

Grant family no longer suing Skidmore students

Family of Alexander Grant dropped five million dollar suit last Tuesday

By Rebecca Orbach, Managing Editor

On Tue, Sep 11, 2012

The family of Alexander Grant, a Boston College student who died March 6, 2011 after an off-campus Skidmore party, has dropped a \$5 million lawsuit against the nine individuals who allegedly served Grant alcohol the night of his death.

Eight of the nine men who were named as defendants in the suit filed on April 19 were former Skidmore students.

Grant's parents are now offering a \$100,000 reward to anyone who can provide information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of any persons involved in their son's death.

Grant, 19, of Briarcliff Manor, was [found dead](http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/student-missing-after-party-found-dead-1.2105446#.UE_bhpj-K-8) in Putnam creek on March 8 where he wandered off to after leaving a party at 146 Church St. in an intoxicated state. He drowned in the creek after suffering from hypothermia.

Grant was in Saratoga visiting his friend, Michael Perlow '13, the weekend of March 6, 2011, and had been drinking in a Skidmore college dorm room before attending the off-campus party.

The Grants had originally filed the lawsuit in hopes that the defendants would help fill in the missing details surrounding their son's death. After speaking with the defendants, their families and their lawyers, the Grants decided to drop the suit.

"There is a strong possibility that key elements of the tragedy have yet to be brought to light. We believe we have a grave obligation to do everything in our power to determine the causes of his death, and will continue to seek information until we are satisfied that all relevant facts are in our possession," the Grants said in a statement released on Sept 4 through their attorney, John Hoggan, of Albany.

The Grants reflected on their decision to file suit and have expressed regret with regard to the way the investigation was carried out.

"Our decision to file the lawsuit was a very difficult step for us. We have expressed regret at the steps we were forced to take in this matter. Our family remains heartbroken and devastated by the tragic loss



of our beloved son, and by the failure of known facts to adequately explain how this senseless death could've happened," they said.

The Grants will continue to do everything in their power to uncover the mysteries behind their son's death and hope to gain closure and bring healing to their family and friends who knew Grant, the statement said.

Grant's family is asking anyone with information about their son's death to call 1-877-216-9588 or go to: www.alexgranttips.org.

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



Born to Bake: Chocolate Cheesecake Cupcakes

By Grace Harman, Writer

On Wed, Sep 12, 2012

I love cupcakes. To me, they're the perfect treat. I mean, really, how can you go wrong with a portable cake? Especially one wrapped in pretty paper?

I happen to be a huge fan of the tacky decorative muffin tins. The only problem I've come across is that after a little while making basic cupcakes, the task just gets boring.

Chocolate, vanilla, yawn! To liven things up, I decided to embark on a cupcake adventure and try out some new recipes and techniques.

While in many cases such a baking endeavor would lead me to stick random treats into my batter (not that anyone complained when a Reese's wound up in my chocoholic cupcake), I wanted to try something a little more complex and I ended up baking cake into cake. Sounds crazy, I know, but hear me out...

Cheesecake! It's creamy, tangy and tasty, particularly when mixed with chocolate. There are few things as yummy as a chocolate cheesecake cupcake. I'm talking about a decadent chocolate cake swirled with cheesecake filling and topped with vanilla chocolate chip buttercream frosting.

Now, since baking is my pride and joy, I went ahead and made my own frosting. But if you prefer a less time-consuming and messy task, feel free to grab a can of good old Duncan Hines vanilla frosting and throw in some chopped up chocolate chips.

A serious warning about this recipe: you WILL be tempted to eat all the batter and filling raw. I know it is oh-so-tempting (everyone knows that cake batter is secretly ambrosia), but seriously, these cupcakes are amazing cooked, so settle for licking the spoon.

For the record, this recipe makes 12 cupcakes, but I would advise doubling it, or you may find yourself with a group of disgruntled friends who missed out on tasting this divine treat.

Chocolate Cheesecake Cupcakes

Ingredients:

- 1 cup all-purpose flour

- ½ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 6 tablespoons butter, softened
- ¾ cup sugar, plus 2 tablespoons
- 1 egg, at room temperature
- 2/3 cup milk, at room temperature
- 3 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F and line 12 muffin cups with cupcake papers.
2. In a medium bowl, sift together the flour, cocoa powder, baking powder, and salt, and set aside. If sifting isn't an option, use a whisk to mix the dry ingredients together--this will help break up any big clumps.
3. Using a mixer, cream the butter and ¾ cup of sugar until they are pale yellow, about 1 minute.
4. Add the egg and mix together.
5. Gently add half of the flour mixture into the sugar/butter/eggs and stir until just incorporated.
6. Mix in the milk.
7. Add the remaining dry mixture and stir until everything is combined. Set the batter to the side.
8. In a small bowl, mix together the cream cheese, 2 tablespoons of sugar, and the vanilla. A wooden spoon works best here. Use it to sort of mash together the ingredients until they become soft enough to stir.
9. Mix in the chocolate chips.
10. Fill each cupcake paper with enough chocolate batter to just cover the bottom.
11. Add a dollop of the cream cheese filling to each.
12. Cover the filling with the remaining chocolate batter.

13. Bake for 20 minutes. Let cupcakes stand in the pan for 3 minutes and then remove and allow them to cool completely on a rack.

#1.2898120:1321318686.JPG Chocolate cheesecake cupcakes

Following 13 easy steps, you can enjoy delicious chocolate cheesecake cupcakes just like these.

Meredith Simonds/The Skidmore News





Case Gallery Show depicts Latino Immigrant experience

On Fri, Sep 14, 2012

"¡Estamos Aquí!" ("We Are Here!"), a collection of photographs by local Latino immigrants, will run until Sept. 27 at Case Center Gallery. An opening reception will also take place at 4:30 p.m. on Sept. 17.

The show presents black and white photographs taken by immigrants who enrolled in English as a Second Language classes offered by the Saratoga County Economic Opportunity Council. The classes are part of the EOC's Latino Advocacy Program.

The photographers share their experiences living and working in local communities, either as year-round residents or seasonally as workers at the Saratoga Race Course backstretch.

In preparation for their photo shoots, the ESL students participated in photography workshops led by local photographer Skip Dickstein. The workshops, funded in part by Saratoga Arts, offered a series of lessons on both the technical and editorial aspects of photography. Participants learned everything from composition and the rule of thirds to the importance of subject and content. "In addition to good composition, the photograph has to say something," Dickstein told the group.

The show's images were selected by a jury made up of Michelle Paquette, associate director of academic programs and residencies at the college; photographer Robert ParkeHarrison, associate professor of studio art at the college; and Tanya Tobias-Tomis, associate director at Saratoga Arts.

¡Estamos Aquí! is funded in part by the Saratoga Program for Arts Funding (SPAF), a component of the Decentralization Program of the New York State Council on the Arts.

#1.2901710:3852503885.jpg Estamos Aqui Main Photo

Estuardo del Cid Marroquin



SGA to Host Fall Fun Day this Saturday

A new Skidmore tradition hopes to start the semester on a good note

By Dylan Bronstein, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Sep 14, 2012

This fall, the Student Government Association's Inter-Hall Board will sponsor a new, school-wide, start of the semester event entitled "Fall Fun Day," in reference to the popular Skidmore tradition of "Fun Day," a weekend day in the spring semester to relieve stress before finals week and serve as an early going-away party for the senior class.

Fall Fun Day, which will take place from noon to 5 p.m. on September 15 on the South Green, will be a scaled-down version of the traditional Fun Day, with fewer inflatable attractions and only one of the usual music venues.

Students reacted well to the announcement of a Fall Fun Day.

"I'm super excited for Fall Fun Day, because of naps and drama!" Charlotte Cramer '15 said. Tory Waldron '15 added, "I'm excited for Fall Fun Day because last year I couldn't go on the moon bounce."

Many spring athletes deprived of the Fun Day experience because of athletic commitments will be able to attend this event, along with many students who are planning to go abroad in the spring semester.

According to SGA, the event will not have cotton candy machines, as is typical of Fun Day in the spring, but it will have a moon bounce and live music. The bands Los Elk, Beardo and Campo are scheduled to play, as well as the DJs JJ/Andrew, Jake Donahue and Stephan Cocorelis. Food will also be provided. The event has been estimated to have a bill of approximately \$5,500, around \$4,000 less than Fun Day proper.

"We're having a Fall Fun Day because a lot of students made an argument last year that there's no large social college gathering early in the college semester," said Robin Adams, associate director of Leadership Activities. "This was their attempt to get the student body together."

Before Fall Fun Day, the largest campus event of its kind during the fall semester was the Moorebid Ball, a dance that takes place on Halloween weekend. Last year, Moorebid was shut down for the second year in a row due to dangerous overcrowding of around 1,400 students between the Recreational and Dance gyms.

"The argument is that Moorebid is the first crazy event that we have, so the hope is that a Fall Fun Day would temper some of the rowdiness that explodes during Moorebid," Adams said. "I'm not sure that I personally subscribe to the idea that one event will translate to better behavior at another event, but enough students have said it, and theoretically they know their mindset better than anybody. I'm willing to try it."

These students, who campaigned at the end of last year for a Fall Fun Day and organized it over the summer and the beginning of the school year, include SGA members Jessica Sonnenfeld '14, the vice president of Residential Affairs, who spearheaded the project. Sonnenfeld said the idea of a Fall Fun Day stemmed from talks about how to go about the Moorebid situation.

However, when asked why they decided to have Fall Fun Day, SGA President Matt Walsh dismissed any relation to the October tradition.

"It's why we do any event," he said, "to provide an outlet for fun and excitement because classes are hard. We're not considering Moorebid as part of Fall Fun Day at all."

Despite rumors that Fall Fun Day is replacing Moorebid, Sonnenfeld confirmed that Moorebid plans for this semester are in the making.

