

Get ready to do your home-twerk

By Rebecca Shesser, Business Manager

On Tue, Apr 1, 2014

Following on the heels of the Skidmore sociology course titled "The Sociology of Miley Cyrus: Race, Class, Gender, and Media" which made national news this week, the professors of the Skidmore dance department have announced their intentions to offer a Miley-themed class of their own. Twerking 101 will be "an integrated study of the techniques, themes, physics, and practices of twerking," and will be offered this upcoming fall as a dance 2-credit elective.

An anonymous dance department representative expressed sheer joy stemming from the realization that such a class is finally making its way into Skidmore's curriculum; "Twerking has always been such an integral style of dance - the fact that Skidmore has yet to offer such an informative and useful course is just absolutely beyond me."

Dance majors around campus are also expressing their support of the dance department's decision to make a course available to their students.

"I'm really excited about the course - I think having such a course on my transcript will make me an incredibly attractive and well-rounded applicant when it comes to applying and auditioning for companies or graduate programs in the future."

Even non-dance majors are getting hyped for the 2-credit course. Economics major Wren K. Ball '15 said of the course, "I dropped an economics elective in order to make room for Twerking 101 in my schedule - I really just want to stop embarrassing myself and start attracting some attention at Club Mine, you know?"

Even some of the professors are hopping on the Twerking 101 bandwagon. An unnamed English professor was seen researching how to audit classes with the Twerking 101 description open in multiple browser tabs. When approached for comment, she responded cryptically, "that Robin Thicke guy is newly single, right?"

Anticipating similar media attention as the sociology summer course, the dance department stands by its decision to offer the course noting, "We're trying to offer our students the best educational experience in order to enrich their knowledge here at Skidmore and if some hoity-toity anchor at Fox News thinks that's wrong, then we certainly do not want to be right."

This article was written for April Fools Day. The events described within it did not actually take place.

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Get ready to do your home-twerk

tmz.com



SGA Senate Passes Resolution to Request Raising the Minimum Wage at Tuesday's Meeting

By Julia Leef

On Wed, Apr 2, 2014

The Student Government Association Senate passed several resolutions, including approving budgets for new clubs and a proposal regarding raising the minimum wage to take to the administration, in the public Student Government Association Senate meeting at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1 in the Spa.

New budgets for the Skidmore Basketball Club and Skidmore E-Sports were approved in Resolutions 24-LXVII and 24-LXVIII, respectively. The Senate also approved a resolution in support of raising the minimum wage in accordance with New York State for student workers at Skidmore College.

Senators Britt Dorfman '14, vice president for Diversity Affairs and Addison Bennett '16, vice president for Club Affairs, proposed the resolution, which will go to the Institutional Policies and Planning Committee on Friday, April 4. The resolution proposes to request the President's Cabinet raise the hourly wage of student workers to the state minimum of \$8.00, as well as to take into account the state's efforts to continue to increase the minimum wage to \$9.00 per hour by 2015.

Although there is no guarantee the proposal will be incorporated into the College's budget for next year, according to Dorfman and Bennett, the senators said they believed it was important to bring up the issue before the College and to represent student voice on the subject. A recent online petition to increase the minimum wage on campus received 365 student signatures. According to Dorfman, the extra \$133,000 needed to cover the cost of raising the minimum wage would likely come from the College's contingency funds.

The Senate also discussed a resolution in support of a clothing optional campus, proposed by Senators Charles Tetelman '16 and Hannah DeGraaf '15, who stated that such a concept had long been a tradition on campus in the form of the Naked Run, and that other colleges, such as Tufts University, The University of Vermont, Lewis & Clark College and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have a similar policy.

Other senators, however, felt that such a resolution would violate the right to effective consent of the student body, and expressed concern about allowing expressions on nudity on a campus frequently visited by young children. The resolution did not pass, as it received approximately 35 percent of the vote, which was not enough for the required two-thirds majority.

The meeting then moved on to a discussion of the SGA constitution, in which SGA President Sam Harris '15 and Bennett proposed to expand upon the language in the student handbook that referred to students' freedoms of expression, association and participation and inquiry and speech, as well as to reallocate powers of the constitution into the SGA Senate. The proposal will be discussed for the next few weeks and Harris said he hopes to get it approved by the student body by next spring.

Senators also voted on whether to elect Senators Eric Beriguete '15 and Jessica Strasser '14 to the Responsible Citizenship Internship Award selection committee and Senator Kevin Wang '17 to the Executive Board as a Senator. The ballots were handed in at the end of the meeting but the results were not announced.

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SGA senate

Jacob Reiskin



Campus Safety Reports: March 21 to 27

On Wed, Apr 2, 2014

Incidents of Note:

- Sunday, March 23-Campus Safety Assist: Report received of finding a smoldering campfire found at 4:23 p.m. by the water tower in North Woods. Report unfounded.
- Sunday, March 23-Criminal Mischief: Officers reported finding a student painting on the North Woods water tower at 4:38 p.m. Report taken.
- Tuesday, March 25-Sexual Misconduct: Reporting person advised at 6:11 p.m. of an anonymous report of a sexual offense at an off-campus location. Report issued.

Further Incidents:

Friday, March 21:

- Campus Safety Assist: A female reported at 12:36 a.m. screaming outside of Penfield Hall. Report unfounded.
- Criminal Mischief: A vending machine reported at 8:30 a.m. damaged and a fire extinguisher discharged in Wilmarth Hall. Report taken.

Saturday, March 22:

- Drug Law Violation: Drug law violation referral received at 8:38 p.m. in McClellan Hall. Report taken.
- College Violation: A hookah located at 11:30 p.m. and confiscated from the Sussman Apartments A. Report issued.

Sunday, March 23:

- College Violation: A possible party reported at 12:09 a.m. in Sussman Apartments I. Report taken. Officers found an unregistered party and games of mass consumption.
- Criminal Mischief: A fire extinguisher reported at 12:30 a.m. discharged on the first floor of Wiecking Hall.
- College Violation: Loud people reported at 2:50 a.m. at 12 Whitman Way. Officer spoke to the residents and advised them to turn off the music.

- Criminal Mischief: Officer reported finding holes at 12:15 p.m. in the wall inside the Starbuck Center stairwell. Report taken.
- Criminal Mischief: A phone reported at 12:30 p.m. torn off the wall on the first floor of Wait Hall. Report taken.
- Suspicious Odor: A suspicious odor reported at 12:30 p.m. on the first floor of Wait Hall. Report unfounded.
- Criminal Mischief: Officer reported a broken window at 6:56 p.m. in the Colton House.

Monday, March 24:

- Campus Safety Assist: Officer provided a student with transportation at 8:10 p.m. to and from the Saratoga Emergency Room. Report issued.

Tuesday, March 25:

- Aggravated Harassment: Report received at 3 p.m. of an ongoing harassment via e-mail and phone messages.
- Suspicious Activity: A suspicious phone call received at 5:55 p.m. in Jonsson Tower. Officers and the Saratoga Springs Police Department investigated. Report issued.
- Campus Safety Assist: An escort requested at 7:19 p.m. in Wait Hall. Dispatched officer completed the transport.
- Suspicious Odor: An odor of smoke reported at 11:12 p.m. in Jonsson Tower. Officer dispatched located the source and issued a report regarding a smoking violation.

Wednesday, March 26:

- Criminal Mischief: While locking up the Starbuck Center, officers found eggs at midnight thrown on the wall of the Starbuck stairwell.
- Accident Property Damage Auto Accident: Reporting person stated at 2:18 p.m. that she was involved in an auto accident in the Case Center Lot. No injuries reported, just property damage.
- Criminal Mischief: A hole reported at 5:04 p.m. in the wall in the first floor south stairwell of Wilmarth Hall. Dispatched officer. Report filed. Photo taken.
- Fire Alarm: Phone call received at 9:29 p.m. stating that the smoke detector was sounding at 9 Dayton Drive due to sesame seeds being spilled on the burner. Fire alarm received simultaneously. Dispatched all units and advised the Saratoga Springs Fire Department. Alarm was reset.

Thursday, March 27:

- Found Property: A chair and a couch reported at 3:59 p.m. that had been taken from another building were both found in a student's room in Penfield Hall. Dispatched officer. Report filed.

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Jacob Reiskin/The Skidmore News



On Our Fear of Commitment

By The Editorial Board

On Thu, Apr 3, 2014

Thoughts on inconsistency within the Skidmore student body: perhaps student apathy is not the problem, but more so, the transience of our devotions.

It is a source of pride, among Skidmore students, that we do not participate in Greek Life on campus. For many schools, Fraternities and Sororities serve as a catalyst for the development of communities, of maintaining and perpetuating relationships in otherwise non-cohesive student bodies. The culture that surrounds a football team provides a similar effect - it establishes a major unifying factor for students, manifested in an overwhelming sense of school pride. At Skidmore we would like to think that this aspect of unity exists on campus, without either a football team, or the added structure of Greek organization - that there are fundamental things that tie us together without the need to invoke the Greek alphabet.

Despite whatever flaws Greek Life may have - hazing, elitist complexes, increased alcohol abuse - it does serve as a source of pride for other campuses. The foundations of Greek organizations lie in legacy, in age-old tradition and the perpetuation of custom and reputation. This is what provides all the benefits of post-college Greek networking-Greek pride *lasts*. This begs the question, then: what aspects of community are constants on Skidmore's campus?

We seem entirely capable of rallying and unifying when this refers to the short term. Each time the housing lottery begins there is some version of the "Change Res Life" movement on campus. Students acknowledge the flaws in the Residential Life department and quickly congregate and voice their dissatisfaction, however, this dies out once the dust of housing selection settles. There is a major increase in political activity when election season approaches, but these various movements and discussions die out as forums for political expression and activity once the electoral excitement fades.

The Divestment campaign, enormously prominent on campus a month ago, has already begun to dwindle out of student conversations. While the task force continues to work, the general student collective seems to have lost interest. Prior to the divestment campaign, the Environmental Action Club focused largely on turning student attention towards hydrofracking, an awareness campaign that was immediately overshadowed when Divestment grew more thrilling. Union movements on the campus, prominent earlier this year, seem to have slowly worked their way out of the spotlight. That is not to say



that these movements no longer exist, but rather, that active, widespread student support in these areas diminishes all too quickly.

It is evident that we have the power to unite and to rally when we so choose. With the introduction of Cynthia Carroll as commencement speaker last year, we saw a large constituency of students rally together to battle the administration for what they thought to be a disregard of their rights and opinions. The problem is, however, that these movements are fleeting - they do not last. The very things that bring us together, the way many schools affiliate under the titles of Fraternities or Sororities, are temporal. We are inconsistent. Perhaps student apathy is not the problem, but more so, the transience of our devotions.

The Student Government Association charters numerous clubs each year, many of which do not outlive their founders. Club email lists are exponentially greater than the actual attendance of these club meetings and events. The outing club email list is in the triple digits, but it is merely a fraction of these students who do, in fact, make it to the meetings, or wake up in time for the hikes. The number of students who meet weekly for Students United for Public Education has gone from an enthusiastic twenty-five or thirty students, to a dedicated three or four. It is not that students are not excited, that they don't wish to engage or make change, but rather, that they don't stick around. They do not keep focused, sustained interest or devotion to one club, cause, or aspect of community on campus. It seems that the Skidmore community has a problem not with apathy, but with commitment.

