exciting evening."

#1.2844102:1668236586.jpg:Andy Rotherham photo

Rotherham has served in many organizations, including Bellwether Education and the White House.

Courtesy of Professor Hope Casto



Review: Classical Guitar Virtuoso David Russell

By Dale Obbie, Staff Writer

On Thu, Apr 12, 2012

"Until I heard David Russell, I never realized how beautiful a guitar could sound, how technically flawless a guitarist could be," said Professor Joel Brown during his introductory speech. His point was well taken: the audience of Russell's performance on March 30 shared a valuable privilege in seeing the guitar virtuoso.

Intent on impressing the importance of the occasion upon the audience, Brown held up a manila folder and began explaining the significance of its contents. "This is Jimmy Page's autograph," said Brown, receiving a murmur from the audience.

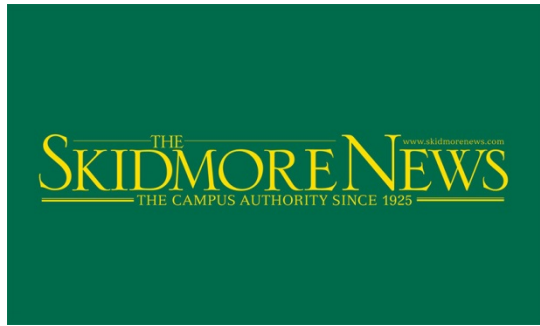
"This is a signed letter written by George Harrison...it's only a photocopy, though," he smiled. "And this is David Russell's autograph, which I got at a guitarist conference in 1988."

Brown's reverent introduction was appropriate. Russell is an internationally renowned classical guitarist who spends his time touring the world's most prestigious concert halls in cities such as New York, Los Angeles, London, Tokyo, Madrid, Toronto and Rome. He has recorded 16 albums, and, in addition to numerous other awards, he received a Grammy in 2005 for his album "Aire Latino." In 2009, Russell was inducted as an honorary member of "Amigos de la Guitarra," the oldest guitar society in Spain.

The program from Russell's Skidmore performance included compositions by José Broc, S.L. Weiss, Jorge Morel, Francois Couperin and Sergio Assad. Opening with the exquisite "Fantasy-a in C" by Broc, Russell immediately made his superb musicianship evident with cascading melodic runs from the lowest to the highest registers of the guitar. And far from being merely a flashy display of virtuosity, Russell's dexterity found its match only in the sincerely wrought emotion of the performance.

Though Russell may possess superhuman talent, his performance lacked the stiffness and stuffy formality that sometimes stifle classical music performances. His animated playing kept the crowd silent and attentive, while his warm personality showed itself in his descriptions of each piece: "the last movement is 'Juegeteando,' which means 'Playing Around.'" This title aptly described the music, which had a playful, sliding melody and a lighthearted mood that seemed to match Russell's own.

Sandy's Portrait, a contemporary classical piece by Sergio Assad, was perhaps the most beautiful song that Russell played. His sweet, expressive tone and the subtle inflections of his vibrato carried as much



emotion as the fastest and most note-heavy passages. Russell played the song's melody on the guitar's harmonics, ending the bittersweet piece afloat in its dreamscape.

To close the concert, Russell played a selection of traditional Celtic music - something you might not expect to hear at a classical performance. The music was arranged by Russell's friend Jerry Garcia, "but not the famous one," he was careful to point out with a grin.

Russell began with "Slip Jig," a fun and boisterous dance song with a driving rhythm that seemed well suited for an Irish pub. He ended the song by thumping his guitar percussively and then playing "My Gentle Heart," which was a mellower counterpart to the jig. Lastly, he played "The Fox of Oranmore," another vigorous dance song carried along by rhythmic strumming and blindingly fast 32nd note runs.

Called back for an encore by the whistling audience's standing ovation, Russell returned to play "An Alm for the Love of God," by Augustin Barrios. The stylistic shift from the rowdy Celtic music did not make Russell falter in the slightest - his rendition of the Barrios piece was transcendent. When he was finished, the moments of silence that followed his last few notes hung heavy in the air before exploding into applause. Russell bowed several times, grinned widely and left the stage.

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Classical guitarist David Russell

Courtesy of David Russel



A new FAD on campus

SGA grants the Friends of Anxiety Disorders a club charter

By Sarah Barry, Features Editor

On Thu, Apr 12, 2012

Despite its deceptive acronym, the Friends of Anxiety Disorders (FAD), has secured a place on campus as an SGA chartered club. The club endeavors to raise awareness of a broad spectrum of disorders and problems related to mental health.

FAD became an officially chartered club through the Student Government Association on March 27. The club has only been officially in existence since the beginning of this semester, so it is still working to draw in members, but has received positive feedback from students thus far.

"When I've mentioned the club to people, many express interest in joining. Also SGA was very positive throughout the chartering process," said Priscilla Montalto '15, member and Secretary of FAD.

"Our club wants to educate and inform people here, and help students who may experience these conditions and situations feel that they have friends and understanding - a community," Wyatt Erchack '12 co-president and founder said. The club focuses on anxiety, but welcomes anyone with a mental disorder as well as students who have friends or acquaintances suffering from a disorder. In addition, students seeking more information or a discussion on these issues are also welcome.

During the fall semester, FAD began to organize the club in an effort to supplement other support groups existing on campus. "We started this club because we perceived a void on campus with regard to things people consider to be 'issues;' specifically, people with mental disorders, such as anxiety and depression, have no community in which to connect with other students who may go through similar situations," said Willa Mayo '12, co-president of FAD.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, in any given year one quarter of all adults are diagnosable for one or more mental disorders. FAD hopes to provide a community of supporters for students struggling with these issues, one that is free of judgment. They also hope to educate the campus about the prevalence of mental disorders.

"I first discovered FAD at a club fair at the start of the semester. It was such a relief to see that there was a community of students facing similar problems to my own. I used to worry I was alone on campus in terms of my disorders, but FAD quickly dispelled those worries," Montalto said.

For students who are concerned about confidentiality, FAD's charter includes a clause that designates all meetings as confidential. "While our club certainly may deal with personal issues, we are simply aiming for an understanding that, should someone share something personal, we will not share any information without that person's permission" Mayo said. Students are also not obligated to share any personal information during meetings.

FAD meetings consist of a 50-50 split between open discussion and a more structured brain-storming and agenda driven conversation. The group is working to change the campus' bias policy to include mental disorders, and FAD also hopes to produce a flyer series similar to the "Racy Reader" which will offer informative information on mental illness.

Be on the lookout for other upcoming opportunities to be involved as the club aims to host a student discussion on mental disorders. FAD is also working to implement an ally training program, which will instruct students in ways to aid friends and peers in times of need.

FAD meets every Tuesday in Bolton 101 from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., or for students interested in joining the mailing list email pmontalt@skidmore.edu.

Skidmore and Saratoga community members to partake in "A Walk of Solidarity"

The walk will be a peaceful demonstration addressing the social climate in downtown Saratoga.

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Thu, Apr 12, 2012

The Center for Sex and Gender Relations is organizing a peaceful demonstration at 3 p.m. on April 13 in a "Walk of Solidarity" from campus to downtown Saratoga Springs, uniting college and community members in response to concerns about the social climate in Saratoga.

The walk will begin on campus at the bus stop outside of Case Center. Demonstrators will walk down Van Dam Street and then Broadway Avenue to their final destination on Caroline Street, where participants will discuss their downtown experiences and hopes for better relations in the future. After the discussion, participants will return to the College.

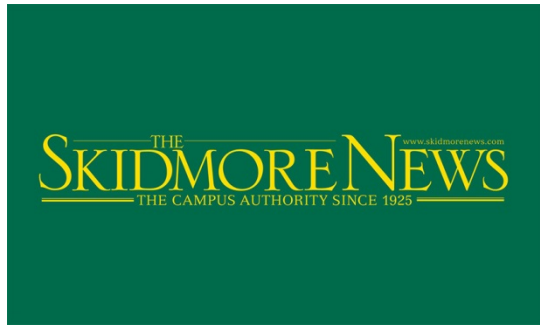
"Our goal in this event is to create solidarity for the Skidmore community and residents of Saratoga Springs who experience harassment, violence or discomfort downtown," peer advocates for the Center for Sex and Gender Relations said in an email to the student body. "This includes, but is not limited to, verbal harassment due to racial, sexual or gender identity, unwanted sexual advances, fear of being drugged, physical confrontations and assault, 'drive-by' harassment and general discomfort downtown."

The main organizers of the event are peer advocates Alexis Curry '12, Caleb Stoeffler '12 and Rachael Bowen '14, who collaborated to develop the event's mission statement and specific route of action.

The peer advocates have conducted on campus outreach to organizations including the Student Government Association and the Office of Student Diversity Programs, as well as off campus with various Saratoga area press outlets, including *The Saratogian* and the local media.

In turn, the Center for Sex and Gender Relations has received interest from Bare and United Minds, the Bias Response Group, Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun and Mariel Martin, director of Student Diversity Programs.

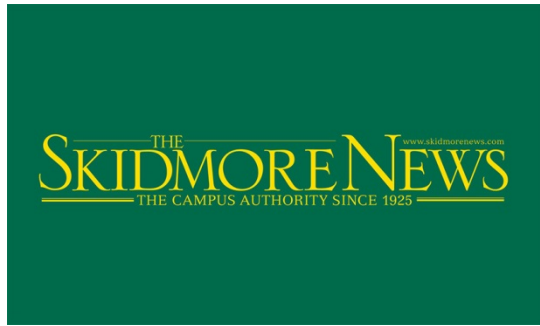
According to the three peer advocates, the demonstration is an independent action resulting from feelings expressed by several members of the College community. Members also said most of the bad



experiences students spoke about happened in downtown Saratoga Springs, rather than in specific establishments.

Approximately 30 to 50 participants will attend the event, which was planned from the beginning of the semester. The walk will also include "mic-checks," in which a person reads a statement and the group repeats it back to maintain anonymity and solidarity without the use of a megaphone or other amplification device.

"We are looking to raise awareness about these issues downtown by educating the Saratoga community about specific incidences of concern as well as the overarching societal issues that contribute to this discomfort," Curry said. "We want to create active communication within these communities with the intent of creating lasting and meaningful solutions to these issues."



Preview: the Tang presents an evening of performance poetry

On Thu, Apr 12, 2012

Tonight at 7:30 p.m., the Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery will present an "Evening of Spoken Word" featuring Jared Paul and Caroline Rothstein, two performance poets known for their social activism.

The event will also include performances by student musicians and poets as well as a question-and-answer session with Paul and Rothstein. As part of the event, the Tang Museum's exhibitions will be open for viewing until 9 p.m.

Audiences should be prepared for strong language and mature content.

Paul, a finalist in the Individual World Poetry Slam in 2006 and 2007, is an organizer, independent journalist and social worker from Providence, R.I.

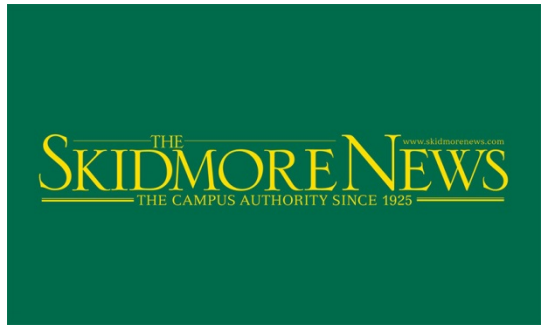
He has helped organize forums, electoral campaigns, street theater actions, anti-war protests, labor rallies, and lobbying efforts. He covered the 2004 Democratic and Republican National Conventions for WRIU radio (the University of Rhode Island radio station) and wrote about both conventions in 2008 for the Rhode Island publication "The Agenda."

"I've seen Jared Paul perform numerous times, and I'm always blown away by his passion and his sense of urgency," said Adina Fried '12. "He has the ability to involve and captivate an audience - no matter its size or demographic makeup-with his unique message and powerful voice."

A New York City-based writer, journalist and performer, Caroline Rothstein was a member of the Nuyorican Poets Cafe slam team, which placed second at Poetry Slam Incorporated's National Poetry Slam 2010.

A longtime activist in eating disorder recovery, Rothstein hosts the video-blog "Body Empowerment," sharing her own recovery story as a means of promoting positive body image. Her one-woman play "Faith," about her struggle with an eating disorder, is part of the Culture Project's 2012 Women Center Stage festival in New York City.

A 2006 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, she coached the University of Pennsylvania slam team to championships in 2007 and 2009. She is director of the university's Excelano Project, a spoken word poetry organization.



This event is part of the Tang’s Thursday night series, with events that relate to the museum’s current exhibitions. “We invited these poets because we think their presentations will illuminate something new about the works on display by Nancy Grossman and Donald Moffett,” said event co-organizer Victoria Manganiello ‘12.

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Jared Paul

Courtesy of the Tang

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Caroline Rothstein

Courtesy of the Tang





Men's lacrosse falls to Hamilton

In a well fought battle the Thoroughbreds are defeated 11-9

By Skidmore Athletics

On Fri, Apr 13, 2012

SARATOGA SPRINGS- The Skidmore men's lacrosse team fell to Hamilton 11-9 in Wednesday night's home matchup.

In a fast-paced start to the game, Skidmore took the early lead with back-back goals from Mike Perlow '13 and J.P Sullivan '13. The Hamilton Continentals quickly answered back, but the Thoroughbreds obstinately hit two more goals. Perlow and Sullivan's second goals gave the Thoroughbreds a 4-2 lead by the end of the first quarter.

In the second quarter the Continentals tied it up, only for the Thoroughbreds to take back the lead with goals from Richie Davis' 14 and Bryan Connolly '13. The Continentals closed the second quarter with another goal to enter the second half with Skidmore up by one 6-5.

The Continentals entered the second half with two goals to give them the 7-6 lead. Connolly was able to tie it back up on his second goal of the game with 51 seconds left in the quarter.

In an impressive final quarter Hamilton tallied the first three goals of the final quarter to take a 10-7 lead. With 3:01 remaining, Josh Trachtenberg '15 cut the lead to two before Hamilton scored again. Trachtenberg hit one more goal with 53 seconds left, but Skidmore was unable to get any closer as the Continentals held on for an 11-9 win.

Connolly and Perlow each finished with two goals and an assist, while Sullivan and Trachtenberg finished with two goals apiece for the Thoroughbreds. Ryan Paradis '12 won 15-of-24 face-offs and picked up a game-high eight ground balls. Matt Diaco '14 took the loss as he made 14 saves on 25 shots.

While the Thoroughbreds held a slight 31-30 advantage in ground balls, the Continentals had nearly twice as many shots on goal as Skidmore, outshooting the Thoroughbreds 54-28. This loss reduces Skidmore below .500 for a 5-6 record.

The Thoroughbreds have the opportunity to break even as they host Clarkson in Liberty League action this Saturday at 5 p.m.

#1.2847647:2035020133.JPG:Men's lacrosse vs. hamilton 3/11/12

Sean Fosse '15 attacks the Hamilton offense in Wednesday's 11-9 home loss.

Isabelle Young '15/ The Skidmore News



Spring Elections Round III underway

Candidates advocate their platforms at a Speech Night held in Davis Auditorium

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Fri, Apr 13, 2012

Approximately 50 students gathered on April 11 in Davis Auditorium to listen to 40 candidates advocate for positions in the Student Government Association. It was the third round of the spring elections this semester, with the previous round's results released on March 30.

Raiza Nazareth '12, vice president of Communications and Outreach, hosted the event, as is traditional for her position. Amanda Seres '14, who will fill Nazareth's position next semester, also attended.

Candidates gave a three-minute speech on their goals and experiences, and the audience had the opportunity to ask them questions. Several groups, such as the 10 students who ran for senator-at-large positions, underwent the question-and-answer session together.