"Just because we're having fall Fun Day this year doesn't mean that we're going to have it every subsequent year," Walsh said. "We're just trying it out. Fun Day has been successful, and if we want an event at the start of the year, why not start with something we know how to do."

Tang Museum offers chance to re-engage with the Constitution

On Fri, Sep 14, 2012

We the People, a new exhibition at the Tang Teaching Museum, will host a series of events that invite the public to explore the U.S. Constitution. The show, which opened on Sept. 8, will run through April 7.

Organized by faculty in a range of academic areas, the events will highlight the Constitution as lived experience, focusing on themes including citizenship, community, voting and elections. Formats for the events include lectures, films, workshops and local government meetings.

We the People is co-organized by Ian Berry, Malloy Curator at the Tang Museum, and Rachel Seligman, associate curator, in consultation with Beau Breslin, interim dean of the faculty.

"Our relationship with the Constitution is direct," said Breslin. "The unfortunate thing is that we tend to look at the Constitution through a prism of political institutions. But we don't have to go through the Supreme Court or what Congress or the President says the Constitution is. So let's engage with it in a creative way, directly, one-on-one."

Breslin expressed enthusiasm about helping U.S. citizens reconnect with their constitution, a document that he says "animates and regulates our lives in very meaningful ways on a daily basis." He notes that while the vast majority of Americans think the Constitution is important, few are able to name a single thing it says, a commentary on what he points out is "the longest enduring constitution in history."

Special events this fall for "We the People":

- Monday, Sept. 24, Constitution Day Lecture: Completing the Constitution: The 14th Amendment, by Michael Zuckert, the Nancy R. Dreux Professor of Political Science at the University of Notre Dame. Zuckert is a leading scholar of American political philosophy, constitutional law and theory, and political thought. Sponsored by Skidmore's Department of Government.
- Thursday, Oct. 4, 2-7 p.m.: We the People Voter Registration Drive, co-sponsored by the Saratoga County League of Women Voters
- Tuesday, Oct. 9, 7 p.m.: The Science and Law of Biotechnology Policy, lecture by Dr. William Henri Lesser, the Susan Eckert Lynch Professor of Science and Business, Cornell University

- Saturday, Oct. 27, 7 p.m.: Saratoga Springs City Charter Open Forum. Experts and audience will discuss the issues around reforming the Saratoga Springs City Charter in advance of a November vote on the question.
- Tuesday Nov. 6, 5:30 -11 p.m.: What to Expect When You're Expecting the Election and Election Returns Extravaganza. A discussion with Government Professor Ronald Seyb on the battle for the swing states, followed by live coverage of the election returns, with refreshments, contests, balloons, and more.
- Tuesday, Nov. 27, 7 p.m: The Return on the Returns: Two Different Views. A discussion with Erica Seifert (Skidmore Class of '02), a senior associate at Greenberg Quinlan Rosner who conducts research on American politics and elections, voter participation, and economic issues; and Benjamin Clarke (Skidmore '01), former chief political writer for GOP strategist Frank Luntz and former speechwriter for Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-TN).

For more information and a full listing of events go to Skidmore.edu/tang.

#1.2901698:3376933012.jpg:We The People Main Picture

"We the People" offers a special gallery for contemplation, featuring handcrafted benches. The writing on the wall was created using thousands of shoelaces.

Courtesy of Community Relations





Editorial: Fall Fun Day Discussion

By the Editorial Board

On Fri, Sep 14, 2012

When the rumors of Fall Fun Day were recently confirmed by SGA, the news received mixed reactions from the student body. Due to the popularity of the school's spring tradition, which shares its name, many returning students showed excitement. However, others have expressed concern over the possibility of the event turning into yet another opportunity for incidents of binge drinking.

While this event is meant to serve as a calm, welcome-back celebration, the connection to the spring Fun Day is inevitable. The spring tradition falls on the weekend before finals week and serves as a day to de-stress. Fun Day is one of the most highly anticipated and attended events, a tradition that is also linked to massive alcohol consumption.

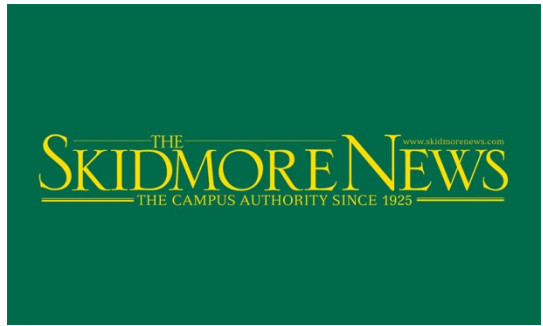
Due to the timing and nature of Fun Day, it is not surprising that the event has become such an outlet for substance use. With this in mind, it's natural that students anticipate that Fall Fun Day may unfold in a similar fashion.

In recent years, it has not been unusual for alcohol-related incidents to occur during campus-wide celebrations. However, Fun Day has typically seen lower numbers of incidents than other major gatherings. There was only one hospitalization during Fun Day last year.

Fall semester is typically back heavy in terms of major celebrations, and Fall Fun Day seems to be SGA's attempt to balance the semester out. First year students would be introduced to a large, campus-wide event earlier on, instead of the annual Moorebid Ball* in late October. Fall Fun Day also provides a great opportunity for spring athletes and study abroad students to participate in an event they would otherwise miss.

Yet, with the school's history of alcohol mismanagement, there remains a concern for the outcome of this event. The school has seen an increase in the number of substance-related hospitalizations in recent years. In response, however, the administration has put forth many efforts to tackle this issue, including a revision of the AOD policy, campus-wide discussions, and increased safety measures at major events.

However, there is only so much that SGA and the administration can do. With Fall Fun Day, we have been presented with another chance to prove ourselves, and ultimately, the outcome of such a highly anticipated all-campus event lies in the hands of the student body.



*Contrary to rumors, Fall Fun Day is not a replacement for Moorebid Ball, and is very much a distinct entity. Moorebid is still being considered by SGA, and is in the tentative planning stages.



Skidmore Jumps Six Spots in US News & World Report Rankings

The college gains ground on many peer institutions in the new 2013 rankings published Wednesday

By Adrian Appleman, News Editor

On Fri, Sep 14, 2012

Skidmore College jumped six spots in the 2013 rankings of *U.S. News & World Report's* Best Liberal Arts Colleges, published on Sept. 12, 2012. Skidmore moved from 49th to 43rd, two spots below Connecticut College and Union College, which both occupy the 41st spot, and five positions below Trinity College, which takes 38th on the list.

U.S. News uses a methodology that assigns each college a composite score based on factors which include graduation and retention rates, resources, selectivity and alumni giving. On Skidmore's page, *U.S. News* calls attention to the small size of the student body as well as the wide array of resources that are provided for the students, such as Northwoods, which serves as an outdoor classroom, and the First-Year Experience, which eases the transition into college academics.

The report also notes a general happiness felt by students of the College. "The average freshman retention rate, an indicator of student satisfaction, is 94.2 %," the report states.

Skidmore was also listed in *Newsweek* magazine as one of the "[25 Happiest Colleges](http://www.thedailybeast.com/newsweek/galleries/2012/08/05/college-rankings-2012-25-happiest-schools-photos.html)," placing higher than distinguished institutions such as Cornell University, Harvard University, Columbia University, Wesleyan University and Tufts University.

For a full list of the 2013 rankings, please visit the *U.S. News & World Report's* [website](http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-colleges/rankings/national-liberal-arts-colleges).

Smoke-free? Skidmore's future as a smoke-friendly campus

If we see you smoking we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action.

-Douglas Adams

By Jenny Zhang, Writer

On Mon, Sep 17, 2012

If you've ever left your dorm, you've probably encountered secondhand smoke at one point or another. Whether you're the smoker taking a puff in front of the Burgess Café, or the passerby that witnesses the crowds forming around the benches anterior to the residence halls, news of a potentially smoke-free Skidmore might come as a shock to you.

According to Rochelle Calhoun, dean of Student Affairs and co-chair of the subcommittee on Student Affairs from the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee (IPPC), discussions about the potential of the College becoming a smoke-free campus stem from a Student Government Association Senate meeting that took place last year. SGA President Matthew Walsh '13, who also serves as co-chair with Calhoun on Student Affairs, attended a senate meeting where senators chose smoking as an issue for the IPPC to look into.

"We started by doing some reading about smoke or tobacco-free campuses. We also had a conversation with a woman who works with the Cancer Society," Calhoun said. "She talked to us about trends and higher education, about going smoke free. In the middle of first semester last year, we learned that the Environmental Health and Safety committee was also looking at the issue. We combined forces and had a conversation on how to begin to explore the issue."

Conveniently, Christine Kopec, currently a visiting assistant professor for the Department of Management & Business, was also teaching a business ethics class at the time, in which one of the students' objectives was to explore an issue in the community. Kopec asked her class to take up the issue of smoking on campus.

Kopec's class investigated the question of being a smoke-free campus. Students referenced other institutions that went smoke or tobacco-free, and tried to understand why they made their decision by examining the processes they followed. At the end of the course, the class was asked to offer their perspective on whether the College should become a tobacco or smoke-free campus, and answered in the affirmative.



When Student Affairs and the Health and Safety committee coalesce this year, members will review the report from the business ethics class once again.

"It really has been a conversation in committee at this point. Our goal this year is to make it a campus conversation," Calhoun said. She added, "There is a range of options for us. We want to know what they are and be in a community dialogue about it."

Walsh reviewed smoking policies of close to 15 institutions that he said the College considers "peer and aspirant." Only one was on its way to becoming smoke-free. Others had specific policies about various parameters around buildings past which students and faculty could not smoke.

In addition, surveys were administered by Health Promotions to find out more about students' behaviors around smoking. Calhoun said if the surveys are sufficient, the committee will review them.