Greek Life gives students a timeless association - it is an incredibly consistent, cohesive element to student culture. Football teams give entire student bodies a reason to congregate - a common source of pride. We should be proud that we do not need Greek life or winning teams on campus to maintain community, but as a result, we should work on this fear of commitment - we should find reasons to unite that are not time-sensitive. We can only hope that efforts such as the minimum wage movement, the Divestment task force, and the Real Food Challenge will sustain themselves within the student body with the same momentum they enjoyed at their start. If what we seek is a greater sense of pride, of identity, of motivation, it is crucial that we start committing to some brand of lasting change.

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They made quite the entrance last year, but where have they been since?

Skidmore.edu



Club Conversations:

NihonGo!

By Julia Leef, Managing Editor

On Thu, Apr 3, 2014

Alex Serno, Co-President of NihonGo, sat down with us to tell us a bit about her club.

NihonGo!

Alex Salerno, Co-President

So just briefly, for people who don't know, what is NihonGo!?

Well NihonGo! is the Japanese language and culture club, and we basically do what the title says. We have monthly language tables, and at language tables we help Japanese students with homework or test prep or conversation, basically whatever they want, and then all the other weeks we do culture events.

So I'll pick an aspect of Japanese culture like clothes in fashion or we'll have a Jeopardy night or food or just some aspect of pop culture or traditional culture and I'll just make an event around that. Sometimes the event will be a presentation or sometimes it will be more hands on.

Why don't we talk about the academic side of this, because I don't think a lot of people realize that you offer language tables and tutoring for Japanese and for people who want to learn.

I would like to promote that a lot because we have a lot of turnout for culture events, particularly food events, which is understandable, it's food, but we don't have as much for the language events. And the reason it's only once a month is because it's not a big turnout. It used to be twice a month. So it would be every other week but there was so few people coming that I decided to make it once a month so we can have more room for events that draw a lot more people. And we're always available any time for language help, so that's something to take note of. And hopefully I can get the word out about us offering help anytime, particularly at language tables, to the people studying Japanese here.

How would students interested in getting help, either through the language tables or outside of that, contact you?

You can contact me through email, and at the beginning of the year I always go to the beginning class, the 101 class, and I let them know who I am and about my club. So I try to make sure that everybody studying, or who has just begun to study, knows that this is available.

What is the basic history of NihonGo!? Is it a relatively new club?

Well, I can pull up my charter if you would like to know exactly what the dates are, but I believe it started in 2011, so it's relatively new. When I was reading over my charter, I'm probably going to have to update it, it seemed very language-based, and I think we've been changing more since then because we would like to have people coming to the club, even people who don't really know anything about Japan or who only have a slight interest in Japan because that's fine too. It's really open to anyone. If the event we're doing is interesting to someone, even if they don't know anything about Japan or even care that much, it would be great for them to come in. So even though it's like a focus club and Japan is the focus, it's not exclusive at all, it's for everybody.

Along those lines I think one of the biggest misconceptions about NihonGo! is that you have to know Japanese to participate in events.

Yeah, I always get that question, especially at the club fairs. Like, "I don't know Japanese is this okay, can I do this?" or "I'm only a beginner," and really all our eBoard - I mean, I know a lot of Japanese, but all our eBoard are also beginners, and we're learning along with you and it's about students coming together and practicing together. And it's not so much of, like, maybe it pushes people back because they don't want to have a class again when they're already in class, but no it's about coming together as students and working together.

Now, with the cultural events that you put on do you sometimes partner with other clubs?

In the past we hadn't done many collaborations, but now that I am the president I'm trying to push for collaborations. So we're doing a lot with ACA coming up next month and in the future, and I've already talked to them about this, I would like to collaborate with Anime Club.

Can you tell me a little bit more about ACA?

Yeah, Asian Culture Awareness. Next month we're actually doing a bunch of collaborations with them. They just all happen to be next month because that's how scheduling worked out. We're doing curry night with them, a tea tasting and we're doing karaoke night. So all of those are actually going to be in the Spa, and basically NihonGo! is co-sponsoring karaoke night, so that's pretty straightforward, but we're going to be in charge of the Japanese curry that's going at curry-tasting and then we will be in charge of the Japanese teas at tea-tasting night.

Are there any other highlights this semester that students can look forward to?

I think I've said most of them. Calligraphy, then curry, then tea-tasting, then karaoke night, and after that is going to be a big event. We did it last year, before I was on eBoard. There's a lot of festivals, especially in the spring and summer in Japan, and they try to recreate a festival. The Obon Festival last

year. Unfortunately it rained, it was supposed to be a big event on the Case green but it rained so it got pushed to the side of Case on Case Walkway. But it was still fun and we had just basically festival foods and we had Skidaiko there so we collaborated with them too because Skidaiko's drums are often seen at festivals. And we also had ACA there who provided bubble tea, and we had a couple other elements of a Japanese festival, and this year I hope I can make it an even bigger thing, especially if it's sunny and we can do this on Case green.

When you mentioned that collaboration with other clubs is something that didn't used to happen but that you're trying to push for more, are there any other changes to the NihonGo! that you're looking to do?

Yeah, so basically two of the changes I made so far were changing the structure from 'every other week is language tables' to 'once a month,' more collaborations, and I would like to, we're already set in our schedule for the rest of the semester, but next semester bringing in a guest speaker or something, someone who could come in and talk about something. We had ideas for this semester, but we're going to wait until next semester.

Is there anywhere students can go to see a schedule and find upcoming events?

I haven't thought about putting the schedule anywhere, mostly because it changes all the time so if I put something up there it's not going to be the same a week later. And I think an element of surprise is more fun. So I wouldn't want everyone to know exactly what we're doing because then it's not fun that way.

[Salerno takes another look at her calendar]

We started the beginning of the year with a Go event, which is like a Japanese board game. Then onigiri has happened for multiple years, and onigiri is just rice balls and you put stuff on top of it and inside of it and it's a lot of fun. Then there's Jeopardy. We did a bento event so everybody got to keep their own bento box and take it home with them and they got to decorate and fill it there, and that was a lot of fun.

Is there anything else you'd like to add that we haven't gone over?

I think I covered everything I would like to say. I guess I'll just stress the points that we are open to everybody and if someone has any interest in anything, any aspect of Japan or food they like, just telling me what that is can turn it into an event. And we're always here to help with Japanese. There used to be a lot of people learning Japanese here and lately that's just been getting much, much smaller. We would like to see an interest and excitement for the language and hopefully maybe I can do something in the

future that brings the Japanese students together because a lot of the students who take Japanese here don't go to clubs so maybe I could do something that brings a lot of energy into the department.

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NihonGo!

NihonGo!



Softball splits doubleheader with Castleton

By Katie Peverada, Sports Editor

On Thu, Apr 3, 2014

In the first home series of a weather-mired season, the Skidmore College softball team split two exciting games with the Castleton State Spartans, dropping the first game 3-2 but winning the second 2-1.

In the first game, Castleton was able to get runners on base in the first two innings but pitcher Lauren Fortunato '17 and the Skidmore defense were able to shut out the Spartans with key plays to keep the game tied. With a runner on third with one out, Lila Rosenfeld '16 started a 6-2-3 double play to end the inning. Fortunato took care of the outs in the second inning, as she calmly fielded two ground balls to the mound.

Castleton was finally able to break the tie in the third inning when Jessica Babcock tripled home Kayla Daigle to make it 1-0. The Thoroughbreds responded in their next at bat, tying the score at 1-1. Abby Shea '15 reached second on an error and then scored when Fortunato stroked the ball to centerfield. Despite having runners in scoring position, though, the Thoroughbreds were unable to capitalize further.

Castleton's Veronica Arnone gave the Spartans the lead for good in the sixth inning when she sent a two-run homerun deep over the left-centerfield fence.

But Cassie Fishkin '16 started the Thoroughbred rally in the seventh inning when she sent a ball to left field that one-hopped the fence for a standing double. Pinch runner Billie Kanfer '16 smartly advanced to third on a wild pitch and then scored on a Mackenzie Whiting '16 sacrifice fly to centerfield.

Despite a solid outing, Fortunato took the loss for the Thoroughbreds, allowing three runs on three hits. Arnone, who allowed one run on one hit in three innings, got the win in relief for the Spartans. Fortunato was 1-3 with one RBI at the plate while Fishkin was 1-3 with a double.

In the second game of the doubleheader, Skidmore took an early 1-0 lead and then added one more in the fourth and held on for the 2-1 victory. Fishkin had a strong outing on the mound, as she threw all seven innings and only allowed an unearned one on four hits with six strikeouts and four walks.

Fortunato led off the first inning with a triple to right field and then scored when Castleton had a throwing error on the relay.

“I just wanted to use our momentum from the first game. We tend to keep up the energy as a team when we are winning and it was a team goal to score first,” Fortunato said.

Skidmore’s second run came in the fourth when Brittany Osborn ‘17 scored on a throwing error from left field. Osborn finished 1-3 with one run scored while Rosenfeld and Shea both finished with one hit apiece.

Castleton’s only run of the game came in the fourth when Jessica Babc moved to third on a passed ball and then scored on Chelsea Grad’s single to left field. Fishkin shook it off, settled in, and shut out the Spartans in the final three innings.

“I felt good out there today. The defense was strong and backed me up when I needed it,” Fishkin said.

Skidmore’s defense again stood tall, registering consecutive 1-2-3 innings in the second and third and then again in the sixth. The fifth inning ended with a stellar throw from Sam Skott ‘15 in left field to Whiting behind the plate, preventing the tying run from scoring. In the seventh inning, Shea and Emily Mangan ‘16 combined in another double play to end the game. The Thoroughbreds, who now sit at 3-9, are back in action Saturday when they face RPI in a Liberty League doubleheader at 1 and 3 p.m.

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Billie Kanfer ‘16 crosses home plate in the seventh inning of Game One.

Katie Peverada ‘14

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Cassie Fishkin ‘16 doubles in the first game.