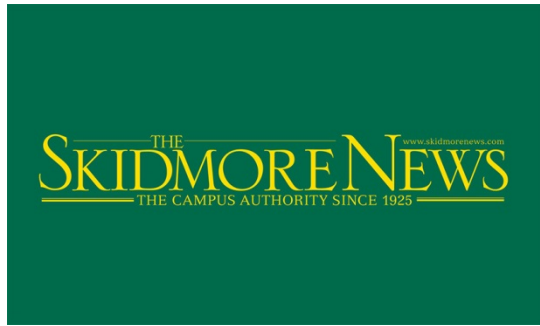
Although many of the candidates are running unopposed, there are several contested positions in this round's elections, including president and secretary of the Class of 2015.

Allan Brown '15, Marcella Jewell '15 and Soraya Attia '15 are all running for class president.

Jewell is a tour guide on campus, writes for *The Skidmore News* and has an online food blog called "This Skid Kid Grills." She emphasized how these experiences have given her a direct relationship with the College community. Jewell said she wants to redefine "class unity," encouraging students to share their passions and creating a supportive and open-minded class in a comfortable environment. She would like to encourage relationships between students and the SGA, compromising with the SGA to resolve the limitations on students' abilities to use resources on campus and to support student interests.

Brown, a self-proclaimed "idea-bringer" said he will support his or someone else's idea until it becomes a reality, and that one of his major campaigns would be to give all members of the student body access to the College's resources, such as the wood shop and music equipment, even if these interests lie outside of their designated majors. He would also like to create events students cannot ignore, such as adding a projector on the red side of the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall with Skidmore-related commercials.

Attia is the current president of the Class of 2015 and, as such, helped plan the class unity event this semester, which more than 150 first-years attended. She has experience in planning other events, such as the Wild Wild West weekend, and said she serves as an active voice on the Senate. She would like to



pursue better study spaces on campus, especially in Case Center, and is working on a proposal with other students to present to the administration regarding the email content presidents can send to their respective classes. She said she would also like to create more focus during Inter-Class Council meetings and is not afraid to speak up and bring peer ideas in front of the Senate.

Lily Rivera '15 and Madeleine Kanazawa '15 are running for the position of class secretary.

Rivera currently serves as the Class of 2015's secretary, and encouraged continuity as part of her campaign. She said she would like to help plan events that create a fun environment on the weekend, including future class unity trips.

Kanazawa said she would like to help the College become a more improved and safe environment, as well as aid her class in uniting through the organization of more events. Kanazawa could not be present at Speech Night, addressing students via proxy, who, because of this, were not allowed to ask the candidates questions.

The candidates for senator at large positions:

Sam Harris '15 has interacted with Senate before through his role as coach of the Skidmore Quidditch team and wanted to become further involved as a senator. He would like to serve on the Budget & Finance and Club Affairs committees. He said one of his strengths is he knows how to work with other people through his involvement in various clubs.

Evan Friedler '13 has served on the Inter-Hall Board for the past two years as a hall president. He said he sees the Senate as the heart of the issues on campus and the system best able to affect change. He would like to serve on the Budget & Finance and Communications & Outreach committees.

Kojo Amarteyfio '15 is a member of the Committee of Diversity Affairs and a reporter for *The Skidmore News*. He would like to push for more CODA activity amongst the student body. He also said he wants to change the ways in which people think about diversity and make dialogues more available to the community, moving beyond the sharing of personal stories that can be difficult for everyone to relate to.

Brittany Dingler '15 has sat on Senate before and has spoken with Seres about a new program that would combine the efforts of the Saratoga community, Benef-Action and students to increase passion for community service on campus. She also said she wants to help first-years become more involved in leadership positions and increase the amount of communication between peer mentors and first-year seminars.

Tami Cohen '13 said she has been interested in serving on the SGA since her first-year, but was unable to participate due to scheduling conflicts. Among her goals, she would like to bring more sustainability onto campus by supporting a water bottle free campaign and serve on the Committee of Diversity Affairs.

Britt Dorfman '14 has sat on the Inter-Hall Board for the past three semesters as vice president of Kimball and wanted to become more connected to the Senate. She would like to increase the transparency between the SGA and the student body, and strengthen the connection between the College and the Saratoga community. One of her goals is to increase the Scribner Library hours so that it will stay open later, as it does on Wednesdays until 2 a.m.

Joe Matake '15 said he has always been a fan of the College traditions and would like to create more, such as a Skidmore handshake or cheer, in order to promote unity and community amongst the student body even after graduation. He also said he would like to try to change how students are housed in dorms to reflect whether they prefer a loud or a quiet working environment.

William (HB) Heidepriem-Baird '14 has had experience in the US Senate and the SGA Senate, and plans to promote sustainability along with increasing the communication between the SGA and student-run clubs and organizations. He would like to sit on the Diversity Affairs and Budget & Finance committees. He said he would also like to increase sustainability on campus by turning off the lights in the Scribner Library and the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall after a late hour, such as 3 a.m.

The majority of the candidates in this election are uncontested, with students running for positions on the Inter-Hall Board, the Senate and the Inter-Class Council:

Jess Dunning '15 is running for sustainability senator, a new position on Senate established this semester.

Hannah DeGraaf '15 is running for president of Penfield

Nick Toker '15 is running for vice president of Penfield

Lauren Scauzzo '15 is running for president of Wait.

Nile Nair '15 is running for vice president of Wait and class treasurer.

Madeleine Kanazawa '15 is running for president of Jonsson Tower, in addition to the contested position of class secretary.

Jarred Green '15 is running for vice president of Jonsson Tower and social chair for the Class of 2015.

Andrew Lowy '15 is running for president of Howe-Rounds.

Erik Morrison '15 is running for president of Kimball.

Sibo Gama '15 is running for president of McClellan.

Joe Matake '15 is running for vice president of McClellan, in addition to a senator at large position.

Sam Harris '15 is running for vice president of Wilmarth in addition to a Senator at Large position.

Will Wygal '13 is running for vice president of his class.

Evelyn Canela '13 is running for class treasurer.

Nicole Cox '13 is running for class secretary.

Meaghan Yolles '13 is running for social chair for the Class of 2013.

Laura Venner '14 is running for class president.

William (HB) Heidepriem-Baird '14 is running for vice president of his class in addition to a Senator at Large position.

Jess Sonnenfeld '14 is running for class treasurer.

Noam Yossefy '15 is running for vice president of the Class of 2015.

Z Steinhauer '13 is running for the Speaker's Bureau Chair.

Taylor Dafoe '13 is running for chair of the Student Entertainment Committee.

Donald Duff '13 is running for vice president for Financial Affairs.

Students also may vote on three proposed amendments to the SGA constitution. These amendments will add the SGA president to the Committee on Diversity Affairs, convert two Tradition Committee positions to Senate requirements, and update the constitution to reflect current SGA practices.

Voting will take place all day April 12 and the SGA will announce the results the next day on Friday, April 13. Students may vote [online](https://hudson.skidmore.edu/student/voting) or at a voting station in the Atrium, the SGA office and the Residence Halls.

Editorial: Make Falstaff's a bar

A campus bar would create a unifying social space and alleviate safety concerns

By the Editorial Board

On Sat, Apr 14, 2012

Nearly two years after the College dissolved the Pavilion Corporation, the legal entity responsible for managing Falstaff's, the facility has remained largely unchanged. As the anniversary of Pavilion's dissolution approaches, it is time to reconsider the role of Falstaff's within the Skidmore community, and to again call for a return to its original purpose as an on-campus bar.

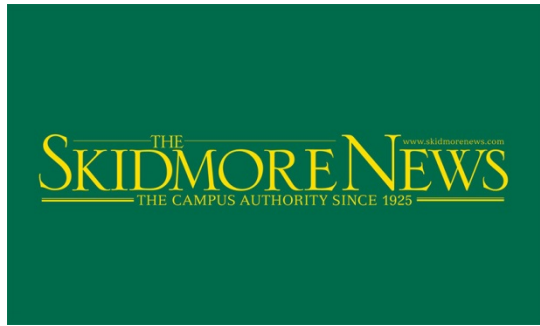
Falstaff's was, of course, originally conceived of as a campus pub. Because the Student Government Association did not have the legal status necessary to fund or build such a facility, Pavilion Corp. was established as a certified New York State not-for-profit with a Board of Directors made up of students, staff and faculty, which would oversee Falstaff's.

During the facility's design and construction, however, the national drinking age was raised to 21, previously 19 in New York State. As a result, the College chose to finish the building, but not to maintain it as a bar. Without a liquor license for Falstaff's, student involvement in Pavilion Corp. declined, and Falstaff's was left in the odd state of limbo in which it has existed until today.

Now, this semester has seen lively debate over the College's new and unpopular Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) policy. The College has gone to great lengths to restrict consumption on campus, under the auspices of protecting student safety and enforcing national laws regarding underage drinking.

The policy makes certain concessions that allow of-age students to host registered parties in on-campus apartments, but regulations require that these remain intimate gatherings. With a rare few exceptions - some events, like Junior Ring, feature a beer garden - there are no activities on campus that allow of-age students to openly consume alcohol in a room with more than 30 people.

But the lack of such a space, a controlled environment where of-age students can socialize and drink on campus, obstructs the opportunity for a healthy and safe social scene at Skidmore. Perhaps more effectively than any clause in the AOD policy, a campus bar would alleviate the risks of over-consumption and irresponsibility both on and off campus, while cultivating a new kind of unifying social sphere.



There are, of course, numerous bars in downtown Saratoga Springs, and many students frequent them. But these are public venues where, on the one hand, many other students feel less comfortable, and on the other, animosity persists between irresponsible students and the businesses and residents of Saratoga. An on-campus bar would be a much safer and more welcoming place for students.

Such a facility is far from uncommon among the College's peer and aspirant schools. Vassar College and Connecticut College not only have bars on campus, they house them within the schools' respective student centers. Skidmore students studying abroad in, say, London or Oxford, witness how campus bars both channel students' social energies in a more controlled setting and improve the social scene of the campus at large.

The most immediate concern regarding such a move would be how to make sure the bar would be safe and secure. Commonly, a college bar sets a limit to how many drinks one student may order to prevent any event from descending into a mess; Skidmore's Campus Safety would of course be a central part of any working arrangement. How much simpler would it be for our officers to monitor students right before their eyes, rather than hover around dorms and apartments where drinking takes place exclusively "underground"?

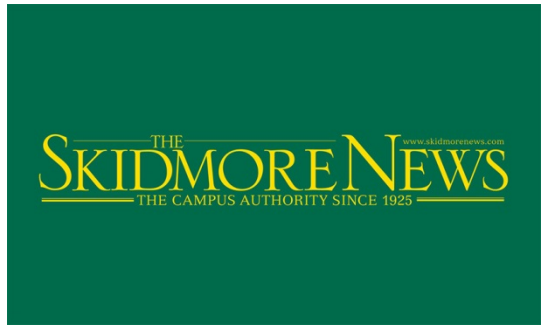
At the moment Saratoga Springs is dealing with [an influx of fake IDs](http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/string-of-false-ids-uncovered-in-saratoga-springs-1.2844087), but the College is uniquely equipped to avoid such issues were it to have its own bar. Skidmore already issues Student Event cards for use at the few events a year where alcohol is served; this offers a college-verified means for preventing underage drinking. It is also worth noting that, unlike driver's licenses, there exists no cottage industry devoted to forging Skidmore student IDs.

In speaking with *The Skidmore News*, Dean of Students Rochelle Calhoun accepted these points and others, and noted that the administration's subcommittee on Campus Climate and Student Culture are discussing an exploration of founding a bar on campus. "I am open to that exploration, for that kind of safe space. That committee will be putting such an idea forward as an exploration," she said.

This vision of a campus bar, therefore, is not outside the realm of possibility. For the sake of a safe and centralized social experience for the Skidmore community, it is time to consider the value of bringing Falstaff's back to its roots and pushing for an on-campus pub.

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Meredith Simonds/*The Skidmore News*



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image courtesy of Bill Streeter





Restaurant Review: Country Corner

The pancakes are worth it

By Tegan O'Neill, Columnist

On Sat, Apr 14, 2012

It is no secret that Country Corner Cafe does a good breakfast. On any given weekend morning, the place is swarming with people who know how good the homestyle cooking is, and others who will soon find out.

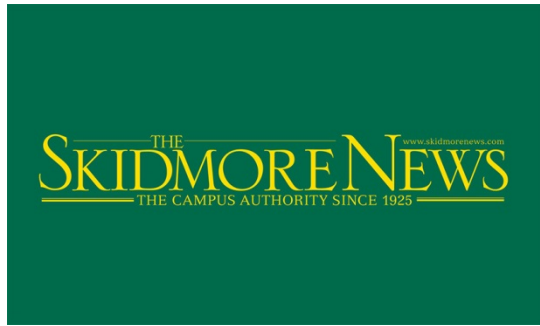
Waiting for a table is just one of Country Corner's charms. It is not for lack of space, though, that customers must write their names on a whiteboard and watch the seconds tick into minutes before a table becomes available. There are two dining rooms - one is open and airy, akin to a farm house b&b, and the other is small and stuffy, akin to a small town dinner. We sat in the former.

Looking around at the kitsch mounted on the walls, the hardwood floors and the cream colored dining ware, it seems that the name Country Corner could not be more fitting. The clink of spoons against coffee mugs and the buzz of conversation between friends constitute the café's cheery soundtrack.

The service was slow, and I would not have minded a speedier refill on my coffee, but this shortcoming can certainly be forgiven. It was a busy Sunday morning; all of the waitresses were obviously doing their best to keep things on track. Our waitress, despite the frenzied pace at which she was running, graciously took the time to answer our questions concerning the menu and bring us extra plates and little containers of real maple syrup.

Another cup of coffee was not necessary anyway. Country Corner is not the type of place that you expect to have good coffee, although it's practically obligatory to order it nevertheless. At this sort of breakfast joint, the java is just a liquid to wash down with the meal - especially handy if said meal contains that magnificent substance otherwise known as peanut butter.

Jars of Saratoga Peanut Butter Company Peanut Butter are on sale in the waiting area-cum-gift shop, but the substance can also be found in smaller quantities beneath two thick pieces of french toast, squeezed between the homemade strawberry jam and slices of banana. The strawberry jam is a homemade concoction that is so good it borders on addictive. The PBJ Cristo turns boring brown bag lunch fare into a fun breakfast treat. Spectacularly sticky peanut butter meets sweet jam beneath cushiony egg battered french toast. It oozes jam as it is cut into, and when bitten into, the peanut butter skids and



sticks to the roof of your mouth. The breakfast version of this sandwich is more satisfying than its lunchtime inspiration

Sadly, the Florentine Benedict with baby spinach and roasted red peppers was nothing special. The poached egg was beautiful and the English muffin was fine (quite soft and easy to bite into), but I was expecting something more exciting. I could not taste the hollandaise sauce at all, which is usually the best part. The red pepper was great because, for one, I could actually taste it, but also the size of the medium dice nuggets packed each bite with a perfect amount of pleasurable punch.

The fried oatmeal is worth a try if you are up for a breakfast experience off the beaten path. The concoction sounds more bizarre (and unhealthy) than it actually is. As our waitress kindly explained, fried oatmeal is made by first mixing the oatmeal and its accompanying ingredients (in this case, apricots and cranberries). The oatmeal is then packed into a loaf pan and chilled. After the oatmeal has congealed, it is sliced into hefty portions the size and shape of Texas Toast and then slapped on the grill for a little frying action. The end result is not all that different from the standard bowl of oatmeal. True to form, the oatmeal is grainy and moist and not all that sweet without the help of some syrup. The one advantage to trying the fried oatmeal is the chance to sink your teeth into yummy gummy apricots - a food seldom showcased on menus.

The pancakes are an absolute must. I had the banana pecan and the cranberry walnut. Three adjectives - fluffy, thick, pillow - say it all. The banana pancakes were not overwhelmingly flavored by banana. In most bites, I hardly tasted the starchy tropical fruit. The flavor was faint and hardly distracting. It just added a thin layer of dimension. The rare (but welcome) whole slice of banana ushered in a whoosh of flavor mixing things up before the pancake could get dull. Packed with walnuts and bursting with berries, these pancakes are ready to rock and roll. Apart from the nuts and fruit, the pancakes are honest-to-goodness good pancakes. The finished product stays true to the

I definitely plan on going back to Country Corner. Plain and simple: the pancakes stole my heart away. I have to go back for more.