Enforcement of potential smoking policies is a topic of much discussion on college campuses. While some universities see a ban as a violation of the school's policies, others have made it a communal responsibility to uphold the decree. At various schools, literature that serves as a reminder of tobacco or smoke-free school environments was printed and distributed throughout campus.

Calhoun predicts that if the decision to make the College smoke-free is final, it should take 18 months to two years before the policy can fully take effect.

Folks who are interested in exploring it span both students, staff and faculty, Calhoun said. "I can certainly say there is community interest in having this conversation."

#1.2903051:1477079197.JPG:Smoke Free

A favorite spot of smokers on campus, are these tables soon to be stripped of their patrons?

Meredith Simonds/ The Skidmore News





"To Rome With Love" Satisfies as a Carefree Film

A Car Chase and a Kiss: Admittedly Optimistic Reviews of Films at the Saratoga Film Forum

By Eric Stumpf, Columnist

On Mon, Sep 17, 2012

Woody Allen's "To Rome With Love" opens at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 20 at the Saratoga Film Forum. The film will also run at the same time on Friday, Sept. 21, and again at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 23.

Allen's newest film follows several people through Rome as their lives intermingle. Characters include a distinguished architect (Alec Baldwin); a man (Jesse Eisenberg) in love with the wrong woman (Ellen Page); and a simple man who involuntarily gains celebrity status (Roberto Benigni). These may be classic archetypes of Allen's, but it's hard not to love the cast of all-star celebrities and satiating characters. Baldwin pushes the film to a higher level of success in particular, with his wry delivery and comedic timing.

To Rome With Love is a visually stunning and picturesque cinematic tour through The Sacred City. The film's refined execution is comparable to that of Federico Fellini's ("La Dolce Vita"). Allen truly uses the location of Rome to his benefit; the romantic allure of the city couples with a playful soundtrack to bridge satire and romantic comedy. If you haven't been to Rome, you'll want to go - and if you have been you'll want to return.

While Allen's latest film may not strike a deep emotional chord, it does satisfy as a sweet, carefree film that arouses laughs and pleasure along the way. Kerry Lengel of The Arizona Republic calls it "a miniature masterpiece amidst more modest amusements." Put simply, "To Rome With Love" didn't just remind me I needed to return to The Eternal City - it brought me there and back without the price of airfare.

Relevant Majors: History/Art History, International Studies/Government, Romance Languages, Performing Arts, Psychology

Look out next week for a review of "Moonrise Kingdom," coming to the Film Forum on Sept. 27.

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Philippe Antonello/Sony Pictures Classics



Skidmore Student Conservation Core brings care to oft-overlooked North Woods

Environmentally conscious students participate in one of the newest independent study programs

By Dylan Bronstein, Writer

On Mon, Sep 17, 2012

Had students happened to be out in the North Woods during the week before school, they might have come across six students doing trail maintenance, removing invasive species, building water bars, and picking up litter with sustainability representatives. These six students are the members of the newest independent study at the College, the Skidmore Student Conservation Core.

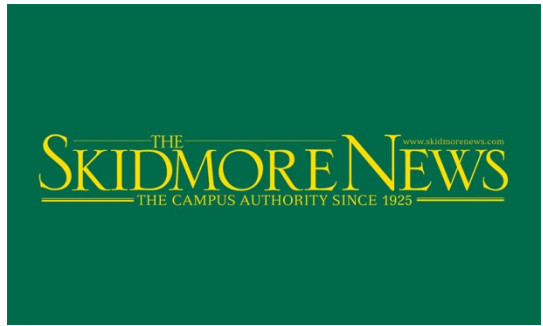
North Woods, much to the surprise of many younger students, isn't just a collection of apartments that house upperclassmen. It's also the name that groups such as the Friends of North Woods and Sustainability Stewards use to refer to the 170 acres of woodland located north of campus.

Spearheaded by Sustainability Coordinator Riley Neugebauer, the Skidmore Student Conservation Core, or SSCC, will enter its first semester of existence since its theoretical inception almost a year ago as a group designed to provide students with a two credit independent study focused on sustainability and conservation.

"We were talking about ways to get students more involved in some of the on-campus hands activities related to land conservation and trail maintenance in the North Woods," Neugebauer said. "We have a living laboratory that is the North Woods, and I wanted to turn that into a learning opportunity as well as something practical. Students get practical skills and it supports the work that I do, which helps make the North Woods a more useable space."

Students registered for the SSCC independent study will learn conservation and sustainability techniques that they will use if they plan on pursuing any type of career in the environmental sciences.

Though the SSCC spends much of its time in the woods, the group demonstrates a fair amount of involvement on campus as well. Thomas Wessels, an ecologist and author, is scheduled to come to the College to give a lecture at 7 p.m. on Sept. 19 in Filene. This event will be co-sponsored by the SSCC along with the Environmental Studies Program and Sustainable Skidmore.

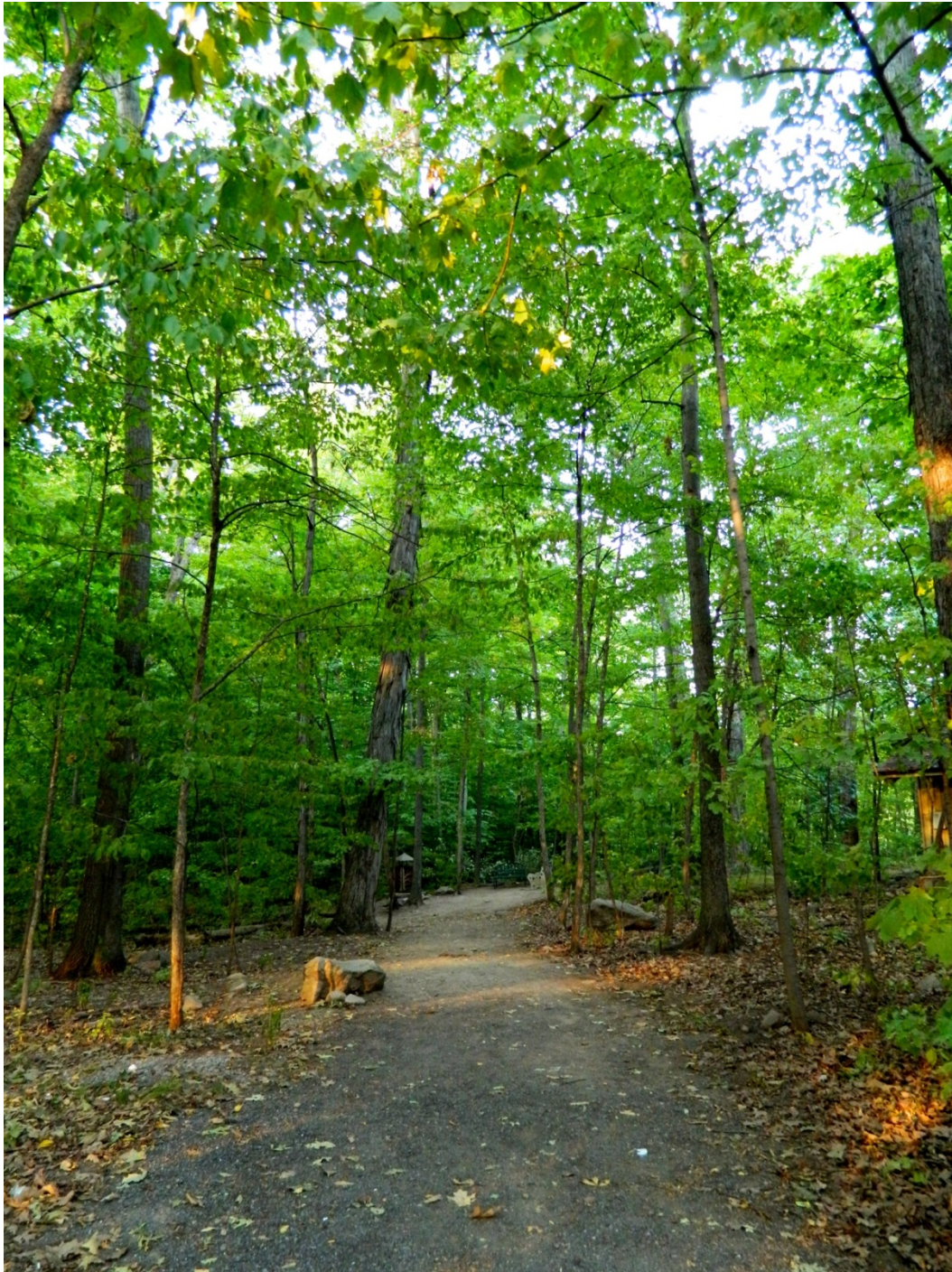


Lectures that bring ecologists and conservationists to Skidmore represent one of the many goals of the SSCC that enhance the group's own knowledge of conservation, as well as that of the campus community.

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The verdant North Woods have found a new protector in the form of the Skidmore Student Conservation Core.

Meredith Simonds/ The Skidmore News



Eat Good Food promises dishes that live up to its name

Riding the food truck trend, Eat Good Food offers healthy alternatives on wheels

By Rachel Kashdan, Writer

On Tue, Sep 18, 2012

Although it was the notoriously unlucky Friday the 13, nearly two hundred people showed up to the grand opening of the Eat Good Food truck in July. People sat outdoors at the truck's location on West Avenue to eat a number of the wide variety of items presented by the menu, from cornmeal-encrusted salmon with lemon vinaigrette to a fresh crepe with berries and maple sugar candy.

Over the past several years, food trucks have become popular destinations for the culinary-minded in cities across the country. Last winter, Jean Travis, an alumna from the class of 1974 and her husband John, former restaurant owners, decided to bring the trend to Saratoga Springs by taking their philosophy of unique, healthy and delicious food and putting it on wheels, according to Jean.

Since their ingredients come from local farmers' markets and their son Ben's garden, the menu board changes daily depending on what is fresh and seasonally available. With such a unique menu, people often ask Jean what her favorite dish is, a question she says is like choosing between her children.