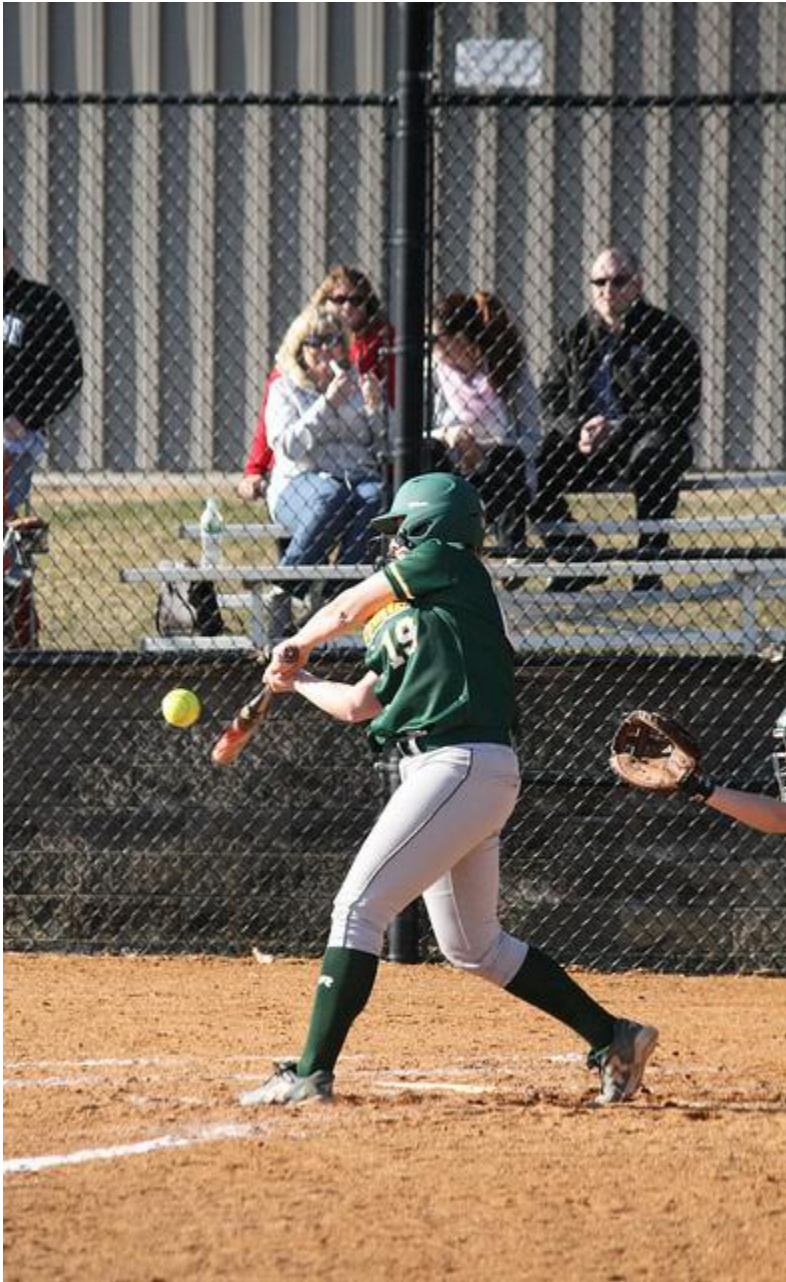
Katie Peverada ‘14

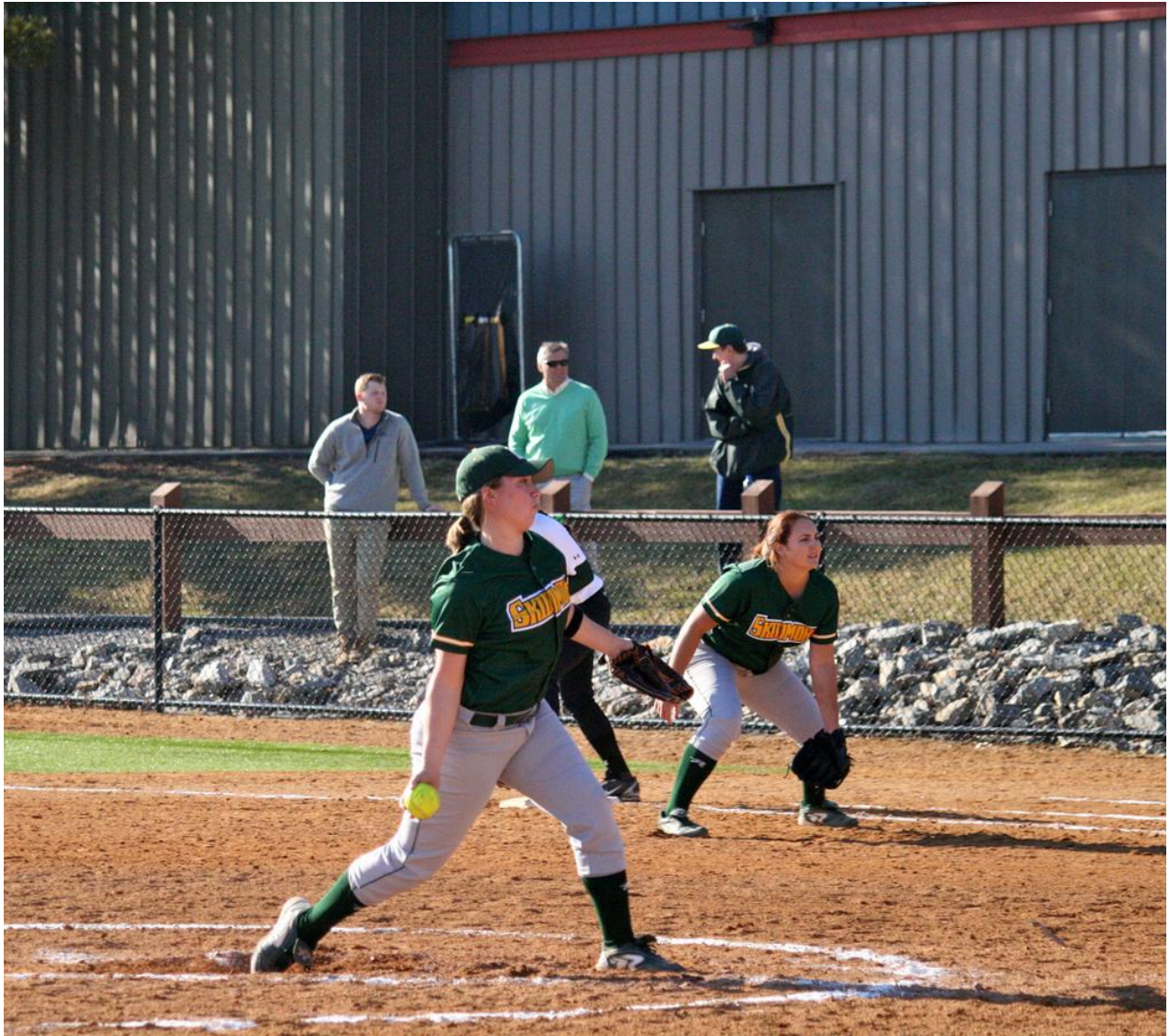
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Lauren Fortunato ‘17 gave up three runs on three hits.

Katie Peverada ‘14







NHL Super Six: Bruins cruise

By Katie Peverada, Sports Editor

On Thu, Apr 3, 2014

Despite finally losing this week, the Bruins put a lock on the Atlantic Division title after going 15-1-1 in March. Another five teams checked the box for a playoff spot this week, including Chicago, which is currently on a three-game losing streak. Los Angeles, which currently holds the longest active win streak (six), looks eerily similar to the Cup winning team from 2011, and makes an appearance in this week's Super Six.

1. Boston Bruins:

Though their winning streak ended at 15 games, they still have nine straight victories on the road. The Bruins also hold the best record against the Eastern Conference this season at 34-13-2. Furthermore, their 18-4-4 record against the Western Conference is pretty spectacular as well. Tuukka Rask continues to lead the NHL in shutouts (seven) and Jarome Iginla had five goals on his way to Star of the Week. It appears, then, that no matter whom or where the Bruins play, they will win. If the postseason started today, the Bruins would take on the Columbus Blue Jackets. And they would win the series in four games.

2. St. Louis Blues:

Prediction: the Blues will win the West. There's no denying Ryan Miller has had a positive impact since joining St. Louis (9-3-1), but if the Blues want to steal the Presidents' Trophy from the Bruins, he has to get wins in two upcoming matchups against Dallas and Chicago - the two teams that have combined to give him those three losses. Overall, though, the Blues remain the most complete team in the Western Conference, especially now that Chicago has the injury bug. It seems the only thing the Blues are missing is production from trade deadline acquisition Steve Ott (0 G, 2 A).

3. Los Angeles Kings:

The Kings are 7-3-0 in the last 10 and 13-3-0 since returning from the Olympics. However, no matter how many more games they win, they're pretty much stuck with the third spot in the Pacific Division, with 11 and nine points separating them from the teams above and below them in the standings, respectively. The Kings are scary on the strength of Jonathan Quick's goaltending and the offense and defense of Selke Trophy seeker Anze Kopitar. Kopitar leads LA in scoring with 24 goals and 38 assists,



with a +28 to boot. The Kings one low-light right now, though, is that no other players have more than 50 points (only three have over 40). Hop on the Quick and Kopitar train while you can.

4. Anaheim Ducks:

Some might knock the Ducks down a spot or two because of their weak schedule the past few games, but wins are wins and the Ducks are back on top of the Pacific Division with 104 points, leading San Jose by one. With upcoming games against Winnipeg, Edmonton and Nashville, the Ducks should be looking to take the number two seed from San Jose when they face off on April 9. Ryan Getzlaf and Corey Perry have both cracked the top-10 scoring list, 81 and 74 respectively, picking up the offense right when they need it.

5. Colorado Avalanche:

Luckily, the Avalanche have already clinched their first playoff appearance since 2009-10, because they are now going to be without leading scorer Matt Duchene for four weeks with an MCL sprain. That's bad news at any point in the season, but especially when you're facing the Rangers, Blues and Penguins in your next few games. Semyon Varlamov will have to continue his strong play in net (league leading 37 wins) and captain Gabriel Landeskog will have to rally the troops and continue with his own strong play (24 G, 37 A).

6. San Jose Sharks:

Of late, the Sharks have dropped close games they would have won a few weeks ago, essentially giving the division back to Anaheim. How they play in their upcoming games won't affect their spot in the playoffs, but it will affect how far they go. The Sharks don't have an easy road ahead, facing the Kings, Ducks, Avalanche and Coyotes before the season ends. The more they lose those games - especially the one against Anaheim - the more likely they are to face streaking LA in the first.

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Anze Kopitar (l) and Jonathan Quick have the Kings peaking at the right time.

Harry How/Getty Images



For Speerschneider and women's tennis, progression is key

Meet women's tennis coach Curt Speerschneider

By Dustin Foote, Contributing Writer

On Thu, Apr 3, 2014

The Skidmore women's tennis team is consistently one of the most successful varsity teams on campus, on and off the court. The team is currently ranked 19th in the country and has been ranked inside the top 25 for the past seven years. The women are also standouts in the classroom. Their team GPA is a high 3.4, and two of the women are part of the Thoroughbred society. The man behind all this success is coach Curt Speerschneider.

When Coach Speerschneider sees something he wants, he goes after it. Nothing is handed to him, except three consecutive Liberty League Coach of the Year trophies. Speerschneider takes a modest approach to coaching. Rather than accepting praise for coaching an elite team, he gives all his players the credit for the programs success. When asked about his consecutive Coach of the Year awards, he simply said, "I've been fortunate with a good group of individuals that have made up good teams. I give them all the credit."

But let's look past Speerschneider's praise of his players for a moment. When he took the job at Skidmore in 2006, the women's tennis team hadn't been to the national tournament in seven years. In only his first season of coaching, Speerschneider took his team to the National tournament. Since then, the Thoroughbreds have competed in the National tournament for eight consecutive seasons.

One of the keys to postseason victory, Speerschneider said, is "progression." Even though the women's team boasts a 10-2 record and is undefeated in conference play, their non-conference schedule is one of the toughest in the country. They constantly play teams that are at the top of the Division III rankings. Instead of choosing to beat inferior teams, Speerschneider schedules his women to play with the elite. "I like to schedule in a way we are challenged on a weekly basis," Speerschneider said. The matches against dominant teams have become habitual for the women, and this is just what Speerschneider wants.

By the time the 19th ranked Thoroughbreds reach the postseason, they will have played the best teams, such as the second-ranked team in the nation, Williams College. On March 9, Ephs of Williams beat the Thoroughbreds 9-0. While this might seem like a blowout, Speerschneider saw the score in a different light, "We were right there with them. They were doing the same thing as us, but a little bit better."

A loss like this to Williams was not a setback to Speerschneider and his team; it was a chance to build their confidence. Many of those games against Williams were, in fact, close. And if the two teams meet in the playoffs, Speerschneider believes his squad could come out on top.