#1.2848441:388941488.jpg:PBJ

Spectacularly sticky peanut butter meets sweet jam beneath cushiony egg battered french toast.

Sarah Weitzman/ The Skidmore News

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Oatmeal is oatmeal.

Country Corner's fried oatmeal provides a textural twist to the traditional oatmeal breakfast.

Sarah Weitzman/ The Skidmore News





Review: Kung Fu brings their lethal funk to the Putnam Den

By Dale Obbie, Staff Writer

On Sat, Apr 14, 2012

Pulsing with lights, smoke and funky music, the Putnam Den took a brief trip through time on April 5, traveling back to the early 1970s - back to the era when bands like Weather Report and the Headhunters reigned supreme. Hailing from New Haven, CT, the newly formed jazz-fusion band Kung Fu dealt its whirlwind of fusion music blow-by-blow to a crowd of both dedicated fans and unsuspecting newcomers.

Lethal funk is the phrase most often used to describe Kung Fu's music by both critics and the band itself. And there's no wonder why: it's a pithy summary of the elements that mix to form its distinctive sound. Combining jazz-based improvisation with the hard edge of rock, the groove of funk and the throb of electronica, the band's music is as sophisticated as it is downright dirty, as cerebral as it is instinctively dance-provoking.

The band opened with the steamroller "Gung Ho," a complex tour de force with ferocious drive. But what makes "Gung Ho" distinctively "Kung Fu" is its breakneck dance beat - the unrelenting rhythm that catapulted the show forward from the start.

Next was "Bopcorn," another aptly named song, whose title brings to mind the funkiness of James Brown's "The Popcorn," as well as the technical complexity of bebop. And rightly so: guitarist Tim Palmieri and saxophonist Rob Somerville played a tightly synchronized yet trapezing melody reminiscent of Charlie Parker's "Donna Lee," while bassist Dave Livolsi, drummer Adrian Tramontano and keyboardist Todd Stoops laid a foundation of funk underneath their melodic acrobatics.

Then, taking a break from their funky onslaught, the band members slid into a downbeat blues song. It was a refreshing break from the intensity of the first two songs, and evidence that Kung Fu knows the worth in the occasional laidback groove. Nonetheless, their blues jam didn't lack the jazzy flourishes that give life to their other songs.

"Alright, let's take a shot," said Somerville, passing around shot glasses to his grinning band mates. Refreshed, they played a flawless cover of Weather Report's "Teen Town." Livolsi played blindingly fast Jaco Pastorius bass licks, while Stoops added a spacy synth overlay. As the song reached its climax, Palmieri shredded during a totally uninhibited finger-tapping guitar solo, taking the jazz-rock classic to new heights.

"Chakrabarty Overdrive," as its title suggests, was yet another supercharged juggernaut of a song. The powerhouse combination of Livolsi's thunderous bass playing and Tramontano's aggressive drumming drove the song along at a superhuman pace. Meanwhile, Stoops bent pitches on his clavinet, using melismas and Middle Eastern modes to add yet another element to the fusion of styles. "That's a song about this guy named Chakrabarty who used to be in a band with me...He's from India!" laughed Palmieri.

"This next song is called 'Letters from Bobby Portugal,' added Palmieri. "It's like a journey in a sailboat to Portugal." Indeed it was: the song had a tropical feel and featured some mellow and richly textured guitar playing from Palmieri.

Covering Billy Cobham's "Stratus" - another '70s-era jazz-fusion classic - they sounded as if they were true fusion veterans themselves. Livolsi grooved on a repetitive rhythmic figure while Palmieri played a dissonant, brain-probing guitar solo. The song became so heated that several people in the crowd began moshing around - a testament to the heaviness of Kung Fu's sound, which sometimes adopts elements of metal in its flexible fusion of styles.

"Sometimes you gotta bring it," said Somerville as they returned to play an encore. It was an explosive funk song and the pinnacle of their performance's momentous energy. With each hand on a different keyboard, Stoops played with percussive precision, layering organ and synth sounds on top of one another. Somerville played a colorful sax solo, ending the night just as they had started it - with everybody dancing.

NBA Talk: The Return of the Lakers?

After a failed three-peat in 2011, the Lakers showed Wednesday that they can still win it all

By Andrew Shi, Sports Editor

On Sat, Apr 14, 2012

The Lakers surprised everyone on Wednesday when they defeated the Spurs 98-84. What was surprising was not that the Lakers beat the Spurs but that they beat the Spurs when the Spurs' big three had taken the previous night off against the Jazz and were well rested, and when Kobe Bryant was out with a shin injury.

After being swept by the Mavericks last year in the playoffs, it seemed that the Lakers' reign might be over. This year they traded away their starting guard and co-captain, Derek Fisher, to the Thunder, traded their sixth-man-of-the-year Lamar Odom to the Mavericks, and almost traded All-Star Pau Gasol, all in hopes of acquiring Chris Paul, which did not happen. Perhaps even more monumental, their coach Phil Jackson retired and was replaced with Mike Brown whose leadership and capabilities were immediately questioned by players and fans alike

Their troubles didn't end with NBA Commissioner David Stern blocking the Chris Paul deal. Their forward Ron Artest returned as Metta World Peace which reflected his new lethargic and borderline non-existent offense. Their star center Andrew Bynum also missed the first two games for technical fouls he had incurred during the playoffs.

Kobe is Kobe though, and currently leading the league in scoring, he has heavily assisted, if not carried, the team to their current third place slot in the West. This is all not to say he didn't have help. Bynum is third in the league for rebounds, which gave him All-Star status. Unfortunately his performance has been less than consistent, and his attitude even more fickle. The pickup of Ramon Sessions from Cleveland has also added a beat to the offense.

Lastly, despite the fact that the Lakers were desperately trying to trade him away in the Chris Paul deal, Pau Gasol's offensive and defensive playing has been impressive and crucial as he averages 18.8 ppg, and 10.2 rebounds. His free throw percentage is also at a career best at .823.

The Lakers were never counted out of the playoffs - it was just noted that there were better teams. Wednesday though, the Lakers showed a depth and capability that questioned that last theory. Metta World Peace perhaps astonished the most as he took over the leading role that Kobe left behind. With

an average of only 7.1 points per game, World Peace logged in 26 points and shot 67 percent. The bench also showed much more liveliness, as Matt Barnes scored 13 and Steve Blake added 10.

It wasn't so much the Lakers' offense that impressed, since they scored only 1.5 more than their average, but rather their defense. While the Lakers on average allow 94.65 points per game, they kept the Spurs at 84. This defense can be solely explained by the 60 rebounds they pulled down, eliminating second chances for the Spurs and giving their own team some. With an average of 46 rebounds per game, an additional 14 rebounds can make more than the difference it did in the score for the Lakers.

The Lakers also put up a superb 3 point percentage, hitting 11 of their 23 attempts for a 47.8 percent. This can be attributed to World Peaces' 5-8 and the 5-10 between Barnes and Blake.

If only the Lakers could play like this every game. Perhaps the only thing that is stopping them is the man who made the modern Lakers and led the team to two championships in 2009 and 2010. Kobe is known for taking over games, but that has become a habit now. This has intimidated other players - namely Metta World Peace, who has been forced him into a marginal role instead of being allowed to hit those threes.

This is not to say Kobe is what's wrong with the team - it's far from that. Kobe just needs to give up a few points and pass the ball to someone who might have the better shot.

The other improvement needed is on the issue mentioned before - that of attitude adjustments. This is mostly targeted at Andrew Bynum, who is known for his flagrant fouls and odd behavior. Bynum needs to grow up, because anyone who can pull down 30 rebounds over Tim Duncan should be the best center in the league. Metta World Peace is not off the hook either, as his name is not the only thing wrong with him this season - his playing has been almost as inconsistent as Bynum's mood.

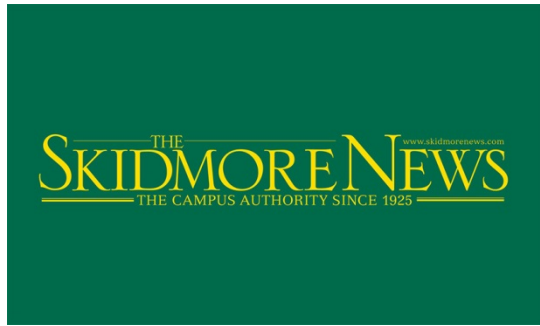
The Lakers have all the pieces to win the Championship, they just need to fully recognize their roles on the team and some of them need to be given a dose of reality to drain those adverse affects of fame from their heads.

#1.2848403:1272291262.jpg Lakers vs. Spurs 3/11

Andrew Bynum pulls down one of his thirty rebounds in the Lakers' win Wednesday against the Spurs.

D. Clarke Evans/NBAE/Getty Images





Results of the SGA spring elections round III

SGA announces the results of this week's student elections

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Sat, Apr 14, 2012

The results of the SGA Round III spring elections.

On Friday, April 13, the Student Government Association announced the results of this week's Student Government elections, in which 40 student candidates ran for positions on the Inter-Class Council, the Inter-Hall Board, and the SGA Executive Board. 499 students participated in this election.

Election Results:

Inter-Class Council:

Class of 2013 Secretary: Nicole Cox '13: 84, Abstain: 13, No Confidence: 1

Class of 2013 Social Chair: Meaghan Yolles '13: 91, Abstain: 7, No Confidence: 3

Class of 2013 Treasurer: Evelyn Canela '13: 83, Abstain: 11, No Confidence: 4

Class of 2013 Vice President: Will Wygal '13: 85, Abstain: 10, No Confidence: 4

Class of 2014 President: Laura Venner '14: 85, Abstain: 15, No Confidence: 7

Class of 2014 Treasurer: Jess Sonnenfeld '14: 83, Abstain: 16, No Confidence: 7

Class of 2014 Vice President: William (HB) Heidepriem-Baird '14: 80, Abstain: 20, No Confidence: 5

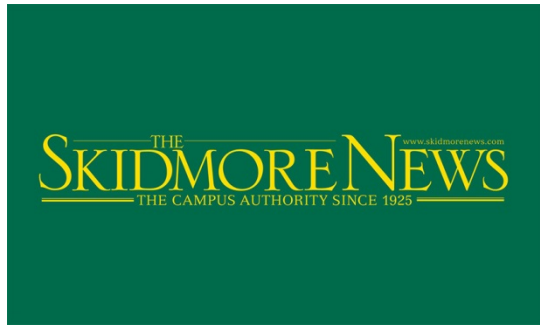
Class of 2015 President: Soraya Attia '15: 109, Allan Brown '15: 57, Marcella Jewell '15: 43, Abstain: 4, No Confidence: 6

Class of 2015 Secretary: Liliana (Lily) Rivera '15: 96, Madeleine Kanazawa '15: 78, Abstain: 38, No Confidence: 2

Inter-Hall Board:

Howe-Rounds President: Andrew Lowy '15: 372, Abstain: 81, No Confidence: 12

Jonsson Tower President: Madeleine Kanazawa '15: 376, Abstain: 75, No Confidence: 14



Jonsson Tower Vice President: Jarred Green '15: 388, Abstain: 72, No Confidence: 8

Kimball President: Erik Morrison '15: 386, Abstain: 69, No Confidence: 16

McClellan President : Sibonginkhos (Sibo) Gama '15: 386, Abstain: 72, No Confidence: 8

McClellan Vice President : Tshediso (Joe) Matake '15: 380, Abstain: 74, No Confidence: 11

Penfield President: Hannah DeGraaf '15: 382, Abstain: 78, No Confidence: 11

Penfield Vice President: Nick Toker '15: 373, Abstain: 85, No Confidence: 10

Wait President: Lauren Scauzzo '15: 363, Abstain: 90 No Confidence: 11

Wait Vice President: Nile Nair '15: 393, Abstain: 67, No Confidence: 11

Wilmarth Vice President: Sam Harris '15: 386, Abstain: 67, No Confidence: 14

SGA Senate:

SEC Chair: Taylor DaFoe '13: 367, Abstain: 86, No Confidence: 20

Senators at Large: Sam Harris '15: 277, Kojo Amarteyfio '15: 263, William (HB) Heidepriem-Baird '14: 248, Eva Friedler '13: 247, Tshediso (Joe) Matake '15: 245, Tami Cohen '13: 234, Britt Dorfman '14: 231, Dingler '15: 227, Doug Hamilton '13: 221 and Emil Paull '13: 211, Abstain: 25, No Confidence: 7

Speakers Bureau Chair: Alexandra (Z) Steinhauer '13: 368, Abstain: 91, No Confidence: 13

Sustainability Senator: Jessica Dunning '15: 367, Abstain: 79, No Confidence: 23

Vice President for Financial Affairs: Donald Duff '13: 372, Abstain: 79, No Confidence: 20

In addition, voters approved all three amendments to the Student Government Association constitution.

Constitutional Amendment #1: Yes: 450, No: 22

In addition, voters approved all three amendments to the Student Government Association constitution.

Constitutional Amendment #1: Yes: 450, No: 22

Constitutional Amendment #2: Yes: 441, No: 25

Constitutional Amendment #3: Yes: 439, No: 20

"Walk of Solidarity" takes students' voices downtown

Students march down Broadway and Caroline Street to speak against identity-based harassment

By Brendan James, Editor-in-Chief

On Sat, Apr 14, 2012

On Friday at 3 p.m. students in front of Case Center could be seen unraveling a large banner declaring "We all have the right to feel safe."

Within a few minutes, around 40 students and some administration began the "Walk of Solidarity" down Broadway to Caroline Street, chanting against perceived harassment of students and Saratoga residents when downtown.

"Whose streets? Our streets!" the crowd hollered as they marched down Broadway, met with occasional honks and waves from residents in their cars. Cameramen from CBS News weaved through the stream of attendants as an anchor narrated the proceedings.

The attendants of the "Walk of Solidarity" identified their purpose as a response to persistent harassment and verbal assault downtown due to individuals' "racial, sexual, or gender identity," according to the official statement of the College's Center for Sex and Gender Relations. The students' chants were read from print outs and listed advice for vulnerable students as well as potential aggressors.

"This is a struggle for human rights and respect," said Eric Moretti '14. "I have had friends who've been verbally assaulted."

Addressing the perceived hostility to certain minorities in downtown Saratoga, Moretti added, "to me it doesn't matter if there's an actual incident downtown - people feel unsafe. This is an idea that we're trying to inject into people minds."

Besides students, also on the "Walk" were Dean of Students Rochelle Calhoun and Andrea Wise of the Office of Communications.

Calhoun remarked that she was there to stand in solidarity with students. "Students sometimes feel uncomfortable downtown, I recognize that. Also, as a Saratogian I know we are a community that seeks to address such issues," she said.

"I think that even if there isn't an incident there is still a feeling, and that's what we're looking to address," she added.

The organizers of the "Walk" were Caleb Stoeffler '12 and Rachel Bowen '14, both head peer advocates of the Center for Sex and Gender Relations, and Lex Curry '12 a peer advocate.

The organizers chose not to link their march with any particular incidents concerning such alienation. Curry noted that such an idea had been brought up at the beginning of the semester, and that the initial sources concerning the feeling of alienation downtown were exit interviews from last year's senior class.

However, several onlookers and attendants noted that the event came on the heels of a recent Skidmore student initiative directed at perceived Putnam Den. In that instance, Skidmore's sex magazine, B.A.R.E., organized a "takeover" of Putnam Den due to what the editors alleged to be the bar's unsafe atmosphere for the LGBT community.

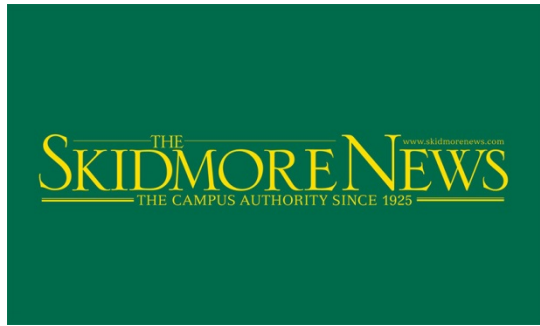
Some students marching contrasted Friday's "Walk" with the "Queerin' Putnam" initiative.