On any given day at the truck, the menu might offer sentimental favorites such as Jean's mother's eggplant parmesan on a roasted garlic and olive waffle, or confectionery delights like an enormous chocolate cupcake, but Jean and John say they always like to remind their customers of the menu's flexibility.

"We don't have any rules," they said. "You can do anything you want."

The Travis said their newest goal is to make Eat Good Food more accessible to Skidmore students. As an alumna, Jean hopes to be able to provide a convenient and healthy late night alternative to downtown food.

"Skidmore kids know what good food is, and this is affordable good food," she said. "What college student wouldn't love waffles with real maple syrup or a buffalo chicken taco at 2 a.m. right outside their door?"

The Eat Good Food truck will not return to its West Avenue site until the spring, but the truck will be mobile elsewhere in the meantime. Upcoming events include the Henry Street Festival from noon to 4



p.m. on Sept. 23, and Oktoberfest at the Malta Drive-in Theater from 1 to 7 p.m. on Oct. 13. Anyone with a Skidmore ID will get a free dessert at either of these events.

Jean and John say that Eat Good Food is who they are and what they do. They invite students to join them in their love for food.

Students who are interested in learning more can visit the Eat Good Food truck's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/EATGOODFOODFORLIFE> >www.facebook.com/EATGOODFOODFORLIFE

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With its sleek exterior and dynamic menu, the Eat Good Food truck offers delicious meals and treats wherever it travels

Dylan Lustrin/ The Skidmore News





With health concerns quieted, renovated Starbuck Center gradually re-opens

Offices given temporary homes across campus will move back to Starbuck starting this week

By Sarah Rose Slate, Contributing Writer

On Tue, Sep 18, 2012

After months of renovations, the Starbuck Center will reopen this week, allowing its offices to move back to their original locations in the building within the coming month.

“With a new insulated roof, completely new heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, new connectivity of computer equipment, paint and carpet, we expect an improved environment for our students and staff,” Michael West, vice president for Finance and Administration, said. “We also added two new offices to meet service demands.”

[Earlier this year](http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/50-employees-removed-from-starbuck-center-due-to-health-concerns-1.2752587#.UffzPXan8aA), health concerns raised by employees in Starbuck prompted an evacuation of the building as well as an investigation into whether the center contained high levels of hazardous chemicals or mold.

Throughout this process, which ran from late January into February, 50 employees were evacuated, and offices were relocated to various places on campus including Palamountain Hall, Ladd Hall, and Case Center.

[During the investigation](http://www.skidmorenews.com/news/results-from-initial-starbuck-testing-released-1.2759090#.Tz7RI3aQdbw), the building was tested for toxic chemicals including radon, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds and formaldehyde.

The results of the first round of testing confirmed that the chemicals were within or below the recommended ranges. A second round of tests also found no concerns. However, the building remained closed for renovations throughout the rest of the school year, the various offices remaining in their temporary locations.

Tuesday will mark the reopening of the Career Development Center and Student Academic Services in their new Starbuck offices. The offices of the Registrar, Financial Aid, Academic Advising, First-Year

Experience, Off-Campus Studies, Institutional Research, Office Student Accounts and the Card Office will move back into Starbuck and open over the course of this semester.

The phasing of the offices back into the Starbuck Center, according to President Philip A. Glotzbach in an earlier interview, will be scheduled according to each office's needs. This will ensure that members of the offices do not have to worry about relocation in addition to other events and tasks, he said.

Plans are continuing for the future of the Starbuck Center. The administration is working to convert the new building to be geo-thermally heated and cooled within the next year to improve the work environment for employees and increase convenience for students utilizing the College's resources, turning Starbuck into a more permanently established campus administrative building.

"Almost all offices benefit from the renovations," West said. "Starbuck Center will continue to serve these functions in the long-term future."

Frugal Foods, Happy Stomachs: Black bean flat wraps

By Ashley Copperstone, Writer

On Wed, Sep 19, 2012

So, you don't think our Dining Hall is all that? Well, after moving into Northwoods and losing my daily access, I have become completely nostalgic. Underclassmen, I envy your ability to walk into the Dining Hall without a care in the world, while I have to woefully endure the smell of Chicken Finger Friday on my way to class, knowing that it can't be mine. It's just not fair.

In honor of the Dining Hall, the first recipe I've prepared for this column is definitely a campus favorite. Readers, I present to you: the Black Bean Flat Wrap. These amazing mouth-wateringly awesome wraps will have upperclassmen dying for a guest swipe. Words cannot express how excited I was about making these. A box of black bean burgers sat in my freezer for the entire weekend, calling to me, but I didn't touch them. Even with everyone I know asking me if I would just make them early, I persevered.

Not only is this meal super easy to make, but it is also extremely affordable. The overall cost is \$12.68 with plenty of extra ingredients for snacks or a salad the next day. The whole ordeal takes a little under 15 minutes to prepare, and you can make them ahead of time and store them in your fridge for later. You can make four (or eight or twelve...I tend to get a bit carried away). You can feed your housemates, your friends or even make lunch and dinner for yourself for the rest of the week. All this comes to only two dollars more than the cost of a single dinner at the Dining Hall. A win-win situation, in my opinion.

If any of the ingredients in this recipe don't suit your palate or your dietary restrictions, substitutions can be easily made. For the gluten-free individuals, I've got your back. My housemate came up with a gluten-free option using a rice flour wrap and gluten-free black bean burgers. It was just as delicious as its wheat-based cousin. Get ready for some serious eating, my friends.

Black Bean Flat Wraps

- Serves 4
- One carton of Black Bean Burgers (Morningstar Brand is a good choice!)
- One bag of whole-wheat wraps
- One tomato
- One red onion
- A bag of shredded cheese
- Guacamole
- A bunch of Spinach



First, wash and prepare your ingredients by chopping the onion, tomato, and spinach into small squares. If frozen, heat the burger up in the microwave on high for one minute on each side. Then get your housemates and make an assembly line. Place your wrap on a flat surface and apply your ingredients in the following order: apply a liberal smear of guacamole, add the diced spinach and onion, add the tomato, then the burger, and finally, the cheese. Pull in the sides of your wrap over your ingredients. Then cook your wrap on a greased George Foreman grill or pan on the stove for 5-7 minutes on each side. Enjoy your meal, as you've just recreated the crown jewel of the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall!

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Before it is folded into the flat wrap of Dining Hall fame, each ingredient is carefully chosen and placed for maximum flavor and structural integrity.

Meredith Simonds/ The Skidmore News

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Post-preparation, these black bean flat wraps are ready for consumption.

Meredith Simonds/ The Skidmore News





Editorial: Heighten Security Measures in Saisselin

By the Editorial Board

On Thu, Sep 20, 2012

After a busy summer of construction, the campus looks better than ever. Lucy Scribner Library's beautifully renovated interior beckons students to spend more time studying; the health concerns in Starbuck have been resolved and the new Hillside Apartments rival Northwoods Village as the nicest housing option. Despite these considerable efforts, however, one stone was left unturned: nothing has been done to heighten the security in the 24-hour-accessible Saisselin Art Building.

Students and faculty members alike have expressed concerns over stolen artwork and materials. The front entrance of Saisselin is always open, and while some of the studios do have punch-code locks, the doors are often left ajar and the codes are rarely changed. The campus is an incredibly safe and trusting community, and while we value our ability to live uninhibited by security protocols, a luxury students at many larger colleges and universities lack, the reality is that we do not always know who is on our campus. This March, a local man who had been living at the Gateway Motel was caught sending death threats to President Barack Obama from computers in Saisselin. Fortunately, this man didn't harm anyone on campus, but the point remains that he could have.

Studio Art students often work late into the night, and the building is typically scarcely populated. Working sleep-deprived, alone, in the early hours of the morning can feel eerie, especially when the threat of unsolicited or inebriated visitors is a risk.

Case Center is the only other 24-hour building on Skidmore's campus that does not get locked at night. It is a known place of congregation among students, and there is not much valuable equipment to be taken. Any room that does have expensive merchandise has a lock, and the space is so open that it would be difficult to find yourself in a dark corner. However, it is fairly common to have one student working alone in a secluded space of Saisselin late into the night. Saisselin is full of valuable and expensive materials, and the hours of labor students put into their art is irreplaceable. Instances of student work being stolen or vandalized are not uncommon. Beyond theft and public defacement lies the possibility of injury: there is dangerous machinery which, if in the hands of careless individuals, could cause harm. Instances of drunken carelessness or meandering may be rare, but they do occur.

These concerns can all be addressed by remodeling the security system in Saisselin to look more like that of the Zankel Music Center, the only other 24-hour-accessible building left unmentioned. The doors of Zankel require swipe-entry after 11 p.m., and only students enrolled in lessons or classes may enter

the facility. Once inside, they may only swipe into the room needed for the class they are taking. Instruments are stored in lockers with lock combinations known only by the owners.

Of course these measures make sense with so much valuable equipment in Zankel, but why shouldn't this same mentality apply to Saisselin? It would be a relatively simple fix to install similar locks, and students and faculty members could finally be at ease knowing that their valuable materials and precious works are safe.

Restaurant Review: Comfort Kitchen

By Rebecca Workman, Tara Lerman, Sara Gagnon and Kate Butler, Writers

On Fri, Sep 21, 2012

Well in line with the stereotype of the impoverished and starving college student, we were looking for a good homestyle meal without having to go too far or pay too much. In a streak of good fortune, Becca saw an ad for Comfort Kitchen, which opened earlier this summer in June, and we deemed it a good affordable place to try out.