But this is not a new line of thinking for Speerschneider, especially with how this season in particular is going. He has always had a tremendous amount of confidence in his players' performance.

"I firmly believe that every year we step on the court, we can win a national title. I see opposing players just like us, playing the same game as us. We just need to play a little better than them."

#1.3157155:756120481.JPG:tennis

Women's tennis coach Curt Speerschneider has earned three consecutive Liberty League Coach of the Year trophies.

Skidmore Athletics

#1.3157158:1551482683.JPG:tennis

The women's tennis team boasts a collective 3.4 GPA.

Skidmore Athletic





A Good Time

By Allison Smith

On Fri, Apr 4, 2014

Kitty is at a wedding. "Loosen up," Kitty's mom says while handing her a beer. She leaves Kitty standing alone, swaying back and forth on high heels. Kitty looks around, making awkward eye contact with strangers, as she stays perched in place. Kitty's drunken aunt wobbles over. Her aunt left no pause for Kitty to open her carefully painted red lips that perfectly matched shoes her mom bought her. "What are you doing tomorrow?" Kitty does not attempt to answer. "Well, tell your mom I am taking you out," Kitty's aunt throws her dead arm around her bare shoulders. "I'm taking you out for a good time." Kitty uncomfortably smiles with her mouth closed so no one can see her newly whitened teeth. "I am going to show you a good time." Kitty's aunt assures her. Kitty's uncle comes to pulls his tumbling second wife off of his petrified niece. "Honey, we are going to have a fucking good time." She loudly hisses in his ear. Emphasizing each word. This isn't the first wedding where his second wife has made the transformation from wearing a tight bun and sweater set to hair down and shirt un-tucked. Kitty's uncle escorts his second wife out off the hotel's reception hall. Kitty stares down at the beer she is holding with both hands. Her fingernails that were painted pink to match her strapless dress, tap against the glass. The man in charge of the music dances around in sunglasses while holding a purple plastic saxophone. "Twist!" He shouts. Kitty's cousin suddenly pulls her arm, and her beer almost spills. Kitty's cousin drags her forward, causing her to trip over her toes. Kitty's cousin tells her to quickly finish her drink so that they can go dance. Kitty watches him dance backwards away from her. He moves his hips back and forth and hangs his tongue out of his mouth. Kitty opens her eyes wide. Kitty bites the edge of her beer glass and pretends to drink. Kitty's red lipstick leaves her mark on the glass. Kitty's cousin comes back over, assuring her that she must be done by now. He finishes it for her then pushes her from behind onto the dance floor. Kitty stands in place, careful not to fall over, as her cousin dances around her. Kitty moves her hips quickly back and forth like she sees a few other people doing. Kitty's dress shakes, sways and wraps itself around her legs. Other girls look better than Kitty while dancing in their dresses that hug their legs closed together. A slow song starts to play and Kitty starts to move off the dance floor. Kitty's cousin stands in front of Kitty and puts his arms around Kitty's waist. He traps Kitty and forces Kitty to sway with him. Kitty keeps Kitty's head as far away from his body as possible.

#1.3156267:3869804470.JPG:Detail

Allison Smith



Pro-Arts Tang Party seeks student proposals

On Fri, Apr 4, 2014

All Skidmore students are invited to take part in the annual Pro-Arts Tang Party, scheduled for 8 p.m. on Friday, April 25, by submitting proposals for art installations that will be displayed around the Tang Museum's exterior. The works are unlimited in creative possibility - in the past, student projects have included interactive sculpture, performance art, videos projected on the museum's walls, and much more.

Students whose ideas are accepted for inclusion in the Pro-Arts Tang Party will be contacted individually. In order to send in a submission, a Skidmore student must fill out the submission form that includes a rough sketch of their idea by Sunday, April 6.

To submit the proposal, one can download and print out the submission form here. Forms will also be available at the Academic Representative bulletin board on the second floor of the Saisselin Art Building. One can then submit their form by placing it in the envelope on this bulletin board. For questions about the Pro-Arts Tang Party and about submitting ideas for installation art projects, contact Madeleine Burkhart at mburkhar@skidmore.edu.

#1.3157337:4056948586.jpg:tang party

Courtesy of Skidmore College



Zankel hosts The Music of Indonesia

By Kelsea Schimmel

On Fri, Apr 4, 2014

Traditional Indonesian music, *Gamelan*, consists of a variety of percussion and other instruments including xylophones, drums, gongs and wooden stringed instruments. *Gamelan* music is played in a variety of settings and occasions and can be associated with social events that mark a transition in an individual's life. It may also be performed with puppet theater, an art form highly valued by Indonesians. Today, *Gamelan* is an important aspect of shows, dances, rituals, and other performances in Indonesia.

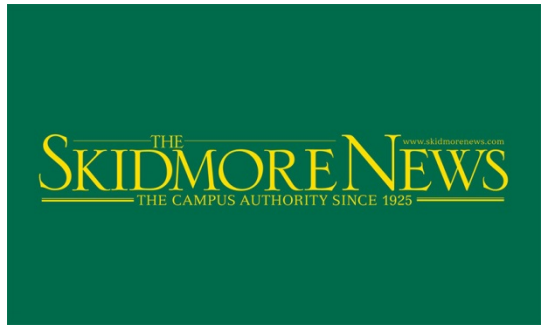
On Thursday, March 20, Zankel hosted "The Music of Indonesia."

"The Music of Indonesia" featured special guest I Made Lasmawan, a Balinese drummer and composer. Under the guidance of I Made Lasmawan, the performance comprised music from the Indonesian islands of Bali and Java. The performance was a great success as both the performers and the audience members celebrated and took in the traditional Indonesian music. If you were unable to attend the performance, it is available to watch on Zankel's live stream.

#1.3157335:1269331304.png:indonesia

Courtesy of Skidmore College





Clay

By Allison Smith, Contributing Writer
On Mon, Apr 7, 2014

Please mold her.

She wants it.

You can build her up into anything you want.

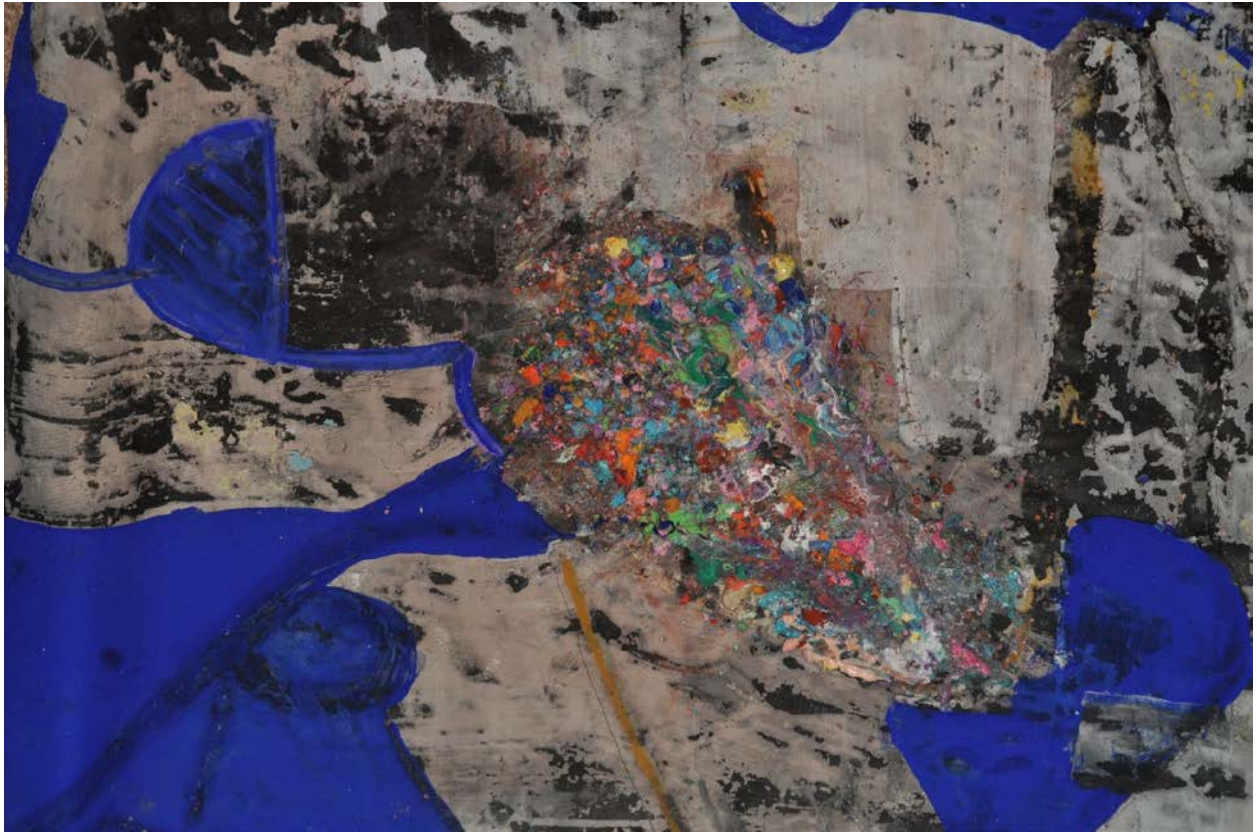
Touch, knead, and play with her using your hands. She will warm up quickly. I dare you to explore how many shapes she can make.

Encourage her to have more of a purpose than a lump of clay already has.

It won't put up a fight.

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Allison Smith





Bias within WSPN Election Results

By Julian Rome, Contributing Writer

On Mon, Apr 7, 2014

A comment on the potentially anti-democratic nature of WSPN's recent "fraudulent" E-board election.

One afternoon, approximately two days before the WSPN executive board elections, one of WSPN's music directors requested that I run for bookkeeper on the executive board. I have treasury experience and agreed to run, thinking I would find it to be a valuable experience. Additionally, I was running unopposed so I thought that it would provide huge relief for the group to have someone willing to take up the responsibility.

While my campaign platform was serious, my speech relied on humor. I made a few jokes about how a friend of mine running for a different, unopposed position was underqualified. It was a moment of comic relief and it ended quickly. However, in addition to the jest, I stated my legitimate qualifications and the reasons I wished to hold the position. To reiterate, the position was unopposed, so why not make the speech a bit more inspired? Especially considering there were absolutely no smiles in the cramped, fluorescent light-saturated WSPN office.

Again, the bookkeeper position was unopposed. So, guess what? Huge news! I received the most votes, by default. However, because of my harmless and humorous actions, the board was unwilling to offer me the position. I only learned this after reviewing a general email that WSPN sent out, announcing the executive board for next semester from which both the bookkeeper position and my name were excluded. I never received anything stating that the board thought I was unqualified or any notification about how they were handling the votes or the delegation of the position. I only heard through the grapevine that they would be holding a reelection for bookkeeper.

The choice to not notify me was both conniving and devoid of professional courtesy. On a more substantial note, however, manipulating the outcome of an election damages WSPN's integrity. It is anti-democratic to hold a fraudulent election and this should not be tolerated. Regardless of any prior action or bias, if a person wins an election justly, the executive board should not be able to intervene on the basis of personal preference. Doing so is an act of political abuse on the part of the executive powers. Not allowing me the position discredits the elections and their democratic orchestration as a whole. After hearing about this, two people who had been denied different positions voiced similar concerns pertaining to the potential rigging of the E-board elections. While the delegation of those



respective positions may not have been unjust, the fact that these students felt the need to inquire about the legitimacy of the outcome for their individual positions reflects poorly on WSPN's actions.