"The Queering Putnam event had good intentions, but I think muddled intentions," said Tucker Costello '12. "This is a quieter event looking to make this the safe place that most people know Saratoga Springs to be."

An onlooking student who spoke on the condition of anonymity said, "I like this approach today, I think their concerns are valid. But as for some of the recent incidents that were said to be homophobic, I know that there are other explanations for some of them, like underage drinking."

As for the organizers, they felt the event was a success on its own terms. "The turnout was exactly what we expected," said Curry. There was no shortage, they said, of support from administration and faculty in order to bring the event to fruition. "We received a lot of help from Rochelle Calhoun in organizing this," added Stoeffler.

Looking forward, the organizers hope to talk to the city authorities and downtown business about "Queer nights" which would open up a greater space downtown for people identifying as LGBT. Bowen added that the Center had been in touch with the city's Chamber of Commerce and said the city officers have been receptive to students' outreach concerning these questions.

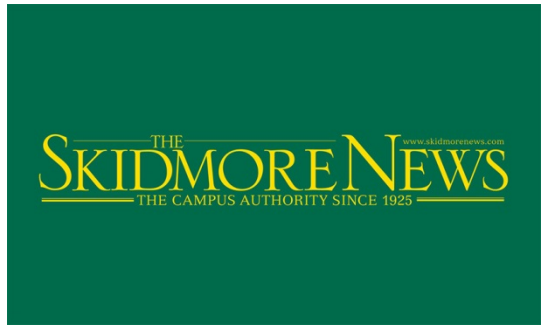


#1.2848409:1043417375.JPG:walk

Skidmore students march up and down Broadway in an effort to raise awareness about hostile relations between students and residents of Saratoga.

Meredith Simonds / The Skidmore News





Investigating Faces 6

By Nat Nagar, Pulp Editor

On Sun, Apr 15, 2012

Alice, Peter and Sir Jack are waiting outside of the movie theatre for their two friends Joanna and Paul. Try and locate Joanna and Paul, who are patiently waiting to join their group of friends.

(Locate their faces, which are hidden amongst the other figures in the image to solve the puzzle. Their faces may be upside down, sideways etc.)

Skidmore re-evaluates its Sexual Misconduct policy

New changes to reflect effective consent under the influence of alcohol

By Lyndsay Stone, Contributing Writer

On Tue, Apr 17, 2012

Recent changes to Skidmore's Sexual Misconduct policy, including to the section concerning effective consent and peer and faculty advocates, demonstrate the College's efforts to foster a safe and communicative social atmosphere on campus.

The Center for Sex and Gender Relations informs students of the policy's specific requirements through "The Insider: A Guide To Sex and Gender at Skidmore," a pamphlet given to all first-year students, is a condensed version of the policy that aims to clearly and succinctly relay the official document's vital messages.

The section concerning effective consent states that direct, assertive communication is the enabler of safe and consensual sexual interactions.

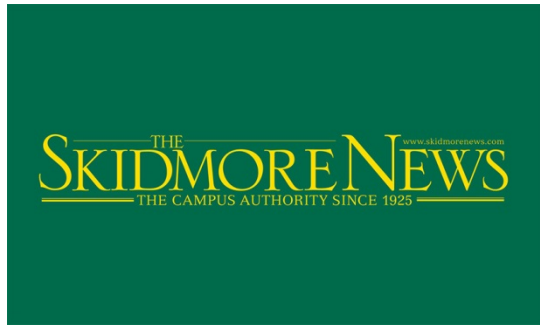
"Effective consent is the crux of the problem," said Lauren O'Donnell, one of the head peer advocates at the Center for Sex and Gender Relations. "Before it was just 'no means no, yes means yes.'"

The policy now directly addresses this communication when affected by the consumption of alcohol, a common component of sexual interaction. According to the pamphlet, someone is not in a position to give or gain consent if he/she is "severely intoxicated," "unaware of his/her surroundings" or "physically helpless" - three common side effects that occur alongside "going out" at the College.

The new policy emphasizes more than just affirming or negating a request. Each participant must dictate exactly what he/she would like to do, how, where and for how long. These statements cannot be communicated while in a state of inebriation. If they are, the policy considers the consent ineffective.

In response to an acquaintance rape that occurred on campus on March 25, Campus Safety hung up fliers throughout campus alerting students and faculty of the incident.

The fliers read "No Means No" in large letters and included a short summary of the incident. O'Donnell said the Center is working closely with members of the Sexual Assault Task Force, Campus Safety, Dean of Students Rochelle Calhoun and Director of Health Promotions Jennifer McDonald to ensure future fliers reflect the changes to the policy.



“No means no’ fails to stress the importance of effective consent and is very negative,” O’Donnell said.

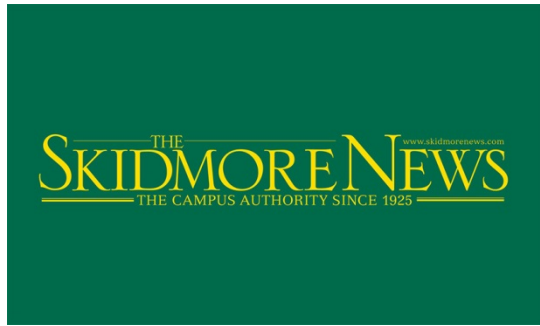
The revamped policy calls for a Deputy Title XI Coordinator to assist those affected by sexual assault. Appointed last semester to fulfill this position, Director of Student Diversity Programs Mariel Martin is the go-to person for both the survivor and the accused. If the survivor wishes to pursue the encounter in court, Martin is the primary resource for both the student and the Center during the process.

In addition to Martin’s new position, the new policy alterations assign a campus advisor, who is a trained member of the faculty, to both the survivor and the accused. Previously, the policy only required an advocate for the survivor.

Additionally, the Center was just recently approved as the only anonymous peer-to-peer resource on campus. When approached for help by either a survivor or the accused, peer advocates need not report more than the date and location of the incident. They are also no longer required to report to Campus Safety.

These changes stem from the desire to make the post-scenario process as emotionally and logistically concise as possible, according to O’Donnell, who said the goal is to have the process remain under 45 days.

The College is being very aware and taking huge strides toward improvement, O’Donnell said.



Registration now online after a four-day hiatus

Registrar says the system will function as expected for the Class of 2015 on Thursday

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Wed, Apr 18, 2012

Registration for fall 2012 courses began on April 10, but the new system shut down just two days later after multiple technical problems occurred while students tried to register for classes.

Registrar announced the system would be operational again at 1 p.m. April 16, and since that time there have been no new problems with the server. Students from the Class of 2013 and 2014 may complete their registration, and the Class of 2015 will register on Thursday, April 19.

"We anticipated that the system would slow down during peak times, but did not expect it to crash," Interim Registrar David DeConno said. "The feedback we received from students during simulations was that the system was fairly easy to navigate, and that has proved to be true."

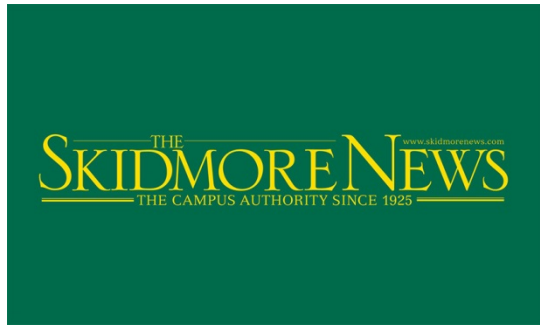
Registrar instigated a new system this year to replace the old Oracle one, which had been in place since 2005. According to Chief Technology Officer Justin Sipher, Oracle announced two years ago that it would discontinue its product, support for which would end in 2013.

"We began a selection process for the new system and ultimately selected Banner," Sipher said, referring to the new system employed by the College. "It's a comprehensive solution that is used by hundreds of college and universities across the country, including other liberal arts colleges such as Vassar, Colgate, Dickinson, Middlebury, Wellesley and many others."

The College initiated the 18-month implementation process, and the system went live for the first time last fall for the admissions recruitment process for the incoming Class of 2016. "Registration last week was the first time current students used the new system," Sipher said.

Along with the loss of a planning sheet, the other major change students faced with the new system was that each class would register at the same time, unlike in previous years, when students were divided into smaller groups and assigned staggered time slots.

"We looked into how other Banner schools were handling their time slots and also sought advice from their consultants," DeConno said. "We found that other similarly-sized schools handled registration by class year. Our choices were to set priority based on number of earned credits, alphabetically, or by class



year. By allowing students in a particular class year to log in at the same time, everyone has a chance at the courses they want. In the past, the students in the last groupings knew for a fact that they would be closed out of many of those classes. At least they have a chance now."

Registrar and the Information Technology department worked with the system vendor to copy the registration database to a test system and use it to run successful registration simulations over the past month.

"The Banner system is the most complex system we have," Sipher said. "Its multiple servers, multiple databases and millions of lines of code all configured to map to our academic and business processes including course registration. An issue regarding the configuration of the databases was changed and this change is what we now believe will have it function as desired."

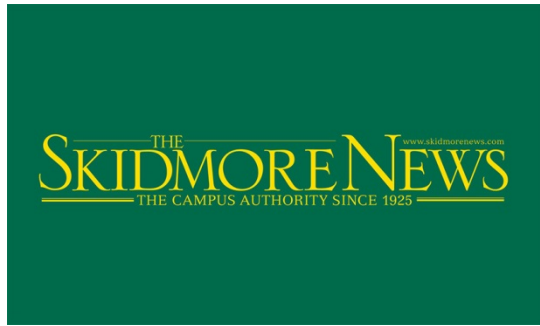
Many students received errors while trying to register for classes, and found that the system slowed down especially when dealing with upper-level courses with prerequisites.

"We received a number of calls and students visiting Harder 101," DeConno said, referring to where Registrar was stationed during registration. "Most of the questions were concerning the system performance issues. All other calls pertained to the normal problems with holds and prerequisites that we see every semester."

"Registrar shut down the system on April 12 once it determined it could not fix the problem while registration was open," Sipher said, adding that the IT department worked with the software company to diagnose and fix the problem, keeping the system off-line over the weekend for a thorough analysis.

After the system shut down, approximately 1,000 of the 1,150 students from the classes of 2013 and 2014 eligible to register had enrolled in at least one course, according to DeConno. 800 students registered for 12 or more credits and approximately 290 had fewer than 12 credits. DeConno said these numbers were not very different from past semesters.

Registration is ongoing, and students in need of assistance may visit the Registrar's Office on the fourth floor of Palamountain or call extension 5710.



Skidmore Softball team presents \$2,000 to the Gargiso Foundation

The organization, inspired by the sibling of a softball team member, funds cancer research and care

By Andy Shi, Sports Editor

On Thu, Apr 19, 2012

On Saturday April 7, the Skidmore Softball team presented a check for more than \$2,000 to the Andrew J. Gargiso Foundation, an organization dedicated to raising money for cancer research and care.

The Andrew J. Gargiso Foundation was founded in 1999 in honor of Andrew J. Gargiso, who, at age 4, was diagnosed and hospitalized with stage four, Burkitt's Lymphoma/Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia.

Gargiso's eventual recovery inspired his parents to create the foundation to alleviate the pain of other cancer patients and provide funds for cancer research.

Gargiso is a healthy 18-year old freshman at the University of Scranton. His sister, Christina Gargiso, is a Skidmore senior on the softball team.

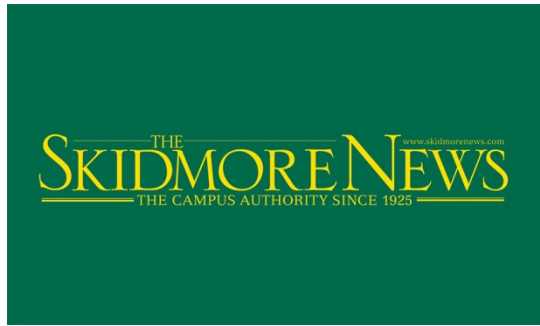
According to the foundation's Facebook page, Gargiso has taken action to help others who suffer from cancer as he once did. His current initiative, dubbed "Exergaming," targets patients, whether currently undergoing treatment or finished, who do not have enough physical activity in their lives.

Exergaming, according to the page, increases physical activity for cancer patients, with the intention of making these patients physically and mentally healthier.

Inspired by Gargiso's story, the Skidmore Softball team in February raised money for the foundation by auctioning off several items, including tickets to see Adam Lambert, the Philadelphia Eagles, Late Night with Jimmy Fallon, and to an assortment of other getaways and events.

"The team donated \$2,350 to the Andrew J. Gargiso Foundation with the intention of helping cancer patients and their parents cope with the pain and suffering," according to Julia Schwartz '13, a member of the team.

To learn more about the Andrew J. Gargiso Foundation, visit their [Facebook page](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Andrew-J-Gargiso-Foundation-Inc/175860655769582?sk=info).



Editorial: On 4/20, give Skidmore the reputation it deserves

By the Editorial Board

On Thu, Apr 19, 2012

Editor's Note: To partake in a survey concerning 4/20 and Skidmore's campus culture, [click here](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3FG5ZZR).

As the counter-cultural holiday of 4/20 draws near, students and administrators are bracing themselves for the anniversary of the College's unfortunate and embarrassing marijuana-related controversy in 2009.

That year's celebration saw a few dozen Skidmore students gathered on the south green openly indulging in drug use. After *The Saratogian* covered the merriment, Skidmore saw its name thrown into the pool of America's recognizable "druggo" schools. The following year, driven by overblown media coverage and an increased perception of marijuana use, Skidmore temporarily rose to the No. 2 position of the Princeton Review's "Reefer Madness" list.

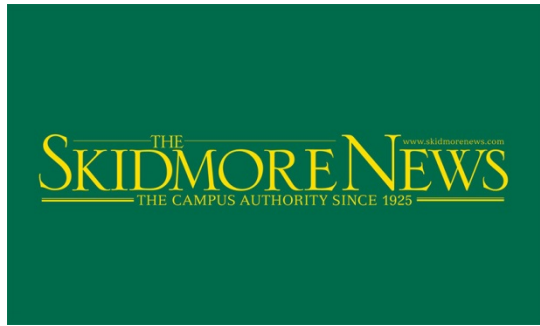
The fumes from that year's event are still lingering. While our ranking has dropped to No. 15 in the "Reefer Madness" category, we should ensure that it continues to do so.

Our grievance with this persisting depiction is that it is an inaccurate portrayal of Skidmore students and our College in general.

Skidmore's continued appearances on these sorts of lists create a self-fulfilling prophecy: because of the heightened perception of marijuana use sparked by the 2009 incident, the school is placed in this category in college rankings, which, in turn, perpetuates the perception.

If anything, the College has earned this ranking only through an inflated perception of drug use as well as the laissez-faire attitude we have towards the choices of our peers rather than our actual consumption.

The truth is, since 2009, 4/20 is increasingly a non-event at Skidmore. Students do not gather in large numbers on the South Green, or any other location, to smoke marijuana. The category name "Reefer Madness" falsely implies that students are in a constant state of drug-induced hysteria. Anyone familiar with Skidmore's campus culture will recognize that portrayal as ridiculous.



If we wanted to draw a more accurate picture, we could say that Skidmore students are simply more tolerant of each other's choices.

This toleration among students should not be confused with an institutional negligence toward drug use. While the student body might live and let live concerning their peers' actions, the College's administration is far from complacent. The [letter](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qM2PRkoPZYi8NOV-QcE5wxRsfDLbyO6bd4YI4TNteag/edit?pli=1) that the student body received from Rochelle Calhoun, dean of Student Affairs, reaffirmed the long-held policy that the College would not tolerate violations of College regulations or the laws of New York State.

Rochelle Calhoun and the administration are taking the right stand on this issue. The letter reiterates the Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) policy from the Student Handbook: "While we understand that students will make their own choices, we also believe that students should experience the consequences of their choices."

We are adults and we deserve to be treated such, which includes taking full responsibility for our actions.

Skidmore College's academics are a source of pride, and the only lists on which we should seek to appear are those that showcase our educational distinctions. We should continue to correct the misapprehension of our College's relation to drugs. When Skidmore students or alumni speak of their alma mater, there should be nothing to distract from its earned reputation of excellence in higher education.