We walked down the stairs of the Saratoga Marketplace on Broadway and entered the modern but homey atmosphere of Comfort Kitchen. The friendly staff quickly informed us that the grilled cheese, made with locally sourced cheddar, fontina and gruyere, and the pesto tomato soup were favorites among customers. Naturally, we ordered both dishes, along with the french onion burger, veggie burger and the decadent four-cheese macaroni and cheese. We knew that we couldn't forget the sides, so we also tried the sweet potato chips and the homemade tater tots.

Everything at Comfort Kitchen was not only delicious, but also very fresh. The tater tots were crispy on the outside and soft and fluffy on the inside. They were clearly made moments before they were placed on our plates - these were not your typical cafeteria tots. The sweet potato chips, sprinkled with rosemary-orange sea salt, had the perfect consistency and saltiness, far exceeding the quality of an average chip or sweet potato fry. If you're a burger person, be sure to try the tangy and savory french onion burger. You also can't go wrong with the perfectly textured veggie burger, made with black beans and topped with avocado, pickled red onions and a house-made chipotle mayo. For the classic comfort food, don't miss out on the creamy mac & cheese topped with homemade herb breadcrumbs, which was rich but subtle in flavor. Blended with a great roasted garlic aioli and caramelized onions, the three cheeses of the grilled cheese melted together into a delicious twist on the classic sandwich. The dish was especially good when dipped into the rich and tasty tomato soup. After all this, we had just enough room to share dessert. The apple hand pie was a perfect cross between an apple pie and an apple crisp, wrapped in a delicious flaky crust that may have been too good to share. Drizzled with semi-sweet chocolate and filled with peanut butter chips, the blondie was a dense and flavorful take on the traditional sweet.

Perhaps what sets Comfort Kitchen apart from the average restaurant or lunch chain is the quality of its locally sourced ingredients. For customers curious about where the restaurant's ingredients come from, the names of the vendors can be found on the chalkboard outside the restaurant. Each ingredient stood



out in just the right way, adding layers of exciting complexity to meals that might otherwise seem standard.

As summer comes to an end, the restaurant will begin to incorporate more fall comfort foods into its menu. Be sure to check out new dishes like mashed potatoes with gravy and more. If you're looking for that high-quality comfort cuisine at an affordable rate, we highly recommend you head over to Comfort Kitchen.

For more info and to check out their menu, go to <http://www.comforteats.com/>. And in case we weren't clear, get the tots.

#1.2908120:3523646894.JPG:comfortburger

Locally sourced ingredients of superior quality make a delectable treat out of any option on the menu.

Rebecca Workman/ The Skidmore News

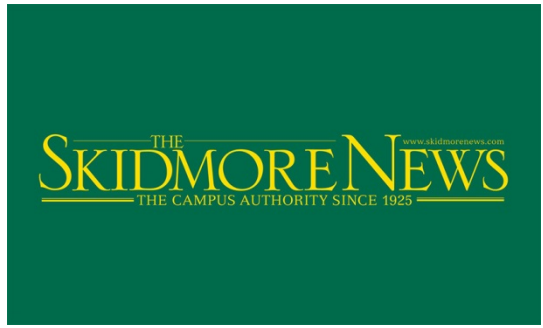
#1.2908123:2702328256.JPG:comfortmacaroni

Comfort Kitchen offers exciting twists on traditional comfort foods, such as the creamy macaroni & cheese, topped with homemade breadcrumbs.

Rebecca Workman/The Skidmore News







Wait, What?

By Chris DuMont, Cartoonist
On Sun, Sep 23, 2012

Wait, What? by Chris DuMont '14.



Children's author-illustrator Elisha Cooper gives lecture on "Inappropriate" children's books

Cooper illustrated his artistic methods and origins in the twenty-fourth annual Fox-Adler Lecture

By Julia Leef, Co-Editor-in-Chief

On Mon, Sep 24, 2012

On Sept. 20, more than one hundred students, faculty and community members gathered in Gannett auditorium to listen to author-illustrator Elisha Cooper speak about writing and illustrating children's books.

This presentation was part of the twenty-fourth annual Fox-Adler Lecture, a traditional event at the college that honors the Fox family and the late Hannah Moriarta Adler, who loaned her extensive collection of 18th and 19th-century literature to the college in 1967. Norman M. Fox later made the donation permanent, and his support for this lecture enables the perseverance of literature and the arts in honor of Adler's memory.

"This lecture provides innumerable visible occasions to learn from what we see, not only in the realm of words, but also in the larger, visible world," said President Philip A. Glotzbach, who gave the opening welcome speech. "This series highlights the wonderful Fox collection of illustrated books that we are privileged to hold in the Scribner library. I express my deepest appreciation to the Fox and Adler families for making this lecture possible every year."

Cooper, this year's guest speaker, is an award-winning children's book author and illustrator. His book, *Dance!*, published in 2001, became the *New York Times* Best Illustrated Book of the Year. He has also written several books for adults, including *A Year in New York* and the memoir *Crawling: A Father's First Year*.

"Cooper has written and illustrated over a dozen books, and his life and experience continues to be a source of inspiration for children and adults," said Dr. Catherine Golden, professor of English and director of the Honors Forum, in her introduction.

"I'm completely unqualified to be giving a lecture," Cooper said, immediately taking off what he said was the only suit he owned, a gift from his editor for painting his twins' bedroom. "Having an artist talk about his own work is strange to me, because I always think, 'it's in the art.'"



The title of the lecture, "Inappropriate," was in reference to a conversation Cooper once had with Maurice Sendak, author of many children's books including *Where the Wild Things Are* and *Chicken Soup with Rice*. Cooper said Sendak disliked the idea that he had to be appropriate for children, and that he took especial pride in the books of his that were banned from libraries. "Inappropriateness is sometimes good," Cooper said.

Cooper continued with a brief biography of his life, saying he had been influenced at a young age by his grandmother, who painted watercolors of landscapes until her recent death.

"It's always funny to me that I'm doing the same thing I was doing when I was eight," he said.

Cooper continued to draw throughout his academic career, illustrating on a giant sketchpad the caricatures he used to draw of his college football coaches at Yale University. After college he was hired by *The New Yorker* as a messenger, and later as a writer, to deliver and pick up manuscripts and covers around New York City.

"I was a pretty bad messenger because I would take detours with my sketchbook and go and draw the Union Market Square, or something else," Cooper said. These sketches later became a book entitled, *A Year in New York*, which allowed him to quit *The New Yorker* and fully embrace the career of an author-illustrator.

He went further into detail, explaining his dislike for books centered on morals or celebrity books illustrated by ghost artists. "The same love and care is not shown when someone illustrates someone else's work," he said.

"Even though there are a lot of wonderful children's books right now, there are a lot of crappy children's books out there, and I often feel that they are cute, they are the same, they are infantilizing, and they talk down to kids," he said. "There are a lot of 'shoulds' in these books, what you should do and what you should be. There should not be any 'should' in art."

For his work on *Farm*, Cooper would pull over to different farms, asking farmers to take him around so he could see what they did, and he would make sketches of the farm equipment and animals he saw.

"I sometimes think about books in terms of a sculptor, who has a marble stone and starts chipping away to make the statue," he said. "I think that with writing especially you have to accumulate all the details first and make that marble before you can start chopping it down and sculpting it. My favorite part of making a book is that first moment there in the dirt with the drawing when I first see this book taking shape."



Cooper listed some of the artists he admired, including Mo Willems and Robert McCloskey, for their confident lines that come from so much practice and work.

"The beauty of writing and drawing and art and books is that anyone can do it," Cooper said. "All you need is a mind, a point of view, a pencil and yourself. If your story and the line you create resonates, that is all that matters. Art in that way is limitless."

#1.2910166:2193133613.jpeg Elisha Cooper

Elisha Cooper, the 24th annual Fox-Adler Lecturer.

Courtesy of Communications



Born to Bake: Chocolate chip peanut butter cookies

By Grace Harman, Columnist

On Mon, Sep 24, 2012

Chocolate and peanut butter: it's the quintessential pairing for any and all desserts. Like Scooby and Shaggy, Thelma and Louise, or Troy and Abed, chocolate and peanut butter just belong together.

I'm super excited to be back to baking cookies. Much to my dismay, my baking trays have been missing for weeks, but luckily for me, they have finally been located and repossessed from their spot on my friend's kitchen counter.

As such, this week I bring you my oh-so-yummy peanut butter chocolate chip cookies. This recipe combines all of the gooey decadence of chocolate chip cookies with the creamy goodness of peanut butter.

These cookies are easy to prepare, quick to bake (only ten minutes) and a breeze to clean up because you only need to use one bowl. To help ease the cleanup, I also like to use Silpat sheets.

If you don't have these or have never heard of them, don't worry, many haven't. I would recommend purchasing a pair--they're worth the investment. Laid on one's baking tray to prevent sticking, Silpat sheets are made of fiberglass and food grade silicone.

Nothing sticks to them, so you never have to worry about ruining a cookie. They are a lot easier to clean than pans--instead of toiling away, scrubbing at charred baked goods, you simply wipe Silpat sheets with a sponge and you're finished. You can also place them in the dishwasher. They're great for rolling or kneading dough on; one would be truly hard-pressed to find something that sticks to a Silpat sheet.

Please, excuse my digression from expounding on the wonders of peanut butter and chocolate. In case you couldn't tell, I take great pride in my baking tools and often feel the need to share the joy...but, back to the cookies: like I said, they're an easy make and an easy cleanup. As an added bonus, they only take about half an hour from start to perfect, gooey finish.

As a quick heads up, these cookies don't spread very much, so make each cookie on the sheet the size and shape you want it to be when it comes out of the oven.



Ingredients:

½ cup (1 stick) butter, softened

½ cup chunky or smooth peanut butter (I prefer chunky, it gives the cookies a little more texture).