I hope that the new members of WSPN's E-board will have the capacity to appreciate some jokes as well as knowing the true value of democracy in the election process. I look forward to running for bookkeeper again next semester.

#1.3159318:1544422203.jpg:WSPN 4/9

Jacob Reiskin/ The Skidmore News





Information booth for SGA Round II elections available in Case Center on Wednesday, April 9

Students interested in running for remaining SGA positions may ask questions from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

By Julia Leef, Managing Editor

On Tue, Apr 8, 2014

The Student Government Association will host an information booth from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, April 9, outside of the SGA office for students interested in running in the Spring Round II elections, which will take place next week.

The available positions for this round of elections consist of roles that were not filled during Round I and include the Vice President for Communications & Outreach, the Vice President for Diversity Affairs, the Traditions Committee Chair, the SEC Chair, the Speakers Bureau Chair, the Late Night Chair, Sustainability Senator, Student Life Delegates and approximately 20 Senator-at-Large positions, according to current Vice President for Communications and Outreach Madeleine Kanazawa '15.

Of the available positions, only the two vice president positions require at least one prior semester's worth of experience on the Senate. Candidates must hand in their self-nomination forms before 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 11.

Candidates will film short videos explaining their campaign, which will be posted to the Skids Scribner Facebook page, as well as to the SGA website by Sunday, April 13. They will be shown during Speech Night on April 16, which will begin at 6 p.m. in the Spa.

Elections will be held for the entirety of April 17, and the results will be announced the following day. Any positions that remain open until the Fall Round I elections will be put up as Willingness-to-Serve positions, for which students must go before the Senate to be approved.



Skidmore Junior Named a 2014 Newman Civic Fellow

Emily Durante '15 granted recognition for her work

On Tue, Apr 8, 2014

Emily Durante '15 has been named a 2014 Newman Civic Fellow by Campus Compact, a national coalition of colleges and universities dedicated to fostering civic and social responsibility. The award recognizes college students for their efforts to explore social issues and work toward positive change.

As a double major in Environmental Studies and Geosciences, Durante has focused her civic work on environmental issues, particularly those related to transportation networks. She is known both on the Skidmore campus and in the surrounding community for raising awareness and initiating projects related to environmental concerns.

On campus, Durante has led efforts to mobilize and coordinate student environmental organizations and to create a bike-share program, which she currently manages. She is one of three students serving on the Campus Sustainability Subcommittee and is helping to develop a strategic plan for sustainability at Skidmore.

Durante is also active in Saratoga Springs, where she has worked with the local Cool Cities initiative (a nationwide alliance of cities working to reduce global warming), helping to pass an anti-idling ordinance for vehicles. She is currently working with the Saratoga Springs Planning and Economic Development Department on a project to expand trail systems. Employing skills she acquired in the college's GIS Center, she is assisting the city's Complete Streets initiative with a mapping project to improve sustainable transportation.

"I hope to pursue a career in urban planning and continue to create accessible, sustainable mobility in our cities," Durante said.

President Philip A. Glotzbach wrote in nominating Durante for the fellowship: "Emily has gone straight to the root of environmental problems associated with local transportation by pushing for long-term options that reduce environmental degradation and improve public health...we look forward to seeing all that she will accomplish in her remaining semesters at the College."

#1.3158770:3179017370.jpegDurante

Emily Durante '15

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Skidmore



Club Conversations:

Falstaff's Operating Committee

By Julia Leef, Managing Editor

On Tue, Apr 8, 2014

Interview with the Falstaff's Operating Committee, comprised of Noah Samors and Kyle Salzman: Co-Chairs of the Committee.

Falstaff' Operating Committee

Noah Samors and Kyle Salzma: Co-Chairs of Falstaff's Operating Committee

Could you guys briefly explain, in general, what the Falstaff's Operating Committee is?

Kyle Salzman: So, Falstaff's Operating Committee is the committee that was set up several years ago to operate Falstaff's after the dissolution of the Pavilion corporation, which was a contracted out extra-Skidmore corporation that operated Falstaff's when it was a bar, which dissolved when they changed the drinking age. The FOC ran for a while and then a few years ago, probably five or six, it became defunct. No one was sitting on the committee but it still existed, it still drew money from the student activity fund and accumulated a budget.

The two of us, through our work with Lively Lucy's [**Salzman is a member of Lively Lucy's and Samors is the president**] spent a lot of time in Falstaff's and wanted improvements for the space for our club's purposes and so we started investigating how to go about that. And through that and in talking with Robin Adams [**associate director of Leadership Activities**] we found out about the FOC, and we formed the committee and refilled the seats and started having meetings and figuring out what to do with the committee, what direction we wanted to take the space in, because it had been unstructured for such a long time.

So, essentially the committee's purposes as it stands right now, although we're still in the process of reforming how it functions, are to revamp the space physically, just because it has been deteriorating for so long, and a lot of that renovation we've already begun and have completed some of it. And then our second priority is to try and reinvigorate the way the space figures into every day student life. Having more events up there--

Noah Samors: A lot of variety as well.

Salzman: Yeah, and also being able to use it during the day and just have it be a space that's more integrated with campus life.

Samors: Falstaff's is the one student space on campus, because Case Center isn't really a student space. Students hang out here, but it's filled with faculty. Falstaff's is designated for student use, and we want to turn it into a student, not necessarily a bar, but just a student venue, a student club, a student area that people can hang out and do homework and all that, but that is a process that we're trying to figure out how to best move forward. Like we said, we are a newly re-formed club and because it's been so stagnant for so long we need to redefine what we do. And the next step is getting more student involvement in the project.

Looking ahead at your plans for turning Falstaff's into an area more fitting as a student venue, do you see any physical changes to the building as a possibility?

Samors: We've actually painted the interior. We've re-floored, we got new flung, we're getting new carpet and furniture pretty soon and we're getting a new sound system. We have a new countertop in the back to replace the old bar that takes up less space and is more functional as a serving space for the possibility of one day turning into a full bar, but we don't see that happening for a while.

So basically the way we're planning on doing that is working with clubs a lot more and helping them put on events. We're not entirely sure what our role will be with that, but we want to promote events. We're thinking about daytime coffee houses, maybe even an art showcase. We're very much open to suggestions of possibilities.

Salzman: Regarding physical renovations, we've already pretty much gone over what we've done so far. We've looked at a couple of other things for the future, although we've done so much already with the space that more physical renovations would be a long-term thing, but we're looking at doing a little bit of minor modification of the space to maybe shrink the kitchen a little bit and add more storage area for clubs that use the space regularly to keep equipment or supplies or anything like that. But you know, the way we see it, I think, and the place we've arrived at as a committee, too, is that the space didn't need a lot of work to become a more livable space for students. It just needed sort of a facelift, which is what we've gone and done.

Samors: We're hoping in the long-term that the space will continually change in some way, physically. That doesn't necessarily mean repainting it or remodeling the floor, but we're really hopeful that we can find practical art installations that students themselves have created and that can be put into the space to change it just a little bit, because it is a student space. We have Case Gallery, and that's like the one



space you can show artwork. We're hoping that we can find a way to showcase student artwork as well in Falstaff's, but again that's a process that we need to further explore.

So who else besides you two is on the committee?

Salzman: It's the class secretaries, the Vice President of Club Affairs, one rep from Lively Lucy's, that's Noah, one rep from SEC, two Willingness-to-Serve people and the VP of Financial Affairs. And Robin Adams sits on the committee as well as an advisor.

Are there positions that you're looking to fill?

Salzman: Both of the Willingness-to-Serve positions are filled. One of them I fill and the other one is filled by Frasier Glenn '15, and the other positions are part of the duties of elected officials for other areas of SGA. And so there aren't really a lot of opportunities to get on the committee, which is something that we have struggled with a lot because a lot of the people who are on the committee don't have a lot of time to give to it because it's an additional duty that's tacked on to their other priorities. And so we'd like to get more people involved who want to be there for FOC, but we just haven't really figured out how to go about that yet, whether we start a subcommittee that draws from the student body on a volunteer or vote basis, or whether we just have more open forums for the student body to come in and discuss what they want with the space. So there aren't a lot of opportunities right now for people who are interested to get involved other than just talking to us.

Samors: Which is a very good way to get involved, I have to say. We love conversation about this space, and it's always good to hear from somebody else what they want. We've been working on this space for so long through Lively Lucy's because that's what we're involved in, so we do honestly have somewhat of a skewed vision for this place. We try to keep that on the back burner because we're very aware that we see it through our eyes and so we want more student involvement. And another good way for students to get involved is joining clubs. We're planning on having a club presidents meeting in Falstaff's in April at some time just to meet with all the clubs and talk about what they want with the space and how to make it work for them.

Can people email you or how would you recommend students get in touch with you?

Samors: We have a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Falstaffsoperatingcommittee>), and that is probably the best way, just because multiple people have access to that as opposed to our personal emails. But for the time being I'm also not opposed to getting personal emails.

Salzman: Yeah I mean personal emails are definitely a good way for people to get in contact with us. I don't think it's feasible for that to be the way for us to connect to the community, just because there are



too many people for that to work for us. If everyone is sending us emails that's a problem. But for the moment it's very okay to email either of us with questions or comments.

You mentioned the presidents' meeting sometime in April. Are there any other upcoming events for either this semester or next semester?

Samors: Well Falstaff's is entirely booked the rest of the semester. So it's somewhat difficult to get online and find the schedule, but we're probably going to post the schedule on the Facebook page of all the different events that are going on in there. And so that's a good way for people to start seeing what the space can do, because there aren't all those grimy dances that the freshmen go to. There are plays going on there. Rochelle Calhoun [dean of Student Affairs] is directing, or producing, the bias incident report-inspired play. Those are the events that are already scheduled. We've talked about a few possibilities. One thing that we're trying to work for is Fun Day Sunday brunch. The Sunday after Fun Day, maybe one or two o'clock in the afternoon, we could serve food and drinks and have people come and eat and recover from the Fun Day weekend.

Salzman: In the short term we're going to try and have, in addition to the presidents' meeting, a community forum, just where we tell people what we've done so far and what our plans are for the space and try and get some feedback from the student body regarding how they see the space and how they want it to move forward.

And there are numerous concerts. I know it's booked pretty much all Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, but there's nothing really planned, I think, for any daytime slots for the rest of the semester. And the other nights of the week I doubt have many events planned. So we do have room to develop some other things to go on in the space.

Anything else you want to talk about?

Samors: There's a full kitchen. There aren't a lot of kitchen supplies, but there's a full kitchen. And I know there's a co-op, a group of kids who do a potluck, so maybe if they wanted to do a potluck in Falstaff's, they could see if the space was available one night. Students can go on there and reserve the space, I'm pretty sure. We just want students to use the space more. If anyone has any suggestions, please send us a message.

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Falstaffs

The Skidmore News

4/8/2014 1.3158771



Men's and women's soccer teams to host seventh annual Soccer Without Borders camp

All proceeds to go to Soccer Without Borders

By Katie Peverada, Sports Editor

On Tue, Apr 8, 2014

On Monday, April 14, the Skidmore men's and women's soccer teams will take to Wachenheim Field with kids from the Saratoga Springs community for the seventh annual spring break soccer camp.