This 4/20, in any action that students take, they should be mindful of the consequences for them and the institution.

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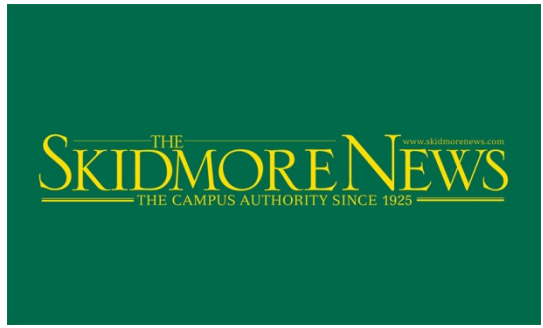
Courtesy of Torben Hansen

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Skidmore's South Green

Meredith Simonds/*The Skidmore News*

#1.2855643:1232464246.JPG:pond



Skidmore's Haupt Pond

Meredith Simonds/*The Skidmore News*

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Skidmore students overlooking the South Green

Meredith Simonds/*The Skidmore News*









Blurbs Overheard! 4/18

By Pulp Editors,
On Thu, Apr 19, 2012

“This kind of tastes like how lotion smells.”

Overheard in the Dining Hall

“How can I pay him back for the pizza, other than money?”

“How about a subtle, over the jeans, cock rub?”

Overheard in Admissions

“That’s a world class booty.”

Overheard in the Dining Hall

“I like love London because it like has like Parks.”

Overheard in Case Center

NBA Talk: Who will take the East?

When the Bulls and Heat likely face off for the Eastern Conference Finals, who will come out on top?

By Andrew Shi, Sports Editor

On Fri, Apr 20, 2012

Come playoffs, the Eastern Conference Finals will end in a showdown between the Chicago Bulls and Miami Heat, and if regular season matches are any indication of the conference results, the Bulls will leave victorious.

Last year, however, the Heat beat the Bulls in six games. So what has changed? Player-wise, not much. For the Bulls the only notable change has been Richard Hamilton for Keith Bogans, but besides that it is the same players. For the Heat there has been some more movement. Rookie Norris Cole has shown potential and Shane Battier has added to their defense. The mid-season pickup of Ronny Turiaf also may prove to be the center the Heat need. Still the team revolves around the big three.

The Heat have shown substantial improvement as a team. They seem much more cohesive and team chemistry is flowing well. NBA daily highlight reels always include at least one alley-oop between Wade and LeBron. The Heat are currently fourth in the league for points scored per game and Wade and LeBron are at the top of the league in points. Still the Heat, as seen in a recent losing streak, are beatable and it is often suspected that in their attempt for team chemistry, Wade and LeBron are holding each other back, and if one left the Heat would do better.

This All-Star conflict doesn't exist in the Bulls. Although there are two current All-Stars on the team (Derrick Rose and Luol Deng) the power of the Bulls doesn't derive from their tremendous offense as it does for the Heat. The reason why the Bulls are the best team in the Eastern Conference, and possibly the league, is because of their overwhelming defense.

Under Thibodeau, a known defensive specialist who was essential in the transformation and championship of the Celtics in 2008, the Bulls are the best in the league for points allowed per game at an average of 88.9, nearly four less than the Heat.

The Bulls defensive hasn't always been able to keep the Heat at this average though. In three encounters so far, the Bulls have won two. The first they lost 97-93, although Luol Deng was out. In the next game they won 106-102. Here the Heat go far past the average, but what was impressive about the Bull's win was that it was without MVP Derrick Rose, which demonstrates the caliber of supporting

players such as sharpshooter Kyle Korver , C.J Watson and Taj Gibson. It was only in the last matchup that the Bulls kept the Heat at 86 and took the win scoring 96.

The Heat may have the offense advantage, but if - not to be cliché - defense is the best offense, than the Bulls will leave, come May, as the conference champions. A lot will depend on the health of Derrick Rose who has missed 24 games due to injuries, but as proven before, the Bull's bench members are more than prepared to battle without him.

The final regular season matchup between the Heat and Bulls tonight may be a better predictor of the playoff results.

#1.2854758:3266191437.jpg Bulls v. heat

Derrick Rose and the Bulls battle the Heat for one last game Thursday night before the playoffs, where they will likely meet in the Eastern Conference Finals.

Mike Ehrmann/NBA



Freirich Business Plan competition winners announced

Winners will receive \$17,500 in prize money to further their business plans

By Marcella Jewell, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Apr 20, 2012

On April 13, Matthew Miron '13 and Isaiah Crossman '13 were awarded \$10,000 for winning first place in this year's Kenneth A. Freirich Business Plan Competition for their social media application "Grumbul."

Using the prize money, in addition to \$20,000 from other sources, the two plan to spend this summer in New York City, developing and testing Grumbul, which they hope will revolutionize how customers register complaints with companies.

"The competition gave each of the students the opportunity to take what for them were nascent ideas and turn them into solid and coherent business models," said Roy Rotheim, professor of economics and director of the competition.

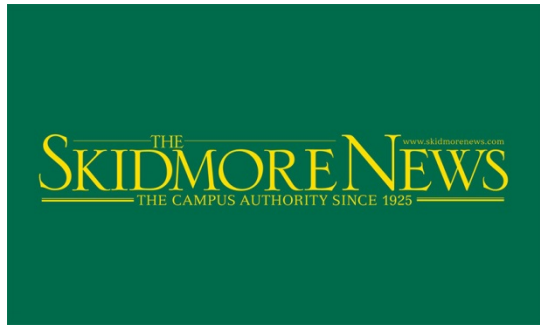
Throughout a 10-week workshop, the groups received assistance from Freirich, and Ali Frey '12 and Todd Powell '12, of the Skidmore-Saratoga Entrepreneurial Partnership. Each group worked to revise its business plan to present for judging on Friday, April 13, to a panel of seven alumni.

"Working with each of the students in the competition is enormously fulfilling to me as an educator," Rotheim said. "There is nothing more important to me than to make even the smallest contribution to helping someone pursue their passions. It is yet another reason why Skidmore is such a special place where creative thought really does matter."

Miron and Crossman were among nine students who competed in the finals of this year's competition. Students were paired with alumni working in their field of interest to submit a business proposal in hopes of winning prize money to further their efforts.

Miron and Crossman pitched their proposal as the "first universal customer-service application with full continuity from complaint through action and resolution."

Crossman said his motivation for the app came last summer when he received a bad meal at a restaurant and wanted to complain, but without the hassle. He said he thought of using an iPhone application to provide an instant outlet for complaints.



Miron and Crossman said that they are aiming for a full release in Saratoga Springs before they graduate in May of 2013 and plan to expand more broadly shortly there after.

In addition to Miron and Crossman, Zachary Fagiano '13 and Hope Schwartz-Leeper '13 won the second-place prize of \$5,000 for their plan. They created Wellfleet Sea Salt Company, which harvests sea salt with a new low-cost and economically friendly technology.

Hattie Young '12 won the third-place prize of \$2,500 to develop the Chicago-based Rephrase Dance Collective, a professional dance company that uses a flash-mob style to bring dance to the public.

The Kenneth A. Freirich Business Plan Competition is open to all students, regardless of major or year. Contributions from alumni advance the entrepreneurship opportunities for students, and the alumni themselves serve as mentors throughout the entirety of the competition.

"The capacity to be entrepreneurial is in each of us, no matter what our background or education," Rotheim said. "Executing that passion is a different matter because it takes excruciatingly hard-work and tenacity to make the intuitions convert into something meaningful."

#1.2861087:2243226691.jpg Business Competition Winners Photo

Matthew Miron '13 (L), Ken Freirich (M) and Isaiah Crossman '13 (R).

Courtesy of Gary Gold



Daydreams: Run, don't walk, to see "Ajax in Iraq"

By Rick Chrisman, Columnist

On Fri, Apr 20, 2012

Everyone should see this play, which deftly distills the essence of war and makes its audience strive to fulfill its moral obligations.

This is a cheer for the Skidmore Theater Department. Leaving the JKB Theater after the performance, which has a superior cast, great production value and an excellent script by Ellen McLaughlin, I wished every Skidmore student could see it. What follows is not a "theater review," but a personal view.

In a blistering 90 minutes, "Ajax in Iraq" conveys the American experience of these seemingly endless wartime years. It tells a timeless story of war, its tragic ambiguities and its costs, without making political gestures or inducing guilt trips. Ten years of op-ed pieces, media punditry, statistical reports from Iraq and Afghanistan and dinner table conversations are concentrated into the single javelin thrust of poetry by this play.

This piece prods us to reflect on what we think we are doing as a country. It provides a moment to take in the difference between the personal challenges of mortal combat and our self-interested projects at home. You could say Ellen McLaughlin holds the mirror up to our contradictions and evasions.

In so doing, the play elucidates the preciousness of life. Once you see this, you cannot but marvel at the miracle of every morning. Here we are, born where we are born, enduring our sufferings, tasting the edge of God's blade, each given the gift of living one specific life. We could hear the universe cry out at the waste that is war.

Of course, every war story is inherently an anti-war story. In this particular instance, the playwright interlaces the story of A.J., a female soldier under great duress in Iraq, with the story of Ajax, the Greek hero of the Trojan war who commits suicide after a mad fit in which he slaughters a herd of sheep believing them to be his Greek betrayers. These two cases, extreme as they are in outcome, are nevertheless emotionally representative of all combatants. War is abnormal, and calling the soldiers "heroes" is our way of normalizing it for our comfort. This play doesn't let us get away with that.

A play like "Ajax in Iraq" provides a kind of ritual moment to pay our respects to our soldiers -and all combatants. But it also prompts us to find a responsible life in wartime. I believe you will leave this play wanting to seek your own way to contribute to national life, when war is being waged abroad and domestic needs abound. Just taking a political position for or against our wars will not be enough for you

anymore. Don't we want to count, to make a difference? Of course, so what domestic service might we perform?

Even apart from wartime, the same question must be asked: aren't our rights and privileges as citizens counter-balanced by certain obligations? The U.S. grew itself out of a wilderness, but we could lapse back into a moral wilderness (according to some, we already have) if we do not act upon our common interests in addition to our individual "pursuit of happiness." After you see "Ajax in Iraq," you will want a better reason for living.

I encourage you to not take any half-steps in this direction but to dedicate your college career to finding a service commitment that fulfills you, one which you might even make permanently and professionally. Maybe you will find a way to make a lot of money and dedicate it to a service project. Maybe you will, as Gandhi did, make service your religion. Whatever you do, go see "Ajax in Iraq."

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Ajax

image courtesy of marsmet501



The events of Autism Awareness continue next week

Guest speakers will talk about research, behavior and treatment of autism

By Elise Taverna, Contributing Writer

On Sat, Apr 21, 2012

Skidmore College is hosting the third annual Autism Awareness Week from April 17 to 27, organized by psychology professor Rachel Mann Rosan. The proceedings consist of a string of student-run events featuring guest speakers intended to promote awareness, sensitivity and tolerance toward those with autism spectrum disorders.

Mann Rosan came up with the idea for Autism Awareness week after April was enacted as International Autism Awareness Month. Events will cover a range of topics including current genetic research into causes and treatment, as well as autism-related career opportunities. All events are free and open to the public.

"I hope that with these events, members of the Skidmore community can learn information that will help them to evaluate research and reports on autism so as to help to dispel myths and address controversies that are often reported in the media," Mann Rosan said.

The events are run and organized by students in Mann Rosan's "Developmental Disabilities and Autism" course. Students worked in six groups, each of which focused on a particular autism-related topic to promote during the week.

Topics include diagnosis and differentiation between individuals on the autism spectrum, epidemiology of autism spectrum disorders, different philosophies regarding the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders, current research into causes and treatments and emerging career tracks related to working with the autism spectrum disorder population.

Each group brought a speaker to campus to talk about one of the seven Autism Awareness events. Three events took place this week, including "Do You Have What it Takes: Becoming a Direct Support Professional or a Nurse with the NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)", "Autism: A Parent's Perspective" and "People with Autism Spectrum Disorders: Diversity in Your Community." Approximately 40 students attended each event.

The parent panel was a presentation and question-and-answer session with mothers of individuals on the autism spectrum who shared their experiences and the challenges of raising children with autism spectrum disorders.

Parents discussed their struggles with getting their children properly diagnosed, finding schools that provided adequate support for their children and the marital strain caused by raising children with autism spectrum disorders. Above all, the parents stressed that understanding and support are extremely important for the success of children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorders.

People with Autism Spectrum Disorders: Diversity in Your Community was a panel presentation about the organization ASPIReNY, or Autism Spectrum Peer Integration & Recreation. ASPIRe is an organization in the Capital District that helps adolescents and adults with ASD meet and participate in activities enjoyed by typical teenagers and adults, such as bus trips to New York City, shopping and horseback riding.

The panel consisted ASPIReNY founders, Deborah Garrelts and Julie Marks, and three individuals with autism spectrum disorders who are members of ASPIRe. The goal of the organization, according to the speakers, is to help individuals with autism spectrum disorders leave their comfort zones and learn to socialize in an atmosphere free from judgment.

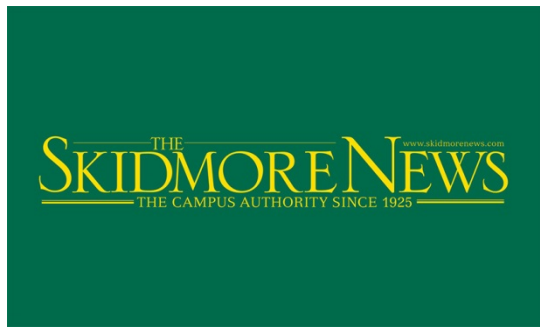
Four more events will take place next week. "Autism: The Musical," on Monday April 23, is a documentary about five kids with autism who take part in a theatrical workshop with their parents.

Diagnosing Autism: Current and Future Perspectives, on Tuesday April 24, is a presentation by Ronda Fein, a prominent clinical psychiatrist, about the current diagnostic criteria for, and anticipated changes to the definition and diagnosis of, autism spectrum disorders in the upcoming Diagnostic and Statistical Manual revision.

On Thursday, April 26, Paul A.H. Partridge, doctorate, will give a presentation entitled "Epidemiology of Autism Spectrum Disorders: A Brief Review of the Research Literature" discussing the prevalence of autism spectrum disorders and the factors associated with them.

Valerie Bolivar, doctorate, will discuss her research using mice in an effort to understand the underlying genes and brain structures in autism spectrum disorders in her lecture "Genetic Investigations of Neuroanatomical and Behavioral Abnormalities in BTBR T+ = TF/J Mice" on Friday, April 27.

The final event on Sunday, April 29 will be a vendor and informational fair at the intramural gym, organized by ASPIReNY, and a kid's carnival for children attending the event with their families.



#1.2856056:4169005259.JPG Autism Awareness Photo 1

Victoria Schultz (L) and Nicole Weinstein (R) speak about becoming a direct support professional or a nurse for people with developmental disabilities.

Meredith Simonds/The Skidmore News

#1.2856057:857811822.JPG Autism Awareness Photo 2

Nicole Weinstein explains some of the causes behind developmental disabilities.

Meredith Simonds/The Skidmore News





Skidmore College enforces its drugs and other substances policy for 4/20

Rochelle Calhoun tells student body there will be no tolerance for students with illegal substances

By Bradley Morris, Contributing Writer

On Sat, Apr 21, 2012

This past week, Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun reminded students that the codes and policies regarding the use of drugs and other substances would still hold firm as part of the traditional enforcement of the College policy on 4/20, which resulted in part from a [media incident](http://www.saratogian.com/articles/2009/04/21/news/doc49ed2cdf991c071465166.txt) in April 2009.

Three years ago, multiple sightings of students publicly getting high off of marijuana on various parts of campus, some in tents, as part of April 20 attracted much negative media attention from The Saratogian.