½ cup granulated sugar

½ cup packed brown sugar

1 egg

1 ¼ cups all-purpose flour

½ teaspoon baking powder

½ teaspoon baking soda

¼ teaspoon salt

2 cups semisweet chocolate chips

Preparation:

Preheat oven to 350°F. Drop the cookie dough onto a greased (or Silpat covered!) cookie sheet leaving about half an inch to an inch of space between each cookie. Bake for 10-15 minutes. The cookies should be a nice golden brown when they're finished baking. Feel free to double-check completion by inserting a toothpick into the center of a cookie and seeing if it comes out clean.

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Fresh from the oven, these divine treats combine two great confectionery stalwarts: chocolate and peanut butter.

Meredith Simonds/ The Skidmore News



Campus Safety Incident Reports: Sept. 14 to 20

By Julia Leef, Co-Editor-in-Chief

On Tue, Sep 25, 2012

Campus Safety Incident Reports from the week of Sept. 14.

Incidents of Note:

Sunday, Sept. 16

Suspicious Odor: Possible smoke reported at 11:29 p.m. on the first floor of McClellan Hall. Officers and Unit-10 dispatched located a gas leak. Maintenance valved off the area and Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning responded for repair.

Tuesday, Sept. 18

Fire: Small grease fire reported at 12:4 p.m. in Pine Apartments. Fire extinguished with no injury or damage. Report issued.

Wednesday, Sept. 19

Suspicious Activity: Person reports at 9:45 a.m. that an unknown male subject approached her in a vehicle on Perimeter Road and gave her a flower. This action made her uncomfortable so as to report the incident. The officers given a description were unable to locate the subject on campus. No other problems reported. Report issued.

Thursday, Sept. 20

College Violation: Officers report observing a vehicle driving recklessly at 10:07 p.m. on Perimeter Road. Officers did not pursue the vehicle due to a safety hazard. Officers were able to identify the vehicle from prior incidences. Subject was banned from campus. Report issued.

Further Incidents:

Friday, Sept. 14

Medical: Intoxicated student who ingested marijuana and vomited due to alcohol reported at 12:38 a.m. in Penfield Hall. Officers dispatched assessed subject and requested the Emergency Medical System. Subject was transported to the Emergency Room. Report issued.

Medical: Officer reports finding a male student at 1:28 a.m. vomiting outside Penfield Hall. Officer assisted student who was responsive and coherent. No further medical attention necessary.

College Violation: Reports at 2:36 a.m. of loud voices in Wait Hall for the past half hour. Officer dispatched reported that subjects were gone upon arrival.

Medical: Student reported at 10:49 a.m. having a medical condition in class. Dispatched all units. Subject transported to health services. Report issued.

Criminal Mischief: Criminal mischief to handicap sign in Case Center Lot reported at 5:54 p.m. No known perpetrators at this time. Report issued.

College Violation: Excessive noise reported at 12:38 a.m. at residence on Dayton Drive. Officers dispatched spoke with residents and they complied with the request to lower the volume.

Alarm: Saratoga Springs Police officers dispatched due to an alarm at 1:24 a.m. at the Skidmore Employees Federal Credit Union office on campus. Officers dispatched located housekeeping and keyholder dispatched to respond. Report issued.

College Violation: Loud music reported at 1:36 a.m. between Kimball Hall and Penfield Hall. Officer dispatched reports that the group dispersed.

Medical Assist: Reporting person said she smoked too much marijuana and needed assistance at 3:22 a.m. in North Woods. Officers dispatched transported the subject to the Emergency Room. Report issued.

Intoxicated Subject: Reporting person said at 3:03 p.m. that she escorted an intoxicated student from Case Center to her seventh floor Jonsson Tower room. Officers dispatched reports subject alert and responsive. No medical attention necessary.

Campus Safety Assist: Several noise complaints from the State Street area received at 3:40 p.m. regarding the volume level at Fall Fun Day. Report issued.

Harassment: Person reports at 4:21 p.m. that her daughter was harassed at Fall Fun Day. Officers initiated an investigation. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: An anonymous caller who originally requested to speak with the counselor on call requested Campus Safety at 4:45 p.m. to meet them in the Dining Hall. Officer spoke with the person in regards to a possible sexual assault. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Unruly students reported at 4:53 p.m. attempting to enter the Murray-Aikins Dining Hall causing a disturbance. Officers dispatched.

Campus Safety Assist: Another group of unruly students at 5:56 p.m. attempting to access the Dining Hall without shoes. Officer dispatched.

Liquor Law Violation: Officer reports an unauthorized party at 5:20 p.m. in Howe Hall with alcohol violations observed. Report issued.

Medical Assist: Reporting person with bee allergy was stung at 5:43 p.m. Officer retrieved the person's EpiPen and administered the medication. Report issued.

Suspicious Activity: Person reports at 5:49 p.m. that she believes her suite mate was sexually assaulted. Dispatched officers investigated and issued report. Report unfounded; mutual consent present during activities.

College Violation: Excessive noise reported at 8:38 p.m. at residents on Cane Crossing. Officers dispatched were unable to locate any noise.

Suspicious Odor: Suspicious odor reported at 9:10 p.m. on the third floor of McClellan Hall. Officers dispatched. Call unfounded.

College Violation: Officer reports an alcohol violation outside the Starbuck Center at 9:29 p.m. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: A welfare check was requested at 10:54 p.m. for a student in McClellan Hall. Officers dispatched and found the student to be sick but stable. Student said she would call if she needed further assistance.

Sunday, Sept. 16

College Violation: Excessive noise reported at 1:45 a.m. in Jonsson Tower. Officers dispatched spoke with residents who complied with the request to lower the volume.

Criminal Mischief: Saratoga Springs Police Department reports at 2:14 a.m. an officer out with three students on the Sports Field in reference to Criminal Mischief. Campus Safety assistance requested and officer dispatched. Report issued.

Criminal Mischief: Fire extinguisher reported missing at 6:12 a.m. in Case Center. Officers dispatched to check the area. Replacement issued.

Accident: Two Skidmore vehicles reported involved in a minor property damage automobile accident at 6:15 a.m. at Case Center loading dock. Reports issued.

Criminal Mischief: Missing thermostat reported at 1:24 p.m. near the kitchen of Wiecking Hall. Dispatched officer recorded the damage and issued a report. No known perpetrators at this time.

Campus Safety Assist: Transport requested at 7:22 p.m. from Jonsson Tower to the Saratoga Emergency Room. Officer dispatched completed the transport. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: A concerned parent requested a welfare check on her child at 8:33 p.m. in Kimball Hall. Student was contacted on the phone to call the mother. A follow up call to the parent confirmed that the student had called.

Monday, Sept. 17

Criminal Mischief: Fire extinguisher reported discharged at 7:46 a.m. on the second floor of Penfield Hall. Officer dispatched to check the scene and issue a report.

Campus Safety Assist: Transportation requested at 11:02 a.m. for a student from Jonsson Tower to Wilton Medical Arts for further medical treatment. Officer dispatched completed the transport. Report issued.

Security Alarm: Alarm received at 6:45 p.m. in Jonsson Tower. Dispatched officers canvassed the area but the source of the activation was undetermined.

Tuesday, Sept. 18

Suspicious Activity: A male student reported at 12:40 a.m. acting strangely at the entrance to Howe. Officers responded, interviewed the subject and advised that there were no further problems at this time.

Suspicious Odor: Suspicious odor reported at 12:50 a.m. from the second floor of Penfield Hall. Officers checked the area and did not locate the odor in question.

Campus Safety Assist: Health Services requested at 9:44 a.m. that a student be transported to an oral surgeon. Officer dispatched reports that the transport was completed.

Campus Safety Assist: Officers reports at 5:19 p.m. that a large tree limb is on the North Broadway roadway hindering traffic. Officer has moved the limb out of the way and coned off the area. Grounds contacted for removal.

Campus Safety Assist: Assistance from Health Services requested after hours at 11:17 p.m. in Jonsson Tower. Officer contacted on call personnel. Message delivered and contact made.

Wednesday, Sept. 19

Accident: Vehicle accident reported at 1:50 p.m. in the parking lot at Cane Crossing. Officer dispatched issued a report. No personal injuries.

Campus Safety Assist: Officer provided transport at 2 p.m. for a student from Jonsson Tower to the Saratoga Emergency Room. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Person reports feeling ill and requests transport at 2:36 p.m. from Perimeter Road to Medical Services. Officers completed the transport to Health Services. Report issued.

Campus Safety Assist: Transportation requested at 3:07 p.m. for a student from Health Services to the Saratoga Emergency Room. Dispatched officer completed the transport. Report issued.

Accidental Fire Alarm: Fire alarm activation received at 3:22 p.m. at the Art Center. Officer on the scene reports a faulty smoke detector. Electrician responded for repairs. Saratoga Springs Fire Department advised of the situation. Report issued.

Thursday, Sept. 20

Security Alarm: An unknown alarm reported at 7:30 a.m. sounding in the Skidmore Shop. Officers dispatched reported that the activation was from the computer area. Officers were unable to shut off the alarm but no disturbances were noted. Staff resolved the issue.

Campus Safety Assist: Person requests at 6:52 p.m. to speak with Health Services on call personnel. Student was transported to the Saratoga Emergency Room. Report issued.

Player Interview: Ceilidh MacNeil

By Paulina Phelps, Contributing Writer
On Tue, Sep 25, 2012

Paulina Phelps interviews senior field hockey player Ceilidh MacNeil.

PP: First, can you tell me a little bit about yourself?

CM: I'm from Framingham, Massachusetts. I'm currently a senior at Skidmore and I've been playing all four years for the Skidmore field hockey team.

PP: What does the year look like in terms of field hockey?

CM: Fall is the main season, so definitely the busiest time of year. During winter we don't have any official practices, but the team always organizes workouts. Then in spring there is a miniature season that lasts just four weeks.

PP: How long have you been playing field hockey?

CM: I've been playing since 7th grade, so almost nine years.

PP: What first attracted to you to the sport?

CM: My mom played all through middle school and high school, as well as coached a bit when I was young, so she always wanted me to play because she thought I would love it.