Each year the proceeds from the camp go to Soccer Without Borders, a San Francisco-based non-profit organization founded in 2006 that uses the game of soccer to bring education to underprivileged communities around the world.

Andrew Blake '14, who with Jenna Spooner '14 has led the organization of this year's camp, estimated that 60 to 70 kids will attend the week-long event.

Blake said it's a very busy week for the College soccer teams, and efforts to have at least eight players there at all times takes a lot of scheduling around students' classes.

The kids who attend spend four hours each morning of their breaks doing soccer-related activities.

"We try to hone in on their soccer skills," Blake said, "but it's just a lot of fun and it's a good way to spend their April break." Blake added that the kids always seem to have a good time and enjoy the chance to learn skills from collegiate athletes they look up to.

In addition to enjoying the Skidmore facilities and learning new skills, the kids will also learn about the power of soccer in general and how it connects people across communities and across the world.

"I think soccer as an international sport is widely recognized," Blake said. "Being that a lot of areas that are big on soccer are simultaneously impoverished areas, it's very in line to use a soccer camp to help people."

The camp also offers Skidmore College players the chance to use their sport to contribute to the SWB organization. The mission of the organization is to use soccer as a vehicle for positive change in communities around the world.

In addition to helping the under-served communities in the United States and abroad, the camp also gives the Skidmore athletes a chance to give back to the Saratoga Springs community.

"It's a little bit hard for Skidmore students in general to integrate into the community," Blake said. "I think it's a good way for us to integrate with the community members in a positive way."

The all-volunteer effort has proved fruitful in years past, with the camp donating around \$5,000 each year. And this year, the camp has teamed up with Positive Tracks, a non-profit organization based in New Hampshire that will match the money Skidmore College raises.

Besides the suggested donation fee of \$75 to \$100 for children enrolling in the camp, kids have the chance to donate their old soccer equipment, such as old cleats or balls, to be sent to children in Uganda.

The week-long camp provides an opportunity for participants from Skidmore and the Saratoga Springs community alike to give back and have fun while doing so.

"[The kids in the community] all have a really good time and really look up to Skidmore athletes," Blake said. "You get a chance to appreciate that when you're working with them."

For more information email soccerwoborders@gmail.com, or [click here](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/19pDkFwLavu4AgHgTY4GhUGJvWrZqBtttd397yIrn5os/viewform) to register for the camp.

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Bill Jones/Skidmore Athletics



Photo by Bill Jones

IPPC Subcommittee on Student Affairs Announces New Smoking Policy

By Danny Graugnard

On Tue, Apr 8, 2014

A new policy on smoking was announced today by the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee which prohibits anyone from smoking within designated areas on campus. These smoke-free areas include most of central campus and the surrounding buildings, which are indicated in purple on the Smoking Policy Map (the smoke free areas are a rough estimation and precise parameters will be released in the Fall). The policy will go into effect in the Fall 2014 semester.

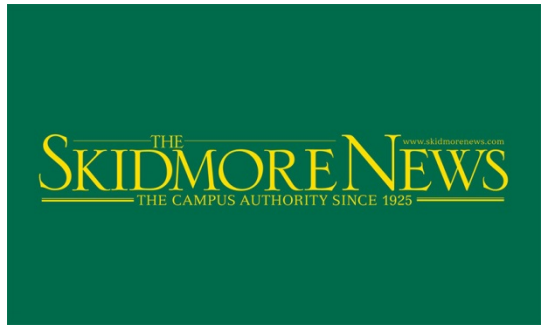
The purpose for the ban, according to an email sent out to the student body by Student Government Association President Sam Harris '15, is to reduce the exposure of second hand smoke to non-smoking members of the College community, as well as to visitors. The policy specifically states that smoking is prohibited within all College facilities, College-owned vehicles, and within 25 feet of all facilities.

The policy does indicate that smoking will be permitted in areas facing the loop road and that individuals may smoke in their own vehicles, even when they are parked on campus. In addition, although the policy does not appear to restrict the use of electronic cigarettes or smokeless tobacco, it mentions that users should be mindful of their surroundings.

The new smoking policy has been discussed and reviewed for two years, beginning with a survey of 615 participants between 2011 and 2012. It then opened up to a college-wide survey with 1000 participants that included students, staff and faculty. The IPPC also factored in advising from the Safety in the Workplace Committee. Although the policy focuses on making part of the campus smoke-free, the IPPC subcommittee on Student Affairs has suggested to the IPPC that the entire campus be smoke-free by 2017; steps and further discussions are underway which will determine if this will pass.

In an earlier interview, Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun stated that the College will put up signs for the smoke-free locations, and that while the enforcement of this new policy will mostly be placed on the individual, a student with multiple violations will go before the Integrity Board.

When asked how the College would aid those who would have to change their smoking habits or quit entirely by 2017 should a smoke-free campus policy pass, Calhoun admitted that the current level of support on campus is minimal, but that the College will work to amend this with help from its peer health educators and Health Services.



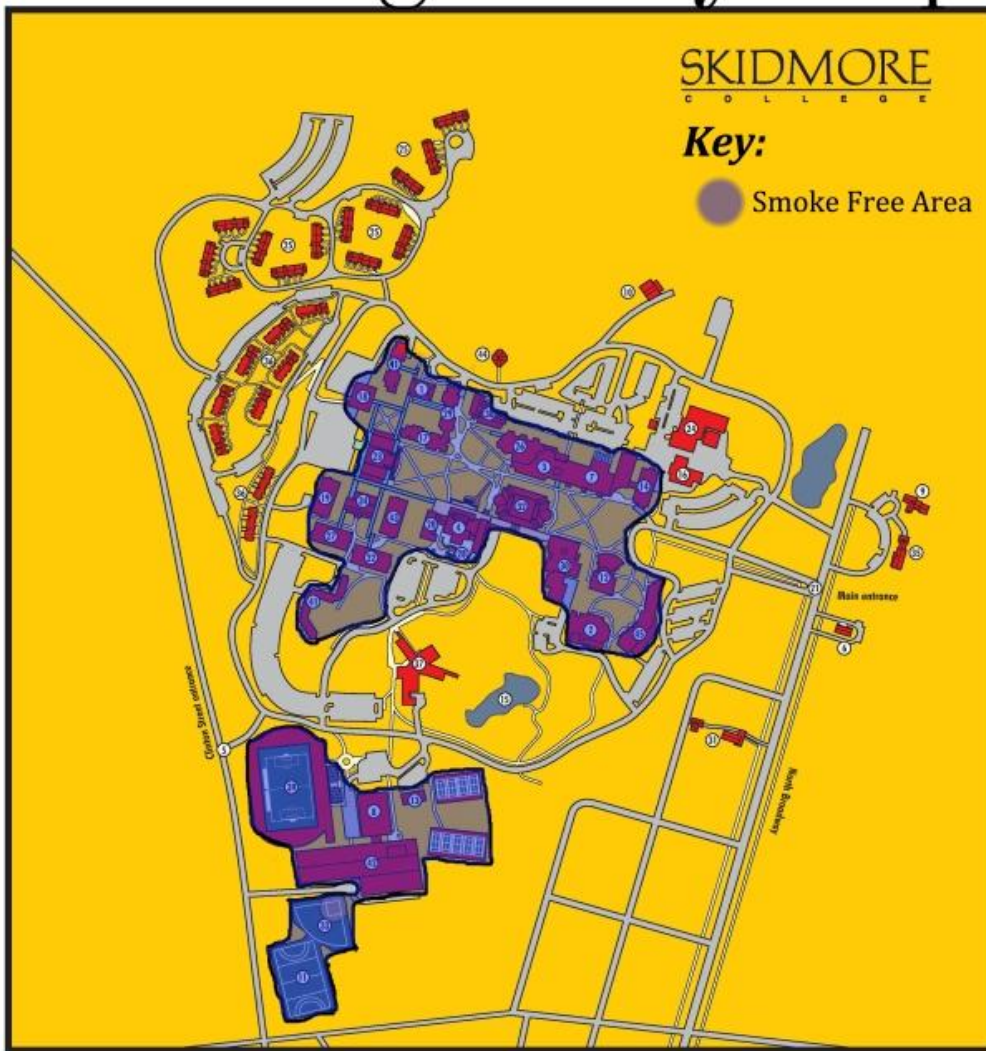
"If we want to be pro-active and supportive," Calhoun said, "we need to do more on campus."

#1.3158673:778185292.jpg:smoking map

The map indicates smoke-free areas in purple. The map is not finalized.

Skidmore College

Smoking Policy Map



- | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Barrett Center | 11. Field Hockey Field | 21. Main Entrance | 31. Scribner House | 41. Working Hall |
| 2. Bernhard Theater | 12. Filson Hall | 22. McClellan Hall | 32. Scribner Library | 42. Williamson Sports and Recreation Center |
| 3. Bolton Hall | 13. Greenberg Child Care Center | 23. Marry-Aikins Dining Hall | 33. Softball Diamond | 43. Winerth Hall |
| 4. Case Center | 14. Harder Hall | 24. North Hall | 34. Starbuck Center | 44. Wilson Memorial Chapel |
| 5. Clinton Street Entrance | 15. Haupt Pond/South Park | 25. Northwoods Village/Moore Commons | 35. Sonney Williamson Inn | 45. Zankel Music Center |
| 6. Colton Alumni Welcome Center | 16. Hoge Hall | 26. Palisades Hall | 36. Susman Apartments | |
| 7. Dava Science Center | 17. Howe Hall | 27. Potfield Hall | 37. Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery | |
| 8. Dwyer Center | 18. Jovasse Tower | 28. Purton Plaza | 38. Tisch Learning Center | |
| 9. Eisner Admissions Center | 19. Kinkaid Hall | 29. Rounds Hall | 39. Wackenhelm Field | |
| 10. Feinshell's | 20. Ladd Hall | 30. Seisselin Art Building | 40. Wait Hall | |

Afghanistan Elections to be Focus of April 15 Skidmore Talk

On Wed, Apr 9, 2014

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. - A political anthropologist who has written two recent books about Afghanistan will lecture on that country's recent elections April 15 at Skidmore College.

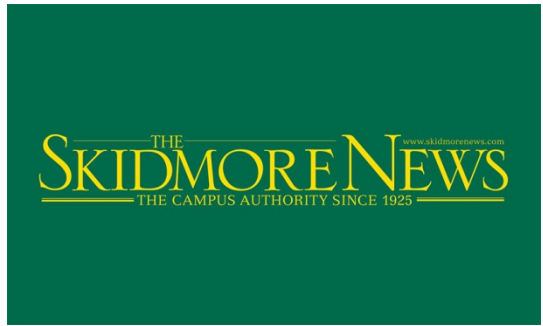
Elections Are Not What You Think They Are: Youth, Intervention, and the Future of Afghanistan, will be discussed by Noah Coburn of Bennington College. Free and open to the public, the talk gets under way at 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 15, in Filene Recital Hall, in Filene Hall on the Skidmore campus. A reception will follow.

He explains, "After 13 years of NGOs, international troops, aid money and diplomacy, the intervention in Afghanistan appears to be winding down. The 2014 elections will mark a clear point of transition. What lies ahead, particularly for the youth of Afghanistan? What is the impact of aid on governance structures? Looking particularly at youth participation in the recent elections, this talk will examine the legacy of the intervention in Afghanistan and in particular the ways in which elections have reshaped the political landscape."