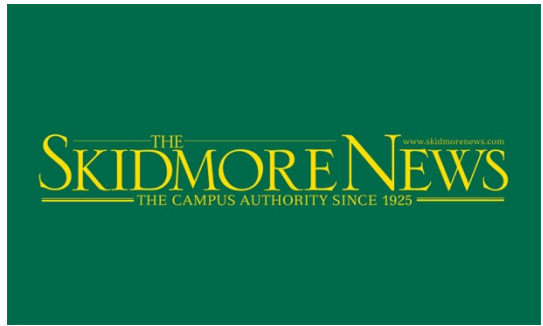
April 20 is unofficially known as the day of public consumption of cannabis, a tradition dating back to the 1970s. The attention the College received from the press in 2009 helped rank Skidmore College No. 2 on the Princeton Review's "Reefer Madness" list.

"I remember hearing about reporters being there and people making a big deal about this," said a senior who requested to remain anonymous. "I read the Saratogian article on the website and saw people making comments about all the Skidmore students. People were being so judgmental. Skidmore is a highly ranked school; it has a lot of smart kids. I think it was unfair to judge the campus for one thing."

As a result, the College sends annual reminder emails to students about the consequences of previous actions on 4/20 and their role in the community.

"They have to send out emails. I understand that. Know the consequences for what you do," the senior said.

"It's important to note that 4/20 is not only a day for the consumption of marijuana, it is also meant to advocate its legalization and bring about change in terms of societal views on marijuana," said a junior, who also requested to remain anonymous. "People are starting to look at facts and numbers, and one can only hope that the facts speak louder than people's preconceived and mistaken ideas."



At the end of Rochelle Calhoun's email to the student body, she offered the hope that students would take responsible action on 4/20.

"I'm proud to be a member of the Skidmore College community and I know that so many of you are as well," Calhoun said. "Let our actions on 4/20 - and always - be a demonstration of our pride and respect for this wonderful place."

Healthful Hints: Finals Preparation

Study tips and strategies for time management as finals approach

By Zoe Silver, Columnist

On Sun, Apr 22, 2012

Finals are nearing, and each of us is faced with the daunting task of completing a myriad of assignments, including 15-page research papers, cumulative exams and presentations. How in the world are we supposed to get all of this done before we pack up for the summer? More so, how are we supposed to concentrate when it's 80 degrees and sunny out? Hopefully some of the hints I will provide in this article will help you structure the end of your school year so that you can enjoy the sun and keep up your GPA.

First thing's first: if you don't know what finals you have for each class, get that information ASAP and write it into a calendar or program it into your phone. This way, you know exactly what's coming and can prepare in time. In fact, you should write all assignments and exams down in some sort of planner, which helps you to organize, plan and, ultimately, succeed.

Many of us will be faced with multiple finals per day. If you have three or more on one day, that is considered a conflict, and you should talk to your professors so you can reschedule one of them. If you have two in one day, make a study plan for each so that you can devote the necessary amount of time to both topics. Try allotting two days to studying for one exam, the next two days for the other and the third to review both, or something along those lines.

When you are studying, remove all distractions. Log off of Facebook and Twitter, turn your phone on silent and place yourself somewhere where you know you can concentrate. Some of us prefer to study in a dorm room with music in the background, and others work best in the quiet library. Library hours are also extended during finals week. A full list of extended hours is available on the [library's website](http://lib.skidmore.edu/library/index.php/hours).

Take breaks every 20 minutes or so to get a glass of water, take a brief walk or do something else to clear your mind for five minutes so that you can fully engage yourself in the material. If you don't know which strategy works best for you, try out different combinations until you reach maximum efficiency. Part of adjusting to college life is learning what study habits work best for you, and we all do this at a different pace.

If you are really struggling to concentrate, Student Academic Services (SAS) is a great resource. You can visit the office or just check it out on the Skidmore website, where there are many study and testing

tips. Along with these tips, SAS also offers peer tutoring, individual academic support and study groups. Do not hesitate to utilize this resource when you need help. It is also often helpful to go to your professor's office hours. A one-on-one session might clear up any issues you are having with the class material.

Before final exams (or any exam for that matter), be sure to get plenty of sleep. Studies in Health Psychology have shown that less than 8 hours of sleep the night before an exam results in extremely limited brain-activity during the test and usually lower scores. If you must cram the material, do so two nights before the exam, not the night before.

When you arrive at the classroom where you are taking the test, try to sit in the same seat you do during lectures. This may sound like a silly trick but it is scientifically believed that if you are tested in the same environment in which you learned the information, you are more likely to remember it.

Remember to put everything in perspective; this is just an exam, it will not decide anything greater in your life, nor will it have any huge effect on you. Just relax and show your professor what you can do. If you studied and rested up, chances are you are in good standing.

I wish you all the best of luck in the coming weeks! Until next time, sleep tight, study hard and enjoy the warm weather.

Pulp Review: Max London's Brunch

By Sandy Zhang, A&E Editor

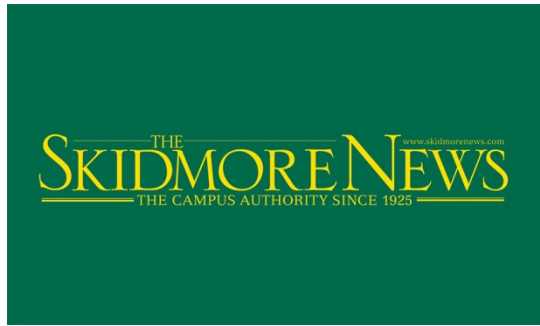
On Mon, Apr 23, 2012

A haiku review of brunch at Max London's.

Hearty pot of joe

Juicy steak and seeping yolks

"Do you want my fat?"



Norman Finkelstein to address Israeli-Palestinian question in Gannett Auditorium

Controversial author will offer his insight on practical solutions to the historical problem

By Julia Leef, News Editor
On Mon, Apr 23, 2012

This Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Gannett Auditorium, author and professor Norman Finkelstein will deliver a lecture on the complexities of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and outline possible solutions.

As the upheavals in the Middle East continue to unfold, from the Arab Spring to the simmering tension over Iran's nuclear program, several Skidmore students have decided to invite Finkelstein to campus and throw the spotlight back onto one of the region's perennial questions—the issues of Israeli and Palestinian statehood

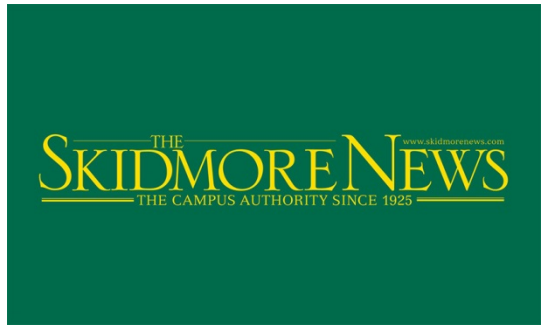
Finkelstein has been writing on the subject for over two decades and has published several books since first tackling the question in his dissertation at Princeton University in 1988. His latest book, titled "Knowing Too Much," contends that the American Jewish community is becoming increasingly skeptical of Israel's approach toward several important factors of the conflict.

Finkelstein's appearance was organized by Danny Pforte '13, Salim Mohamed '15, Abdelmonem Mislati '15 and Ahmed Wheida '15. Working through the Office of Student Diversity Programs (OSPD), these students invited Finkelstein to showcase an analysis of the conflict they feel is underrepresented on Skidmore's campus.

"We urge everyone to come to this event and agree or disagree however they like. We feel that there is a real lack of engagement on this issue here. There is mostly one view that is accepted and we wish to spark conversations to challenge that view," Mislati said.

Echoing this sentiment, Wheida stated that "while there is freedom of speech here, there are things you don't speak about. That's too bad, we want to change that."

Wheida stressed the organizers' hope that Finkelstein's appearance will result in rigorous discussion and argument.



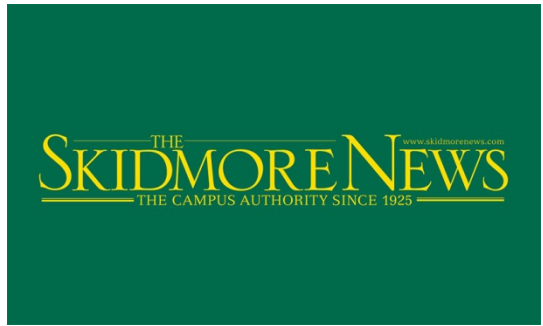
“Once people begin to talk, others offer counterarguments, then there are rebuttals, and so on. And along the way you learn more and more about the strengths and weaknesses of your own position, which is all we are interested in doing here-that is education.”

On Tuesday night Finkelstein will be introduced by the organizers, deliver a prepared talk, and then open the floor up to questions from the audience.

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Image by Saleem Mohamed '15





Comic: Polite Machine

By Wyatt Erchak, Cartoonist

On Tue, Apr 24, 2012

Skidmore's riding team prepares for IHSA Nationals

Two years ago Skidmore won Nationals and now they venture down to Raleigh, NC, to regain the title.

By Lauren Bosche, Copy Editor

On Wed, Apr 25, 2012

Next week, from May 3rd to the 6th, Skidmore's riding team will head down to Raleigh, North Carolina, to compete in the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association's National Championships.

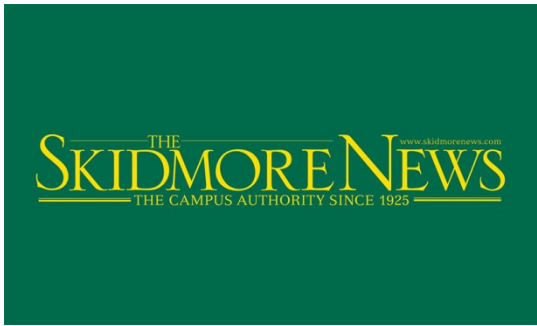
Unlike most other sports offered at Skidmore, riding has a year-round season. Competition generally starts in October and culminates in Nationals in the spring. Skidmore's team of 36 riders is led by Head Coach Cindy Ford and Assistant Coach Belinda Colgan who have helped garner much prestige for Skidmore's riding program.

The riding team has an outstanding competitive record, having won 16 of the past 18 Regional titles and numerous Zone titles as well. The Thoroughbreds have held the IHSA National Hunt Seat Team National Championship five times and the Reserve National Championship twice since 1990.

Skidmore's impressive riding caliber allows the team to compete in an organization that is comparable to Division I, despite Skidmore being a school of Division III athletics. Rather than riding against other Liberty League athletes, Skidmore rides against Zone II equestrians in the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA).

The IHSA was founded in 1967 by Bob Cacchione. The organization's website states that its mission is to "[promote] competition for riders of all skill levels, who compete individually and as teams at regional, zone, and national levels." The IHSA provides a unique showing experience, as riders do not need to own a horse to compete. The association was founded with equality in mind, as it asserts that any college student - regardless of his or her financial status or riding level - should be able to horse show in the same capacity as others that are better off.

The IHSA has taken a traditionally individualist sport and turned it into a team sport. When Skidmore competes at away shows, they ride the host team's horses, in lieu of trailering Skidmore's own show horses around the state. Then, when Skidmore hosts a show, all of the visiting riders have a jumping round or a flat class aboard one of Skidmore's horses. One doesn't need to own a horse to compete; on the contrary, Skidmore's team members benefit from riding a variety of horses.



According to the IHSA website, there are 404 riding teams in the IHSA, which are divided into Zones and then further divided into Regions. In the 2011-12 season, 6,468 Hunter Seat riders were registered to compete, while 1,819 Western riders signed on as well.

The IHSA truly tests horsemanship skills, regardless of a rider's background in the sport. A rider's show performance on a foreign horse is incredibly telling of their dedication. Additionally, the IHSA supports thousands of riders in their pursuit to become better horsemen and horsewomen by getting rid of a substantial part of monetary concern and through providing equal opportunities to its riders.

Skidmore heads into this year's National competition with an undefeated record. This season's finale is one to watch. Follow Skidmore Equestrian on Twitter to keep up with the latest news at <http://twitter.com/#!/SkidEq>

#1.2859868:1304567921.jpeg riding team

The Skidmore riding team celebrates their victory at Zones and their return to Nationals which will run from May 3rd to the 6th in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Skidmore Athletics



Player Profile: Chelsea Jones

Jones '12 talks about her journey on the riding team and the duty of a captain

By Andrew Shi, Sports Editor

On Wed, Apr 25, 2012

Chelsea Jones '12 is one of the captains of the riding team. She has participated in the riding team all four years at Skidmore, but started riding at the age of two.

Jones continued riding and when she entered Skidmore she was rewarded with great success for her hard work. "We have always done very well in our region and it is expected that we win every show. Sophomore year we actually won nationals and last year we were reserve champions at nationals. This year...we recently won zones and are off to nationals in two weeks," Jones said.

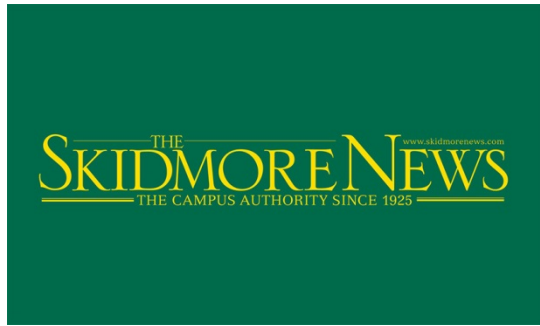
Although the team has been very successful Jones says: "being on the team for four years has had its ups and downs just as any sport. I have been fortunate to go to nationals all four years for the team, however there is a lot of stress and expectations that arise from nationals that have led to the tougher times on the team." Those tough times include some performances Jones described as poor, but were good enough to win her class at zones in her division.

Jones has used her poorer performances as opportunities to learn, and her journey at Skidmore is testimony to her growth. "I started off on the team as a novice rider and have now made my way through to an open rider," (the highest level) Jones said.

It is perhaps her growth as well as her will to win and ability to remain calm that made her captain. Despite the calm facade, Jones admits that she often is under a lot of pressure, mostly due to her own doing. "I put a lot of pressure on myself to succeed and take doing something wrong very hard and personal."

Jones says that leading the riding team to nationals has not been easy, and the role as captain is tolling. "I am very lucky this year because all the girls on the team are fantastic... however, to be the go between the coach and riders, as I care a great deal about both, is hard as sometimes there are sticky situations that I am the messenger for."

Also, with championships approaching, nerves are running high and Jones works hard to keep her teammates happy and motivated. "I am just there to cheer my teammates on and give them hugs and



support no matter how well they do. If members on the team start to get down on themselves they are not going to perform as well as they can" Jones said.

After her final IHSA nationals and graduation Jones says she will continue riding but aspires to become a child psychiatrist. "I am a Saratoga mentor and have been since my freshman year of college. I have been a mentor for the same girl from age 6 to 10 and this has been one of the best experiences I have had at Skidmore. I have also interned at the Four Winds Psychiatric hospital in Saratoga where I found my passion for children with psychiatric disorders... For the future I am hoping to become a child psychiatrist so there is a long road ahead of schooling for me. "

For now though Jones will keep her focus on the IHSA nationals. "IHSA nationals are always stressful and nerve-wracking ...but this year seems special because it is my last year adding some pressure." Still Jones is optimistic about this year's results, although she says a lot depends on the horses that the team's randomly receive. "I am very confident in the team we have going this year as many of us have shown for the team at nationals before and if we are lucky enough to get the right horses I see no reason why we could not win."

#1.2859595:3672836886.jpg Chelsea Jones

Chelsea Jones '12, a captain for the riding team, performs a jump she has been practicing since the age of nine.

Joe Gleason



New Intellectual Property policy under revision

After receiving negative feedback, the Committee on Intellectual Property to compose a second draft

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Thu, Apr 26, 2012

The administration recently decided to revise its initial proposal for an Intellectual Property policy to address the rights of patentable student or faculty inventions due to negative feedback received from students and faculty.

The IP policy draft clarifies a basis for the College planning a shared revenue resulting from patents that it had a significant hand in funding, providing resources ranging from departmental equipment to college computers, allowing it to take control of the patentable works and 50 percent of the royalty income.