PP: How is the season going so far?

CM: It is going really well. We are 6-0 and we won our first league game last weekend. There is room for improvement, but we are happy with our start. We are currently ranked 6th nationally.

PP: How does that compare to past years?

CM: We are usually top 20, but our ranking has gone up consistently since my freshman year, when we were ranked just eighteenth.

PP: Who would you say your biggest competition is?

CM: It changes, but usually we get pretty fired up for Middlebury. All of our league games are competitive though. We take every competition seriously; we don't take anything for granted.

PP: What position do you play?

CM: I am a forward.

PP: How do you like playing for Skidmore and do you feel the school as a whole is supportive of your team?

CM: I love playing a sport for my school. However I do feel like Skidmore could be better in supporting all sports, including field hockey. I feel like people don't realize how strong the field hockey team is just like they don't realize how strong other sports teams are. That being said, we do get support from other sports teams, as well as friends of players who come out for games.

PP: Would you recommend field hockey to someone?

CM: Yes I would. I love it. It's very competitive. Once you learn it it's a lot of fun. We play on Astro Turf, which makes the game extremely fast-paced and exciting. It takes a lot of skill and hand-eye coordination. Even though it's not as well known, it has the appeal of any other big sport. I would kind of describe it as a cross between soccer and lacrosse. Similarly to soccer it's typically a lower scoring game.

PP: How do you balance schoolwork and field hockey?

CM: The athletic department really emphasizes that we are students first. It can be difficult, especially with away games, but you have to learn time management. Also having good relationships with Professors is key.

Gunshots heard from the North Woods area last Sunday

Campus Safety searches are inconclusive, but shots may have come from hunters in the area

By Julia Leef, Co-Editor-in-Chief

On Tue, Sep 25, 2012

Last Sunday night, Sept. 23, Campus Safety received reports of gunshots heard in the area around North Woods.

According to Director of Campus Safety Dennis Conway, Campus Safety received an anonymous call at approximately 5:55 p.m. on Sunday evening, saying that the caller had heard gunshots. Shortly thereafter, Lawrence Britt, associate director of Campus Safety, reported also hearing shots in the area.

“One of our officers sent to investigate parked his vehicle at Whitman Loop in North Woods and reported hearing popping sounds that he believed were gunshots, but that they were coming from well off campus,” Conway said. “This was about 6:35 p.m. on Sunday.”

Campus Safety searched the entire campus grounds and made additional searches as far as Route 9 and the Maple Avenue Middle School. They were unable to locate the source of the noises.

Conway also said the Saratoga Springs Police Department had received similar reports and were also searching the area with the same result.

“Sometimes hunters do come into the area if they’re not familiar with it,” Conway said, when asked if these gunshots could be part of the rumors circulating of hunters using the College property as hunting grounds. Conway said additional signs would be posted in the area advising hunters to remain off-campus.

“Students who witness any suspicious activity should report directly to Campus Safety,” Conway said, and under no circumstances approach the suspicious parties.

"Moonrise Kingdom" is Charming and Unconventionally Romantic

A Car Chase and a Kiss: Admittedly Optimistic Reviews of Upcoming Films at the Saratoga Film Forum.

By Eric Stumpf, Columnist

On Tue, Sep 25, 2012

Wes Anderson's "Moonrise Kingdom" opens at the Saratoga Film Forum at 7:30 p.m. this Thursday, Sept. 27. The film also runs on Friday, Sept. 28 at the same time, and again at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 30.

Anderson's newest film is charming and unconventionally (but unconditionally) romantic. While having little foundation in the real world, "Moonrise Kingdom" is still somehow genuine and real - more so than a conventional film that asks you to accept its action as reality. Moonrise Kingdom doesn't talk down to you; it doesn't try to be something that it's not.

The movie begins with a man addressing the audience directly - in a way, saying "this is a movie, let your imagination take over because in this world, anything is possible." It tells the story of two young lovers, Sam (Jared Gilman) and Suzy (Kara Hayward), who run away from home to meet each other in the wilderness. The romance between the two will remind you of the first time you fell in love.

The cast is magnificent. Wes Anderson pairs big name stars with several child actors with no film experience, creating truly dramatic and comical situations. Captain Sharp (Bruce Willis), Mr. Bishop (Bill Murray) and Scout Master Ward (Ed Norton) form a comic powerhouse of deadpan, depressive middle-aged men that should not be missed. These characters transform a seemingly trivial crisis into an adventure of epic proportions and dire consequences.

The direction, costumes and set design are as wonderful as they always tend to be in Wes Anderson films. There are no complaints here. Go see this movie: I'll see you there because I'm sure as hell going again.

Relevant Majors: Performing Arts, Psychology, Sociology, English, Studio Art, Environmental Studies and Music.

Look out next week for a review of "Beasts of the Southern Wild," coming to the Film Forum on Oct. 4.

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Moonrise Kingdom Review

Credit: Focus Features



Mount Holyoke scholar Lauret Savoy to deliver Skidmore's environmental keynote

On Tue, Sep 25, 2012

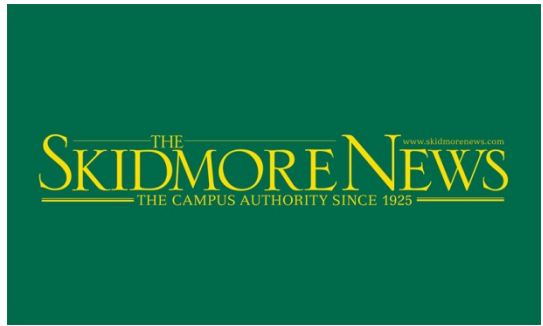
On Thursday, Sept. 27, Skidmore College will welcome Professor Lauret Savoy to campus to give the keynote talk for the College's Environmental Studies Program. Her talk, titled "Restor(y)ing America's Environmental Past and Present," is open to the public and begins at 8 p.m. in Gannett Auditorium.

Savoy has been a professor of environmental studies and geology at Mount Holyoke College since 1990. A teacher, earth scientist, writer, photographer and pilot, Savoy is also a woman of mixed African-American, Native American, and Euro-American heritage. Her classes at Mount Holyoke consider how the braided strands of human and natural history contribute to the stories we tell of the land's origin and history and to stories we tell of ourselves. While the types, rates, and degrees of environmental change might be unprecedented in human history, the embedded belief and political-economic systems behind them in the United States—the most energy-consumptive nation—are not, Savoy writes. "Their long, deep roots have allowed and continue to amplify fragmented ways of seeing, valuing, and using 'nature' and human beings. The factors and economic frames considered to measure the human (or ecological) footprint on Earth, for example, mask how the exploitation of land and of people are interconnected."

According to Mount Holyoke's website, "Savoy's interest in human environmental history has led her to dissect distinctly held perspectives on what it means to belong to a place, to be from a place, and to document the blurred lines between family lineage and landscapes of homeland." Savoy's new book, *The Colors of Nature: Culture, Identity, and the Natural World* (Milkweed Editions, 2011, co-edited with Alison Hawthorne Deming), presents a collection of essays that Booklist calls an unprecedented and invaluable collection.

Savoy also co-edited *Bedrock: Writers on the Wonders of Geology* (Trinity University Press, 2006 with Eldridge and Judy Moores), which *The Wall Street Journal* picked as one of its five best science books. In 2003, Savoy received Mount Holyoke's Distinguished Teaching Award. She also earned an A.B. degree at Princeton University, an M.S. degree at the University of California, Santa Cruz and a Ph.D. degree at Syracuse University.

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Professor Lauret Savoy will be delivering a speech on America’s environmental past and present this coming Thursday.

Courtesy of Communications



Editorial: Library Renovations

By The Editorial Board

On Thu, Sep 27, 2012

Over the summer, the Lucy Scribner Library received a multi-million dollar renovation. The revamp addressed a lot of the issues students had been concerned with in the past, including effective use of space and resources. Overall, the renovations have been greeted with enthusiasm, but with one oversight.

Some of the immediately notable additions to the library include: 12 new individual study rooms and 13 new group study rooms; new computers, both Mac and PC; new furniture, including some desks with outlets for easy laptop charging; 250 more seats; a media viewing room; and a new electronic system for reserving study space.

It would be difficult to argue that any of these renovations are not of the utmost practicality and value, particularly the new study room reservation system. In the past, getting a study room was difficult for students, especially during midterms and finals. While the entire extent of its usefulness will not be fully realized until the system endures the first midterm rush, it is safe to say that the electronic booking procedure is a much more practical and fair system of reserving space than the old first-come-first-serve method, which was often abused. Students can no longer leave their belongings in a room and come back later after hours of no use. With designated time slots, students will be forced to use their study time more effectively thus insuring that more people will be able to take advantage of the space.

The renovations have also made the library more useful to professors. Two new electronic classrooms with innovative teaching tools and technology are open, allowing faculty members a chance to experiment with teaching methods, and the new media room will serve as a great place to screen films for class. The fact that clubs and individual students may also use these facilities only adds to their benefit.

The spacing of the library makes librarians more visible therefore more accessible, and the relocation of IT to the basement makes technical support that much easier for students to obtain. The addition of motion-sensor lights and a water refilling station also help move the college even further in its green-friendly initiative.



Improved aesthetics of the library, along with the addition of the Hillside Apartments, ought to create more interest in the school among prospective students. However, with all of the consolidation and rearrangement of stacks one may not have noticed a certain set of resources that is now missing.

A complaint students have voiced concerns the relocation of microfilms and year-or-more-old periodicals to the Hoge building next to Harder Hall. The new system for acquiring these materials treats them almost identically to materials accessed through the interlibrary loan system, which makes little sense when one considers the implications. Students can no longer look through shelves of these documents and must instead request photocopies of specific pages from them. This change adds a few steps that only complicate the loaning process. It also does not coincide with the eco-friendly mantra that the school has embraced in recent years. Nor does the idea of limiting academic materials fit in with the high regard for academia that our school embraces as an elite learning institution. The move to Hoge might make sense if these materials were being treated like special collections, in that a student would need to make a reservation in order to use them, but why limit access to materials that were already fully available in the first place?