Coburn just returned from monitoring the presidential and provincial council elections in Afghanistan for Chatham House. He previously worked as a specialist for the United States Institute of Peace in Kabul, Afghanistan, as well as a researcher for the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit and the AgaKhan Trust for Culture. Between 2006 and 2008, he spent 18 months doing research in an Afghan village on the Shomali Plain.

He is the co-author (with Anna Larson) of *Derailing Democracy in Afghanistan* (2014, Columbia University Press), which, according to the publisher, "builds an in-depth portrait of Afghanistan's recent elections as experienced by individuals and communities, while revealing how the elections have in fact actively contributed to instability, undermining the prospects of democracy in Afghanistan." Coburn also wrote *Bazaar Politics-Power and Pottery in an Afghan Market Town* (2011, Stanford University Press), the first long-term on-the-ground study of Afghanistan since the arrival of allied forces in 2001. The author reveals the ways in which the international community has misunderstood the forces driving local conflict and the insurgency, misunderstandings that have ultimately contributed to the political unrest rather than resolved it.

Coburn's talk is scheduled in conjunction with Saratoga Reads, whose current book of choice is *And the Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Hosseini



#1.3159304:433286716.jpg:Noah Coburn

Noah Coburn speaking at the Wilson Center



What is Public Health?

Public Health Awareness

By Amber Charette, Peer Health Educator

On Wed, Apr 9, 2014

You may have seen the many bright red, rectangular shaped stickers placed around campus the past couple of weeks that say, "This is Public Health." And while many of you may be aware of and understand what falls under the realm of public health, others may be unsure.

To begin with, the [World Health Organization](http://www.who.int/trade/glossary/story076/en/) says that public health "refers to all organized measures (whether public or private) to prevent disease, promote health and prolong life among the population as a whole."

But what are "organized measures"? The answer is essentially anything done to help improve the health and wellbeing of people (and animals!). If this definition leaves you still confused, just think of public health as this: it's everything! From the sidewalks you walk on, to the roads you drive on, to the bike paths you cycle on, to the food you eat, the exercise facilities and options in your community, the grocery stores you shop at and the healthcare facilities around you, the list goes on. Stop and think about what things have helped to keep you healthy your entire life and you'll find that there are many factors.

While much has been done to improve the public health of everyone, there is still a lot of room for improvement. For instance, did you know that the current generation is the first to be less healthy than the generation before it? This is startling news for many to find out for the first time - and it should be. Much work needs to be done in areas such as physical education, nutrition, mental health and education in general to help change this fact. It is important that everyone care about public health, as it affects all of us. My personal advice on how you can contribute to improving society's health and wellbeing is to find something that interests you and that you are passionate about. Maybe this involves volunteering at an animal shelter, a soup kitchen, a hospital or a nursing home. With will, there really are no limits.

If this has sparked your interest in learning more about the topic of public health, another a great website to look into is the [Public Health awareness page](http://www.whatispublichealth.org). Earlier this week, a public health fair was organized in the Tang to help celebrate National Public Health Week, which is April 7-13th (this week!). The EX-131: Intro to Public Health class, along with several other on-campus and off-campus clubs and departments, took the time to showcase what public health is all about. Another website that may be interesting and/or useful is: <http://www.nphw.org/>. It

provides information on public health, and how you can become involved in helping out in your own community not only this week, but also every day. And if you need some motivation to care a bit more, just consider what sort of world you want to live in, and the changes you want to see. While spreading awareness is great, it's purposeless unless it aids in getting people to act.

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The Public Health banner

www.fractracker.org



Campus Safety Reports: March 28 to April 3

On Wed, Apr 9, 2014

Incidents of Note:

- Saturday, March 29-Lost/Missing Property: An American Flag reported missing at 7:05 a.m. from the main field of the Williamson Sports Center. At 2 p.m. the flag was found hanging between the second and third floor in the stairwell of Jonsson Tower. The flag was returned to maintenance.
- Sunday, March 30-Sexual Misconduct: Reporting person arrived in the Campus Safety office at 1 p.m. to report unwanted sexual contact an an off-campus location. Report conducted.
- Tuesday, April 1-Trespass: An email was received at 3:50 p.m. reporting that an unknown middle-aged white male was using expensive equipment in a secured lab in the Dana Science Center. Investigation pending. Report issued.

Further Incidents:

Friday, March 28:

- Intoxicated Subject: Reporting person called at 12:23 a.m. on behalf of her friend who was intoxicated and wanted someone to evaluate her. Campus Safety and the Skidmore College Emergency Medical Service dispatched.
- College Violation: A loud noise reported at 12:30 a.m. in Penfield Hall. Officers were dispatched, spoke to the resident and requested that the volume be lowered.

Saturday, March 29:

- Criminal Mischief: A window was discovered broken at 1:30 p.m. in the Surrey Inn. Officer and Unit 10 dispatched.
- College Violation: A band reported at 5:20 p.m. in the Wait Hall basement. Officers dispatched. At 5:29 p.m. officers reported finding two people in the basement playing electric guitars. They were asked to turn down the volume and complied with the request.
- Criminal Mischief: Officer reported at 9:25 p.m. finding a button in the Wiecking Hall elevator that has been damaged. Report made.
- College Violation: A party reported at 10:24 p.m. on the fifth floor of Jonsson Tower. Officers dispatched and partygoers dispersed. Report made.

- College Violation: A loud noise reported at 11:23 p.m. at Wiecking Hall. Officer dispatched and reported advising a student to turn down the music. The resident complied with the request.
- College Violation: A loud party reported at 11:57 p.m. coming from the area of Dayton Drive. Dispatched officers to check on the location.
- College Violation: While doing rounds, officers heard a loud noise at 10:15 p.m. coming from a room in Wiecking Hall. Officers reported finding an alcohol violation.

Sunday, March 30:

- Intoxicated Subject: A possible intoxicated subject reported at 12:30 a.m. in Case Center. Dispatched officers who reported that the male was sleeping, not intoxicated.
- Intoxicated Subject: Reporting person called in an intoxicated subject at 1:30 a.m. on the first floor of Case Center. Dispatched Officer Fiorini who found an unconscious subject and requested the Emergency Medical Service.
- Intoxicated Subject: An intoxicated subject reported at 1:23 a.m. in the basement of Jonsson Tower. Dispatched officers and the Skidmore College Emergency Medical Service.
- Disorderly Conduct: A fight reported at 1:47 a.m. between a male and a female outside of Jonsson Tower. Dispatched officers who reported that both subjects left the area as they approached.
- Intoxicated Subject: An intoxicated subject reported at 2:30 a.m. in Wiecking Hall. Dispatched officers who requested the Emergency Medical Service.
- College Violation: Officers dispatched at 3:21 a.m. to the Wait basement for a loud party. Officers broke up an unauthorized gathering.
- Criminal Mischief: While on patrol at 8:43 a.m. an officer discovered that a stop sign was down on the Case Center roadway with the post broken in half.
- Criminal Mischief: While on patrol at 9:04 a.m. an officer discovered that the direction arrow signs on North Broadway had been broken down from the post.
- Criminal Mischief: Two large holes reported at 10:15 a.m. on both of the second floor landings in Penfield Hall. Officer was dispatched to document and issue a report.

Monday, March 31:

- Criminal Mischief: Officer reported finding a large dumpster tipped over at 2:44 a.m. at 7 Dayton Drive. Campus Safety will notify Grounds in the morning. Photos taken.
- Criminal Mischief: An exterior window reported broken at 6:46 a.m. in rehearsal room A of the Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater. Officer was dispatched to investigate and document the incident. Unit 10 dispatched.

- College Violation: A noise complaint reported at 10:57 p.m. at 5 Dayton Drive. Dispatched officers who reported that they had spoken with students, who have now dispersed.
- College Violation: A noise complaint reported at 11:36 p.m. on the first floor of Penfield Hall. Dispatched officer who stayed in the area for a few minutes until it quieted down.

Tuesday, April 1:

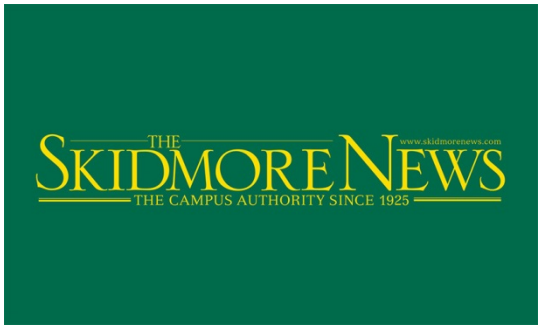
- Drug Law Violation: Loud music reported at 12:06 a.m. in Wait Hall. Officer dispatched reported that the subject lowered the volume upon request. Drug paraphernalia found in plain sight in the room while performing the service call. Report issued.
- Harassment: Reporting person sent an email at 6:04 p.m. about a possible sexual harassment. Investigation initiated and report issued.
- Criminal Mischief: Two holes reported at 9:09 p.m. in the wall on the second floor lounge of Wait Hall. Officer recorded the damage and issued a report. Unknown perpetrator(s).

Wednesday, April 2:

- Fire Alarm: Fire alarm activation received at 1:18 p.m. at Moore Way. Officers, Unit 10 and the Saratoga Springs Fire Department advised. Activation determined to have been caused by an overheated blow dryer. Report issued.
- Parking: Officer requested a tow truck at 1:36 p.m. to tow a vehicle parked in the handicap spot in Case Center Lot. The vehicle has had numerous tickets for various violations. Report issued.
- Criminal Mischief: Officer reported criminal mischief at 5:35 p.m. regarding two holes kicked in the walls of Penfield Hall. Damage was recorded and a report issued.
- Larceny: A larceny of clothing reported at 8:47 p.m. from Jonsson Tower. Report issued.
- Criminal Mischief: Report received at 10:16 p.m. that someone had damaged the fire extinguisher on the second floor of Penfield Hall. Dispatched officer reported it as a fire hazard as someone had glued the extinguisher case. Report issued.

Thursday, April 3:

- Parking: Officer reported booting a vehicle at 1:24 p.m. in West Lot as it had numerous tickets for various violations.
- Suspicious Activity: Report received at 7:55 p.m. of a black truck and a male that has gone in and out of one of the Sussman Apartments H. Dispatched officer who located an employee who had been working in the area. All was okay.



#1.3137712:2630079076.jpg:campus safety

Jacob Reiskin/The Skidmore News



NHL Super Six: President's Trophy comes down to the wire

By Katie Peverada, Sports Editor

On Thu, Apr 10, 2014

The NHL regular season will come to an end on Sunday, and there are still playoff spots to be decided, four in the East and two in the West. But all the teams in this week's Super Six have claimed their berth. Boston continues to roll in the East and remains three points ahead of St. Louis for the Presidents' Trophy. The West is a bit of a different story, as several teams in last week's Super Six are currently on two-game losing streaks. The Blackhawks, though, have once again cracked this week's rankings.

1. Boston Bruins:

There's not much left to say about the Bruins that you don't already know, but one fun fact is that they're the only team in the league this year who has at least 30 wins on home ice. The Bruins are the most consistent team in the league in several aspects, which is why they are the best team. They have defense, offense, goaltending and not a slate of injuries to their stars. Even their lines are consistent, with their top line combining for 188 points through 79 games. Their 53 wins are more than the lowly Sabres have points (51). Their goal differential (+84) is 16 higher than St. Louis'. Even if the Bruins sit their top players in their last few regular season games, they can still win the Presidents' Trophy - backup goaltender Chad Johnson hasn't lost a game since giving up one goal in a Dec. 28 loss to Ottawa.