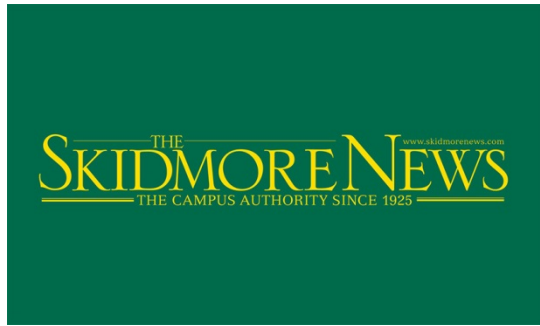
The policy also requires full disclosure of inventions, which the College will review to see if it wants to pursue the patent. If so, the College would retain the right to sell its portion of the invention and the inventor would need to pay a licensing fee to use the patent.

In addition, the policy would create an Intellectual Policy committee which would oversee the policies regarding the ownerships of patents and copyrights in works created using college resources.

This draft is no longer in effect, according to Dean of Faculty Beau Breslin, who said the committee would start over crafting a new policy that would better encourage entrepreneurship among the students and faculty.

"We heard that faculty, students and community members were concerned that we were not being generous to entrepreneurship, and as a result we went back to the drawing board," Breslin said. "The general direction is to be more generous to the creative thoughts and the entrepreneurship of the students and faculty than the previous draft suggested."

The administration initially presented the proposal to the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee, and then to the faculty last semester. After the administration deemed changes necessary, it established an IP working group comprised of members of the student body, the faculty and administration to review and revise the policy.



Ethan Flum '13, vice president of Financial Affairs on the Student Government Association, is one of the student members who expressed his dissatisfaction with the original policy.

"There needs to be more checks on the administration's actions," Flum said. "This policy was proposed as though it were mainly complete and ready to be implemented. It was only until there was real backlash on the part of faculty and students that they backed down on these details of the draft."

Flum said he found issues with the contrast in language between the introduction and the body of the document, as well as the disclosure for the invention, which he said would include everything from resources to the initial conversation about the idea, if held on campus. He cited Isaiah Crossman '13 and Matthew Miron '13, this year's winners of the Kenneth A. Freirich Business Plan competition, as an example. Their patentable invention, the iPhone application "Grumbul," would have been subject to college ownership had they developed it under the policy.

The specific changes for the revised draft have not yet been released, as Breslin said the committee is still in the initial stages of rewriting the policy. Dean of Students Rochelle Calhoun, when approached on the subject, said she had not seen the most recent review of the proposed policy, but understood that the original was still under review.

Flum said students should be more involved in this process, especially on the proposed IP committee, as they also will be affected by the new policy.

"Students need to be way more involved," Flum said. "As it stands now, no students are on the proposed IP committee. This is a committee that reviews disclosure forms, which in my view are way too long and extensive. Also, the committee is the only body that has the power to propose changes to the policy," he said, lamenting the lack of checks from the student body or faculty.

Flum said that as of 4 p.m. on Thursday, April 26, the IP working group had discussed significant changes regarding the differentiation between normal and non-normal support as well as the structure of the proposed IP committee.

The working group will continue to meet until June 1, after which it will reconvene at the start of the fall semester. Breslin said he hopes to have a new draft by that time, the proposal for which would go out in October. Should the policy pass, the IP working group will disband.

"They've been understanding of the students and faculty concerns, but just the simple fact that this policy was post-legal review, shows there is a huge disconnect between the administration and student body," Flum said, adding that he knew several students who said they would sue the school before giving them control over their ideas.

"When this process is done, I presume it will be an acceptable policy, but it is the responsibility of the Skidmore community, both students and staff, to make sure of that."

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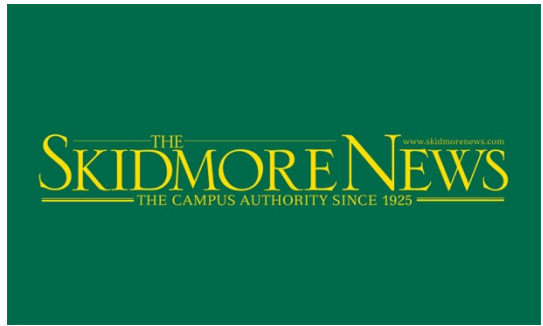
Revised Draft 03/07/11
Rev. 2.5

SKIDMORE College

Intellectual Property Policy - POST-LEGAL REVIEW DRAFT -

Introduction

Skidmore College has developed this Intellectual Property Policy to benefit encouraging and enabling technology development and transfer. The Skidmore community is inherently creative, and Skidmore's physical and intellectual the creativity of members of that community. This policy reflects, in part, contribution to that creativity. It encourages creators to innovate by guar in the benefits resulting from the Intellectual Property that they develop. A also promotes research and educational activities at Skidmore by allowing share of the benefits flowing from all Intellectual Property developed un



Comic: The Couch

By Wyatt Erchak, Cartoonist

On Fri, Apr 27, 2012

NBA Talk: First Round Playoff Predictions

Who's going forward and who's going home

By Andrew Shi, Sports Editor

On Sat, Apr 28, 2012

It's playoff time - here's a quick rundown of who's getting past the first round.

Eastern Conference:

(1) Chicago vs. (8) Philadelphia.

The 76ers were nothing but phenomenal at the beginning of the season. How they dropped all the way from a season-high 3rd seed to barely making 8th is still being debated. Chicago's team is looking better every day and has one of the best defenses in the league.

Prediction: Chicago wins in five games

(2) Miami vs. (7) New York.

Miami had a rough patch at the end of the season, whereas New York ended with a nice win streak, albeit Miami did sit out its star players the last few games. New York has unbelievable potential, and the whole nation is waiting for Jeremy Lin's return. The Knick's new coach might be the factor needed to boost New York through the playoffs, but the team needs a little more time for everyone to figure out their roles. LeBron James also really wants this championship

Prediction: Miami sweeps New York.

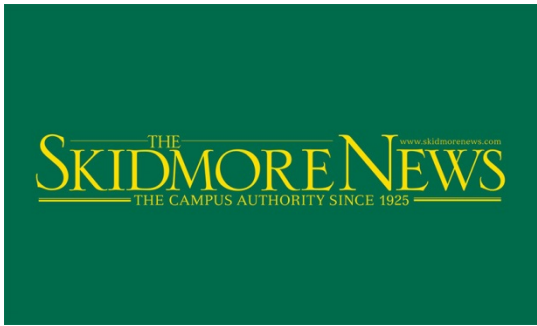
(3) Indiana vs. (6) Orlando.

Indiana has been this season's surprise. No one saw them dominating the league but they did. Meanwhile, Orlando is without Dwight Howard. The Magic still have a few key players, but it won't be even close to enough.

Prediction: Indiana wins in five.

(4) Atlanta vs. (5) Boston.

Boston is the aging team. Atlanta has the right mix of veterans of young talent. Still the Hawks seem to lack something, whether its chemistry or motivation, and, despite their team's impressive athleticism



and caliber, they struggle against top teams. Boston has always saved their best for the playoffs, and Rondo is capable of taking over. Boston won two out of their three matchups with the Hawks, and the one they lost, they kept it within 5 while sitting their big four. It doesn't matter if Atlanta clinched home court advantage.

Prediction: Boston wins in six.

Western Conference:

(1) San Antonio vs. (8) Utah.

San Antonio is with one of the best defenses and bench. Utah just barely made the playoffs. As long as San Antonio keeps all of its players healthy they should see great success.

Prediction: San Antonio sweeps Utah.

(2) Oklahoma City vs. (7) Dallas.

Oklahoma City has some of the youngest talent in the NBA. Kevin Durant is arguably the best small forward, and Russell Westbrook is a top point guard. Serge Ibaka is one of the league's best defenders and James Harden is likely winner of sixth man. Dallas has a lot of clutch players, and, old clutch players, but it's unlikely they'll be able to keep up with the Thunder.

Prediction: Oklahoma City wins in five.

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2012 NBA Playoff Bracket

NBAcircle.com



Review: Evolfo Doofeht

Long-anticipated Boston band brings funk to Falstaff's

By Lyndsay Stone, Contributing Writer

On Sat, Apr 28, 2012

Last Thursday night's Lively Lucy's Falstaff's event kicked off Earth Day weekend with exuberant energy and enthusiasm when student bands Mugsy Boges and Beardo opened for the long-anticipated visiting act, Evolfo Doofeht.

Having traveled during rush hour from their Boston home, The Berklee School of Music, one may have expected signs of sleepiness from Doofeht, if only a few yawns. Quite the contrary, musicians and manager alike bustled with excitement and zing. They had long awaited this gig at Skidmore.

"The scene at liberal arts colleges up here is really lax, as opposed to the regulated scene in Boston," said Matt Gibbs, the band's founder and lead vocalist/guitarist. "Falstaff's is a sweet venue and we know that people are open-minded at Skidmore."

Rewind two-and-a-half years, and we get a glimpse of the birth of Evolfo Doofeht. Gibbs and his brother, Frankie, a current sophomore at Skidmore, were two of the first members during the band's early stages in San Francisco, the brothers' hometown. Their high school was putting on a contemporary production of Shakespeare's *The Twelfth Night* and needed a house band to play funky covers of Velvet Underground songs.

The elder Gibbs recalled, "the director wanted us to be called 'The Food of Love,' from the line in the play, 'If music be the food of love, play on.' Naturally we called ourselves 'Evolfo Doofeht,' which is 'The Food of Love' spelled backwards." That was only the first instance of the band's contrarian and inventive style. It didn't stop there. When Matt graduated from high school that summer, he took the band's name, vibe, and ideals with him to Boston. He re-staffed but he did not rewind – Evolfo Doofeht's reputation and repertoire continued to expand.

In addition to vocals, guitar, bass, drums, alto and tenor saxophones, and trombone, Doofeht typically includes a trumpet player and another percussionist. Though two members were missing, there was no void of sound to be found. Every square inch of Falstaff's main room was bursting at the seams with "gypsy funk," or as Gibbs depicted: "Sassy-gypsy-funk, like demons and earth and nymphs - anything from Final Fantasy X."

The 50 or so Skidmore students who attended Falstaff's last Thursday experienced the fantasy for themselves. The crowd was especially buoyant when Doofeht played an original song called "Walk with a Demon." The song's perpetuating rhythm and upbeat groove starkly contrasts the demonic tones played by the bass, guitar, and brass section. It was nymphs and demons all at once. "It reminded me of some giant clown on stilts - very circuslike," said Eliza Hollister, a particularly animated and grooving crowd-member.

Mugsy Boges' drummer, Paul Gladstone '14, had a bird's eye view of the performance. Grooving atop a circular platform across from Doofeht's brass section and next to Peter Oundjian '14 (disguised in a head-to-foot banana suit), Gladstone observed the crowd. "When Evolfo came on, the funk just burst out. As soon as they started playing, the whole place was raging," he recalled.

Doofeht opened by playing an original song with an irresistible hook. "When they started that first tune, and Gibbs was singing 'if you wanna get down with Evolfo Doofeht,' everybody immediately caught on and the whole crowd was singing the chorus. Everyone was going nuts," said Gladstone.

Getting the crowd to groove is just what Doofeht aims to do with their innovative and provocative sound. "Getting people dancing makes me feel like what we're doing is worth it," said drummer Julian Moore. "I get this fat adrenaline rush walking off stage knowing that we got people to dance." If the enlivened Skidmore crowd has any say, Evolfo Doofeht will soon return to our campus, along with their funky, maniacal, phantasmagoric circus of sound.

Quasi-Intelligible Rants of Case Center Computers

By Sandy Zhang, A&E Editor

On Sat, Apr 28, 2012

Ugh. Yet another set of Dorito fingers. Just one more installment of the classic Thursday night THC-induced munchies. After doing this gig for 4 years, I know exactly how this will go: a visit to the website of Pope's Pizza, check credit card account, then Tumblr and e-mail. Too typical. When will I get to go on Harper's Magazine, HUH? I thought this place was supposed to be filled with intellectuals.

Us Macs have to put in much longer hours than PCs. It's not fair. Since when did being stylish and sleek bring hard labor? These kids work me endlessly. I thought attractiveness promised an easier life.

Please get this red pepper hummus off of me.

Sheesh, it's that time of the night again - 1 am. Thorns of bleary-eyed procrastinators leave the library and settle for Case. Someone, probably an upper-classman, will inevitably shack up with me, type the way only someone who has taken Adderall moves her fingers, and won't even offer to call before leaving. Tomorrow, lather rinse repeat. Such is the mundane life of a Case computer.

Kids these days have no manners, is it too difficult to log out after you are done with your business? I don't want to get mired in an investigation if a psycho invades this turf and posts assassination threats on Brad Pitt's Facebook page.

Soapbox: Dear Occupy Wall Street, Clean Up Your Act

Four suggestions to make the OWS movement successful

By Eric Shapiro, Columnist

On Sat, Apr 28, 2012

It is still premature to write a eulogy, but it's fair to say that Occupy Wall Street has not lived up to the astronomical expectations it generated last summer. The movement has largely been supplanted in media coverage by the presidential race, the war in Afghanistan and Rush Limbaugh's repulsive utterances. Part of this was inevitable; no peaceful movement, Tea Party included, can continue to hog the media spotlight forever, especially as its novelty wears off. Without minimizing Occupy Wall Street's legitimate and much-needed contributions to the national discourse, here are some things the movement can do to ensure its future relevance.

1. Drop the extraneous pet causes

Far be it from me to call the value of animal rights activism into question, or to doubt the sincerity of those who single out Israel for its alleged oppression of the Palestinians at a time when Arab regimes are having a ball brutalizing their own people. But a movement concerned with spurring real change should maintain a focused message and a clear sense of purpose. There are plenty of well-funded organizations devoted to the aforementioned causes. Occupy Wall Street should emphasize the parts of its message that resonate in a time of economic crisis: income inequality, corporate welfare and the plight of the 99 percent. Otherwise, it risks coming across as a jumbled patchwork of progressive pet causes that, for better or worse, do not carry all that much weight with the general population.

2. Establish a clear, efficient hierarchy

Occupiers can learn a lot from the successes and failures of past social movements. For instance, many of the key organizations that comprised the second wave of feminism began as freeform, directly democratic affairs that prioritized every voice being heard. Unfortunately, this very same quality came to undermine the cohesion of the movement and limit its capacity to make decisions in a prudent and timely matter. Occupy Wall Street need not fall into this same trap. It currently has something resembling these leaders, but they have thus far not received much media coverage and, consequently, do not benefit from the attention and respect afforded to high profile political figures. To be fair, there have been encouraging signs of late that Occupy Wall Street is a hierarchy better equipped to pursue its lofty goals. Let's hope this trend continues.

3. Mind the Occupy Wall Street image

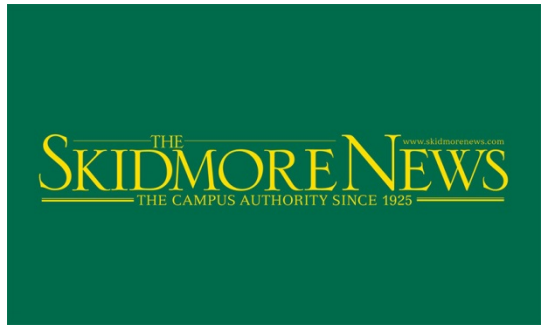
As much as we would like Occupy Wall Street to function as an extension of our youthful, free spirited selves, it is important to remember that appearance matters greatly to many older Americans sympathetic to Occupy Wall Streets ideas. I have perused various political message boards and have found that many middle-aged and older Americans are far from impressed by the scrappy, disheveled appearance of Occupy protesters. It may remind them of radical New Left movements in the 1960s, whose members threw rocks at soldiers returning from Vietnam and publicly sympathized with the likes of the Ho Chi Minh and Mao Zedong. It may just give them a bad vibe. Either way, it would be a shame to turn off voters receptive to Occupy Wall Street's underlying message by refusing to obey the basic rules of political decorum. So please, Occupiers, before you get your protest on, have a shave, take a shower and maybe even put on a nice outfit for the cameras.