While the improved aesthetics of the library increase its appeal to students, faculty and prospective students, functionality should come first. What is the quintessential point of a library but to house academic materials? Though the renovations made to the library are all undeniable improvements, perhaps more thought should have been given with regards to the periodicals.

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The first floor of Lucy Scribner Library

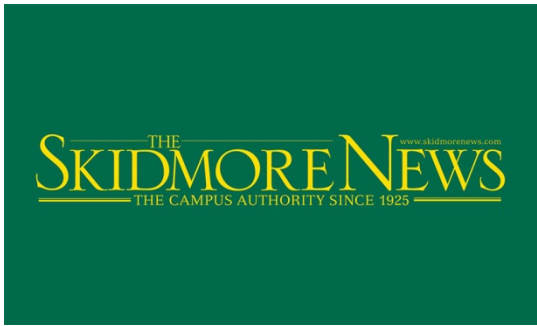
Madeline Tank/The Skidmore News

#1.2914893:2889628661.png:Library Editorial (reservation system)

One of the devices used for the new room reservation system

Madeline Tank







"Images of India: Call to Action" Explores Slum Life from a Child's Perspective

On Sun, Sep 30, 2012

The opening event for "Images of India: Call to Action," will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 4 at Case Center Gallery. The exhibition displays a collection of student photography by fourth and fifth grade children from the Okhla slum of New Delhi, India.

Images of India is the result of senior David Schlenker's recent trip to the country. The International Affairs and History double major received a SEE-Beyond Award to teach slum children there, on behalf of nonprofit organization Project WHY. During his stay, he realized that old methods of teaching English were no longer an option to solve current global problems. Schlenker took students out of the two-room brick school atop a trash dump and put agency in the learning process back in the hands of his students. The students used photography as a lens to examine their lives from a new perspective while learning English in a context that made sense. The result is a set of photographs that reveals a story different than what the average Western audience might read in newspapers or watch on TV.

Upon returning to campus, Schlenker partnered with the Office of the First Year Experience to draw a unique connection between his work and the stories told in the first-year's reading selection, "Behind the Beautiful Forevers," by Katherine Boo. The exhibit exposes a new perspective on the stories in Boo's Pulitzer Prize winning book, based on her work with slum children in Mumbai. The images further act as a call to action for students to use creative, interdisciplinary solutions to make significant, feasible change.

Images of India: Call to Action will run at the college from Oct. 4 until October 10.

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Daydreams: College's intrinsic worth

Investigating the value of college in a tight economy

By Richard Chrisman, Director of Religious and Spiritual Life

On Sun, Sep 30, 2012

It's time to put into proper perspective all the concerns expressed by commentators and American families about the high cost of higher education today. The discussion can be broken down into two questions: are college costs affordable, and is college worth the cost?

My answer to the first question is: "Ok, it's a stretch right now." The immediate remedy can be huge infusions of scholarship funds, or alternating semesters of work with semesters of study. Northeastern University (in Boston) has done this sort of thing for years.

My answer to the second question is: "Absolutely, unequivocally yes." But, to see why, we must ignore treatments of the subject like the cover story of the Sept. 17 issue of Newsweek magazine, entitled: "Is College a Lousy Investment?" The article utterly confuses the two questions posed above, arguing that, because college is difficult to afford, it is not worth it. Poor logic.

No doubt about it, paying down student debts is made vastly more difficult today by the present economy in which there are not many jobs around that pay enough for students to pay off large debt readily. Hopefully, this condition is not permanent. Nevertheless, looking for "returns" on one's educational "investment" in any economy utterly misses the intangible, intrinsic merits of higher education.

We have to look beyond skills development, career building, social networking and upward mobility to justify education today. Of course, any of us here at Skidmore would tell you how important it is to learn about our cultural history (and that of other peoples) to attain critical thinking and to become imaginative problem-solvers for problems we cannot foresee.

That said, there is yet another reason for being in college (of any kind, size or cost) that people hardly mention, although it is fundamental to our development as individuals. The college experience is a special rite of passage and a potentially transformative one, depending on how a student approaches it. It's almost automatic that students will pass from a state of relative innocence to a kind of maturity in those four years. But more than that is possible because college is really what we modern Americans have for a "vision quest," that sacred ritual for young Native Americans intended to equip them with a life purpose and a personal ethic. They did it by immersion in Nature and fasting, in order to confront

themselves and the Ultimate. We, on the other hand, are totally sheltered. But the analogy still may work, because the student is here to discover his or her ultimate direction and, even in plush college surroundings, that is necessarily harsh and demanding, albeit fulfilling, work. The difference lies in the distinction between learning and discovering.

How so? Well, although you got into college on the basis of your strengths, it is your weaknesses that will educate you here, to the extent that you permit yourself to face up to them and discover what they mean. The Dean of Admissions, Mary Lou Bates, reads the list of your aggregate achievements at each Convocation for first year students. These include the many countries you have visited, the different languages spoken at your dinner tables, the volunteer services you have performed, the musical instruments you play, your theatrical kudos, publications, the academic prizes won and the athletic talents you possess. All that is now ancient history.

It took great will power and great emotional stamina to win your college acceptances, and that's just what you'll need more of to get your money's worth out of college now that you're finally here--not just because meeting the academic challenges is so hard, which it is. Becoming a better person, a more self-aware person and a more empathetic one is the product of stepping into mud puddles of your own making - hurting others and being hurt - then reflecting seriously about it. Looked at in a certain way, college is a kind of wilderness where we must encounter our fundamental loneliness, our utter unpreparedness for such diversity of people and our anxiety about the person inside us that we are not fully acquainted with.

In a word, the college experience demands intense introspection if you are going to get your money's worth out of it. And for that we need time apart, but where do we find that in a week crowded with activity? All the stimulating activities, the cramming for course assignments and the extreme weekend entertainments are a natural part of learning on any campus, but they also have to share the road with the process of discovery--our self-discovery. The dollars are only worth it if, in addition to developing our strengths, we take time to face our weaknesses and not be afraid to let them show to our friends, our classmates, our teachers and our counselors.

The vision we quest for--that picture of ourselves and our place in this big world--is inside us, if only we can sit somewhere in a place apart and silently contemplate it. Maybe we need to spend more time daydreaming!

Rick Chrisman is the Director of Religious and Spiritual Life. He enjoys looking down on Skidmore from his second story window.

New Intergroup Relations Minor Now Offered

After four years as a pilot program, IGR is now offered as a Minor at the college

By Layla Lakos, Contributing Writer

On Sun, Sep 30, 2012

The Intergroup Relations (IGR) program, brought to the school by Dr. Kristie Ford, associate professor of Sociology, is now offered as a minor after the Curriculum Committee approved the program last spring.

The IGR program addresses issues of racism, identity and social justice in American society, dealing with different levels of institutionalized racial perspectives. By employing an innovative dialogue-based pedagogy, the program seeks to bridge gaps in understanding race and personal experiences both interracial and intra-racially. The program is comprised of three dialogues: People of Color/White People, Multiracial Identity and White Racial Identity. These dialogues are capped at ten students, as well as two peer facilitators who assist the dialogue as neutral guides and moderators. The alternative course offered under the IGR program is titled "Race and Power," and is a foundation course for the minor.

The IGR program was developed in 1988 in the University of Michigan. In 2008, with the help of Ford, it was brought to the school as a pilot program. Ford worked in observing the dialogue process and developed her skills as a teacher of IGR during her time at the University of Michigan. "I had no intention to create an IGR program at Skidmore," Ford said. "I only decided to integrate some of the IGR process pedagogies into the 'Race and Power' course." She found students were engaged, receptive and interested. "It pushed students to critically grapple with race and identities," she said. Ford described the school as a trailblazer in terms of having established the IGR program as an academic minor.

The courses incorporate a vast spectrum of readings dealing with history of oppression and racial identity. "People who are unaware of the course don't fully understand that it is not just an anecdotal class with reading, or it's like we talk about our experiences as if we are complaining," Ronell Evans '15 said. "There is a dual process; you have to go through the emotional process with the theoretical frameworks of race."

Evans was involved with a dialogue last spring and is currently enrolled in "Racial Identities: Theory and Praxis," with the intent to become a facilitator for the spring semester. When asked how the IGR program has helped in terms of understanding race, Evans stated, "You know as soon as you hear someone saying, 'This is how race has affected me.' Then you know its real."

With the shift in recent years favoring the dialogue process, Ford said more scholars recognize that the IGR program is not just a "touchy feely program" with no cognitive backing.

"It is a rigorous and academic program that engages students on an array of different levels and leads to substantive application, not only in how students think about certain issues, but then their actions in terms of how they interact," added Ford. "For some reason, there is a link between dialogue and engaging as a productive means of creating change." She attributes this toward the further diversifying of universities and the better education of teachers and students.

One student, who asked to remain anonymous, recounted their experience with the IGR program as a positive one, however, one unlikely to be utilized by all: "Although we live in a community that promotes tolerance of 'the other,' there are still prejudices that are ingrained. Unfortunately, the first step to addressing those prejudices is through something similar to the dialogue process which IGR offers."

Ford encourages students to become involved in dialogue. "It should not be required," she insisted. "Regardless of the benefit for different social identities and perspective, political perspective, there has to be a willingness to engage. That's not to say that students don't come resistant, because some definitely do, but there is a choice that they have made that they want to be there."

There will be two IGR Information Sessions held at 7 p.m. on Oct. 17 and Oct, 25 at the Tisch Learning Center. For more information on the IGR program, visit their web site at www.skidmore.edu/igr.