4. Raise money and back politically viable candidates for office

Lets be real: Ironically, Occupy Wall Street would do well to take a lesson from the Tea Party - its very rough conservative equivalent. The latter movement started small, establishing an infrastructure in communities and grabbing media coverage. Then, as it gained greater attention and more financial support, it set its sights on electing legislators sympathetic to its right-wing populist goals. Granted, the Tea Party had a considerable advantage over Occupy Wall Street: the patronage of the 1 percent. Subsequent investigation has revealed that Republican strategists and donors like the Koch brothers played an indispensable role in conceptualizing and funding the so-called "grass-roots movement. " Occupy Wall Street has not yet attained this level of influence. Yet, its ideas have gained political traction, placing a renewed focus on growing economic inequality in America. In addition, a number of wealthy individuals (many of them celebrities) and organizations donated large sums of money to Occupy Wall Street in its early days. If the movement truly wishes to capitalize on the big splash it made last summer, it must transfer the resonance of its message into political power by means of fundraising and lobbying in Congress. It is not the most glamorous pursuit, to be sure, but you have to play the game in order to change it.

Closing Thoughts:

Occupy Wall Street is a true grassroots enterprise, unlike the Astroturf Tea Party. It would be a shame for its members to squander the movement's potential out of some misguided notions of ideological purity. As the generation that will inevitably be forced to deal with the deleterious financial effects of the Baby Boomers on American society, it is time to grow up and play an active role in shaping our future. If we refuse to work through the present political system, pulsating warts and all, we will become irrelevant in the issues of our day. Global warming and income inequality, as well as, the stifling of



democracy by big money (see <http://www.skidmorenews.com/op-ed/opinion-voting-for-the-vultures-1.2764337#.T5s5TJj-I54> my article on Super-Pacs) are not problems that we can conveniently set aside as we live out our communal, post-adolescent fantasies. Unlike our parents, we cannot afford that luxury.

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image courtesy of Glenn Halog



Family of Alexander Grant to sue students for \$5 million

Eight Skidmore students named in the lawsuit for supplying Grant with alcohol prior to his death

By Julia Leef, News Editor

On Sat, Apr 28, 2012

The family of Alexander Grant, the 19-year-old Boston College student who drowned in Putnam Creek last March, filed suit April 26 against nine men who allegedly supplied him with alcohol on the night of his death, according to [a](http://www.saratogian.com/articles/2012/04/26/news/doc4f99675b5a4db684704333.txt)

[href="http://www.saratogian.com/articles/2012/04/26/news/doc4f99675b5a4db684704333.txt"](http://www.saratogian.com/articles/2012/04/26/news/doc4f99675b5a4db684704333.txt)
[target=" blank">The Saratogian.](#)

The nine men, eight of whom are current students, are all named in the lawsuit. The Grant family is suing for \$5 million, in addition to court costs.

Grant, while visiting his friend Matthew Perlow '13 on the weekend of March 6, 2011, went to a party at 146 Church St., which he later left in a state of intoxication. According to *The Saratogian*, Grant walked down the tracks at the Saratoga Springs Train Station and a security camera later detected him breaking into a medical office building on Care Lane. His body was found the following Tuesday.

After an extensive investigation, police determined Grant had hypothermia and a blood-alcohol content of .16 percent.

Perlow is not mentioned in the lawsuit, although his four roommates -Jonathan Hoeg '13, Bryan Connolly '13, Matthew Diaco '14 and Nicholas Yedibalian '13 - are, according to *The Saratogian*. Also mentioned are Brendan Flynn '12, Ian Bain '12, Charles Sullivan (who is not a student) and Brian Milazzo '12, who allegedly hosted the party at 146 Church St.

In addition, the man who allegedly purchased the alcohol Grant drank in the dorm room, Seth Berger '14, is included in the lawsuit.

The lawsuit, according to *The Saratogian*, claims Grant told Perlow he was "unable to care for himself" and that Perlow assured him they would return to the dorm room after the party. The lawsuit further states that due to his own intoxication, Perlow did not see Grant leave 146 Church St.

The document states that everyone who supplied Perlow and Grant with alcohol knew they were underage, calling Grant's death "wrongful."

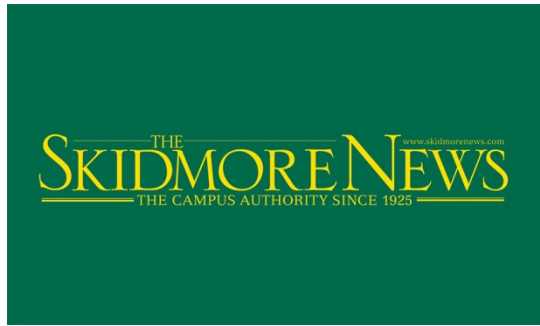
District Attorney James A. Murphy III and police said they will grant immunity for minor crimes to anyone with information about Grant's death, according to *The Saratogian*. None of the occupants of the room will be charged with a criminal offense.

A statement from the Grant family is expected, according to *The Saratogian*.

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





Editorial: If ‘Creative Thought Matters’ then protect it in the new IP policy

By the Editorial Board

On Sat, Apr 28, 2012

Allow students to retain their rights to intellectual property. Skidmore is behind its peer and aspirant schools when it comes to legal policies. The College has been working to update its policies to safeguard legal action against the school. Creation of an intellectual property policy is being considered.

Intellectual property rights issues have been a [le](#)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/04/education/edlife/whoseidea-t.html?pagewanted=all> point of contention between students and institutions throughout the U.S. At our institution we should ensure that we protect student creativity.

For many reasons, it is important that Skidmore adopt guidelines concerning the ownership of copywritten, trademarked and patented material. Many organizations that give funds and grants for research require that the institutions have a clear intellectual property rights policy.

Skidmore does not produce large volumes of patents, especially compared to technical institutions. However, with an increasing entrepreneurial spirit cropping up among Skidmore’s student body, it is necessary that the administration and the faculty reach a fair agreement on intellectual property rights.

Patents created by Skidmore faculty in their capacities as employees should be shared fairly between the inventor and the school. This should be done in a way that incentivizes creativity and provides the school with a funding source for further research.

However, when developing this policy, the College should draw a clear distinction between faculty, who work under contract with the college, and students, who are paying to attend classes.

It is imperative that we protect student innovation. Nothing would stifle the creative thought of students more than a surprise phone call from the administration informing them that their patents now belong to the school.

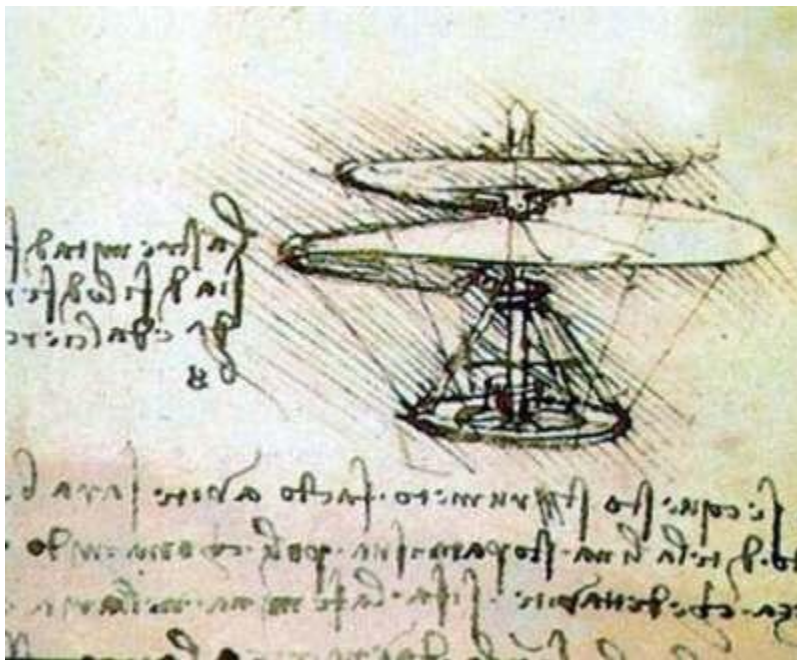
It should be assumed that student work and innovations belong to students. The administration should have no intrinsic or inherent claim on student work, especially work that is done by students on their own time.

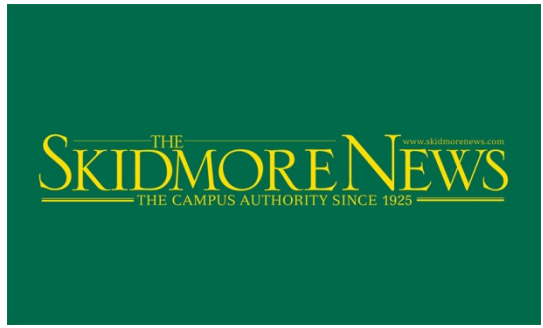
The school might have a claim to patents developed by students if, and only if, the school creates a contract with a student with the express purpose of sharing a patent.

In developing the final version of Skidmore's intellectual property rights policy, students need to be included in a meaningful way, and these concerns regarding the involvement and limits of the College's claims on student property must be accounted for. Students should be on the board that writes this policy and the administration should put this up to the student body for a vote.

In whatever policy the school eventually adopts, the interest of students should be paramount. The extent to which the policy protects student innovation will be a good indication of Skidmore's commitment to its motto, "Creative Thought Matters."

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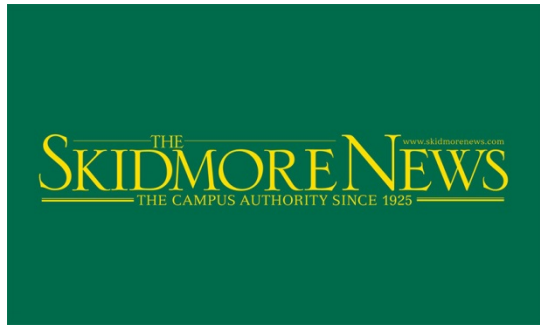




Comic: The Couch

By Wyatt Erchak, Cartoonist

On Sun, Apr 29, 2012



Non-student rushed to hospital at Fun Day event

By Brendan James, Editor-in-Chief

On Sun, Apr 29, 2012

At approximately 2:0 p.m. on Saturday, April 28, a non-student was carried off of the South Green's Fun Day event and rushed into an ambulance. At the moment Campus Safety has said that the young woman is a non-student and possibly a Skidmore graduate, though this has not yet been confirmed.

The young woman was unconscious as the EMTs carried her on a stretcher into an ambulance just outside Case Center. Campus Safety Director Lawrence Britt disclosed that the woman is indeed a non-student, but did not disclose her name or whether she is a Skidmore graduate or former student.

Britt later said he could not confirm anything about the woman's identity, nor her current condition or reason for hospitalization, as Campus Safety does not keep track of medical conditions after the person has left campus, due to the Hippocratic oath.

"It's all confidential, so all we know is that she was transported to the hospital," Britt said. "Nobody can discuss somebody's medical information anymore."

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Michael DuPré/The Skidmore News



Letter: Mr. Finkelstein, Let's Be Fair

By William Van den Broeck, Class of 2015

On Mon, Apr 30, 2012

Dear Editor,

It's Wednesday April 23rd and this morning I cannot sleep. Yesterday night, I sat through Norman Finkelstein bashing Israel for an hour and half, omitting any mention of wrongdoings by anyone else involved - historically the Israel-Palestinian conflict deals with more than just Jews and Arabs or Zionists and their neighbors.

The event was packed and people were excited to hear what he had to say, though by the end many members of the audience had left. I don't know if they left because they were bored, or had places to go, or just couldn't take what he had to say anymore. I'd like to think that a fraction of those people that left realized that it wasn't worth their time to listen to someone just go on, and on, and on about everything Israel does wrong, especially when he starts out his speech with "I'm not here to bash Israel." Of course, that is just my hope though it is probably not true. I'm sure to many, he was engaging.

Finkelstein considers himself an activist and surely hoped that yesterday he moved a lot of people to take action. His purpose was not to foster anti-Semitism, it was just to foster anti-Zionism, but understand, Mr. Finkelstein, that the two will always be related.

No, I do not believe the majority of Anti-Zionists are indeed anti-Semitic, but I do know that at many pro-Palestinian demonstrations and marches, there are incidents of anti-Semitism - whether it be through the defacing of synagogues, in the rhetoric mentioned or simply direct physical attacks on Jews.

After the Israeli offense on Gaza, incidents of anti-Semitic acts increased in Europe and cops were needed in front of Jewish schools and Jewish neighborhoods. I remember, for example, in Antwerp at the time when people wrecked the famous Hassidic neighborhood of the city, directly attacking shops, schools and temples. I remember a few years later, Central Park South, next to the Apple Store when I proudly attended the Israeli-Day parade on 5th Ave. and there were a dozen counter protesters across the street. Again, I'm sure this was meant to be just a protest against what the Israeli government is doing and a call to end the occupation, but there was a banner denying the holocaust.

Yesterday, Finkelstein only mentioned what Israel does wrong; he was not even willing to add an "although...." as if all their acts are inexcusable by anyone's standard. I asked him how his speech can lead to progress (by progress I thought it was explicit that I meant peace but I guess not.) How does

mentioning all the weapons used by the Israeli army in Lebanon and Gaza effective without ever mentioning one rocket launched by Hamas? How is talking about the terrible acquisitions from the Six-Day war helpful in a goal of educating when you fail to even mention that Israel was the one ATTACKED? That is not justification but mere explanation as to what happened.

It is always hard to answer to questions under emotion and on the spot when we don't have time to fully think our questions through so, yesterday I just asked why he needed to be SO one-sided, of course he never answered my question. While I am proud of myself for standing up and voicing my opinion (hey, I even got some applause), I wish I could have said something more along these following lines to Mr. Finkelstein:

Sir, why do you feel the need to bash a country and talk about a conflict in such one-sided manner? How can that lead to peace?

Yes, I am against the occupation and I think Israel needs to give up its occupied territories and religious settlers need to stop doing what they do. Others in Israel share my point of view. Their opinion is voiced on the streets through demonstrations, in the Knesset (Israel's congress) by official elected representatives and by soldiers who refuse to serve in the West Bank and Gaza because they feel those are occupied territories.

Yes, there might be more tension between Egypt and Israel now that Mubarak has fallen but you know what, Israeli and Egyptian soldiers have had a peaceful relationship for many years and continue to even after the revolution. This relationship is not just peaceful, they actually get along, Mr. Finkelstein.

Yes, Israel's offensive in Gaza had terrible consequences and the IDF did some pretty horrible things but at the same time there were Israeli doctors that put their lives on the line to go into Gaza and rescue victims of war to give them adequate healthcare.

Yes, there is a blockade right now and it should not happen because no one should have food access blocked to them. But, this blockade is not in place out of hate, it's happening out of fear. Weapons pass through these rations of food and soldiers who fight back this kind of trafficking get attacked.

Yes, Israel must take responsibility for its share in the problem and it responds to the conflict in a less than adequate manner and should be criticized for some of its actions but you know what, it should also be praised for some of its actions. In January of 2010, Mr. Finkelstein, do you know what Israel did? It sent aid over to Haiti to help out in the earthquake, just a day after the earthquake happened. I am not going to name a bunch of countries where Israel has gone, but I can bet you that any natural disaster that has occurred no matter where in the world, Israel has gone there to help out. They even stay in some places longer than other countries. There are places where no one dares to go - helping women in

South Sudan and giving aid to victims of the Darfur genocide, granting those refugees citizenship. How many other nations can say they've done that? How many white-nations can say they've granted citizenship en masse to refugees from African countries like Sudan and Ethiopia? Because, clearly those actions are worthy of comparing Israel to N. Korea, Pakistan and noting "when was the last time you ever heard anything nice said about those countries?"

Yes, I agree we need to get rid of the settlements, the occupied territories need to be given back, the treatment of Palestinian refugees is unacceptable and the Palestinian people today are victims whose cry for help needs to be heard.

That's not a reason, however, to go to college campuses and universities and give extremely one-sided accounts of the conflict and bash a country that, though just like any other place, has done many wrong things, has also done many great things and continues to do so today and so many would like to see destroyed. Understanding and stating the multiple pieces of the puzzle - that leads to progress and peace Mr. Finkelstein. You, on the other hand will only promote hate!

William Van den Broeck