2. Los Angeles Kings:

The Kings, 7-3 in their last 10, have three games remaining: two very winnable road-games against Calgary and Edmonton and their final game at home against Anaheim. It won't make a difference which team they face in the first round - Sharks or Ducks - they'll still rely heavily on Jonathan Quick and their stalwart defense. The Kings are second-best in the league in terms of limiting the other team's shots, giving up only 26.5 per game. They're first in the league in goals against per game, giving up a stout 2.05 per. But their offense needs to pick it up, as they're only averaging 2.39 goals per game.

3. Chicago Blackhawks:

Sure, a team making a jump from outside the rankings to the third spot may seem unrealistic, but when a team wins three games in a row, including a 4-2 win over St. Louis, without players like Patrick Kane, Jonathan Toews, Johnny Oduya and Michael Handzus in the lineup, you have to give them credit. Chicago has had to show their incredible depth lately as a result of injuries to key players. Corey Crawford has been solid through all of the injuries, and the playoff-returns of Kane and Toews will thrust

the Hawks back into the conversation. A tough test comes Wednesday against Montreal, but they face Washington and Nashville in their last two. Wins in all three would prove vital, as they could leapfrog Colorado for the second spot in the division, which would mean home ice in their first-round matchup.

4. Colorado Avalanche:

No matter what happens to the Avalanche in the playoffs, first-year coach Patrick Roy should win the Jack Adams Award. Roy has taken the second-worst team in 2012-13 and turned them into a legitimate Stanley Cup contender. Colorado has won 50 games for the first time since the 2000-01 season, which also happens to be the last time they won the Cup. The one knock is that the team is still young and inexperienced. Plus, they will need to come together and find a way to win without Matt Duchene and limit the opponents' shots on net, as they give up a rather high 32.7 a game. Semyon Varlamov, as good as he's been this year, can't do it all.

5. St. Louis Blues:

The Blues just broke the franchise record for wins in a season (52), but they also dropped games against the injury-riddled Blackhawks and Avalanche, and squeaked out a 2-1 win over Buffalo. They're playing as if they don't care if they win the Presidents' Trophy, which is okay, but Anaheim is only three points behind them for the number one seed in the West. T.J. Oshie, David Backes and Alexander Steen are doing fine offensively, but St. Louis' biggest strength heading in to the postseason will be its defense, which gives up a mere 26.5 shots per game, tied for second in the league. And Ryan Miller is doing fine in net with a 2.56 GAA, but interestingly enough, the goalie they gave up, Jaroslav Halak, is sporting a 2.29 GAA up in Washington.

6. San Jose Sharks:

The Sharks lost to Nashville 3-0 at home. This continues a scary trend of losing against teams that won't even make the playoffs, as ten of their 12 home losses this season are against non-playoff-bound teams. As of now, the Sharks are destined to play the Kings in the first round, which is not good, since the Kings are 3-1-1 against the Sharks this season. One concern might be the number of minutes Antti Niemi has played in goal this season, as he is third in the league with 3,650:42. When every game matters for a team, a fresh goaltender is key.

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Antti Niemi has kept the Sharks at the top of the standings all season but there are certainly questions regarding overuse heading into the playoffs.

Frank Franklin II/Associated Press



Skidmore, MCLA split softball doubleheader

By Katie Peverada, Sports Editor

On Thu, Apr 10, 2014

The Skidmore softball team overcame an error-filled 11-2 loss in their first game against MCLA to win 7-3 in the second on Thursday afternoon. With the split, Skidmore's record moved to 7-11 while MCLA's went to 5-13.

The Skidmore softball team overcame an error-filled 11-2 loss in their first game against MCLA to win 7-3 in the second on Thursday afternoon. With the split, Skidmore's record moved to 7-11 while MCLA's went to 5-13. The doubleheader was intended to be at MCLA, but due to problems with the field was played at home instead.

Skidmore had a solid start in field and at the plate the first game. The defense allowed only two base runners in the first two innings, and the offense plated two runs in the top of the third inning when Abby Shea '15 hit a two-out, two-RBI single. However, the Trailblazers returned fire with a nine-run bottom half of the inning. Lauren Fortunato '17, who went two and two thirds innings in the loss and allowed five runs, was unable to keep the MCLA bats quiet in their second trip through the lineup.

MCLA, on the strength of a three-RBI double from Jennifer Sicsnki, scored five runs before the second out was recorded. MCLA pitcher Rachel Quackenbush then helped herself out when she smacked a three-RBI double to center field to put the score at 9-2 heading in to the top of the fourth. After Skidmore went down 1-2-3 in the top of the fifth inning, MCLA added two more runs in the bottom half of the frame. Facing the dreaded 10-run mercy rule, the Thoroughbreds tried to rally in the top of the fifth, earning a hit-by-pitch and two walks to load the bases with two outs. But Quackenbush was able to get the Cassie Fishkin '16 to ground out, ending the game at 11-2.

Fortunato, who gave up five hits and five earned runs, moved to 2-5 with the loss, but did have two stolen bases in the game. Shea, Lauren Gorstein '17 and May-Lin McEvoy '16 had the only three hits for the Thoroughbreds. Quackenbush allowed two runs on the three hits while striking out six.

In the second half of the doubleheader, Skidmore came out a different, more resilient team. The Thoroughbreds loaded the bases in their first at-bats, though they didn't plate any of the runners. Fishkin and the defense then got to work. Shea played a part in all three outs of the bottom of the inning, as she ranged to her right to grab a floater, threw a girl out at first, and started the execution of a perfect rundown between second and third, one of two in the game.

MCLA did add two runs in the bottom of the second to grab the 2-0 lead, but fortunately the roles from the first game were reversed. Fortunato singled to start the inning and then advanced to third on Gorstein's hit two batters later. Fishkin then tallied an RBI-single which was followed up with a MacKenzie Whiting '16 scorcher that caromed off the third-base bag down the left field line to tie the game. Britney Osborn '17 then hit a sacrifice fly deep to leftfield to put the Thoroughbreds up 3-2. MCLA responded with a run in the bottom of the inning, but the Skidmore defense executed their second successful rundown of the game to end the inning.

With runners on first and second and one out, Skidmore took the lead for good in the top of the fifth inning when Lila Rosenfeld '16 singled home Whiting to make it 4-3. McEvoy then singled to right, scoring Osborn, to make it 5-3 and end the game for pitcher Amanda Meczywor. Skidmore then tapped relief pitcher Quackenbush for two more runs before the inning was over. Sam Skott '15 laid a sacrifice bunt to score Rosenfeld and then McEvoy scored on an error, with a majestic slide into home. Fishkin, with the run support and defense behind her, allowed only three hits the rest of the way.

Fishkin scattered eight hits and three runs over all seven innings to move to 5-5 on the year. Offensively, the Thoroughbreds received at least one hit from every bat in the lineup and had six different players with RBIs. Fortunato and Whiting registered two hits apiece, while McEvoy went 3-4, stole one base, scored a run and had an RBI.

Skidmore will travel to Rochester this weekend for Liberty League play, facing RIT in a doubleheader on Saturday and then the University of Rochester on Sunday.

#1.3159947:66471498.jpg:softball

Mackenzie Whiting '16 slides home safely in the fifth inning of the second game. Whiting finished 2-3 with one RBI and one walk in the game.

Katie Peverada '14

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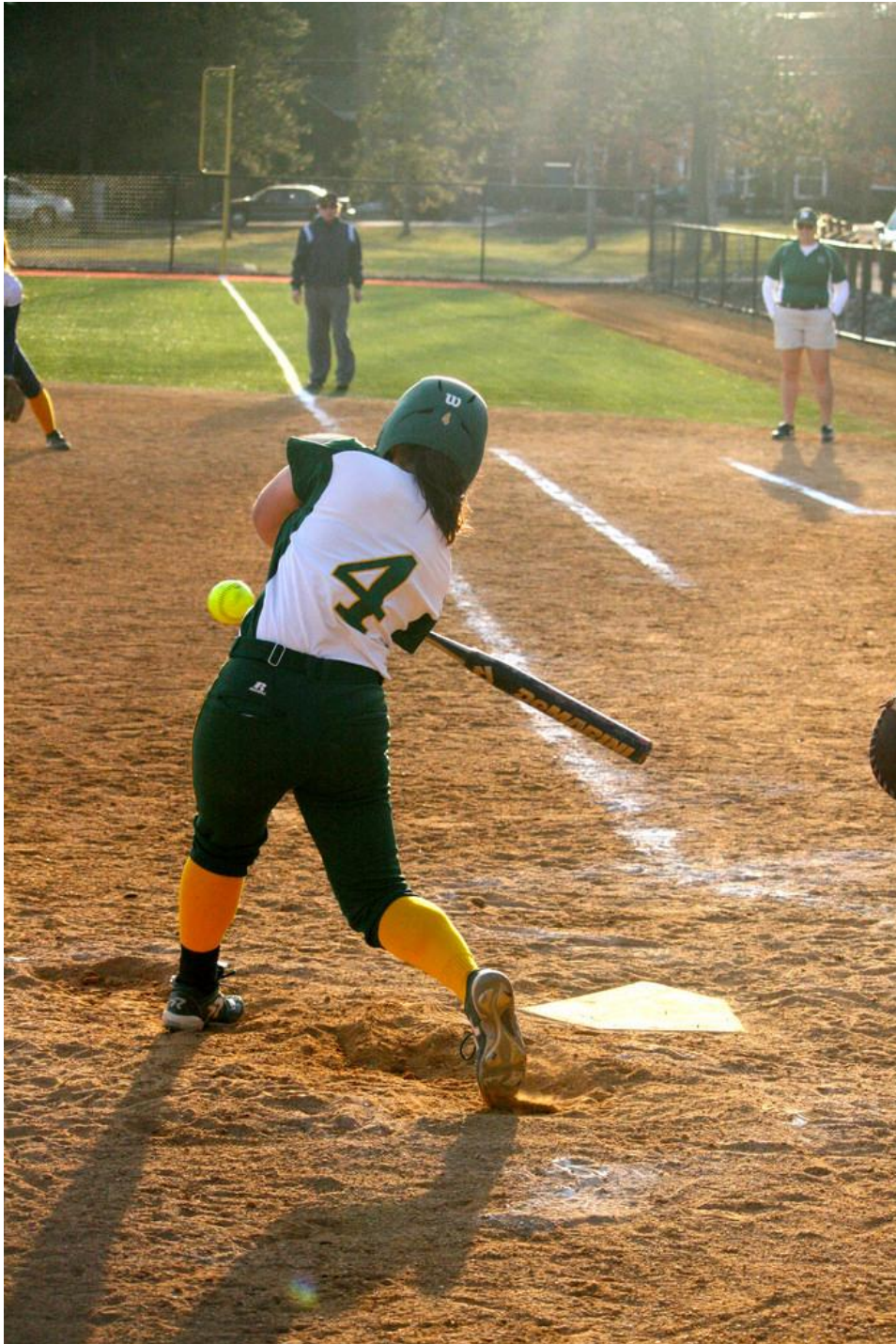
Lauren Gorstein '17 prepares to connect with the ball in the second game.

Katie Peverada '14

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Cassie Fishkin '16 earned her fifth win of the season, allowing three runs on eight hits in the complete game effort.









Skidmore's Annual Earth Day Festival

Kicks off Saturday at 1 p.m.

By Jesse Shayne, Features Editor

On Thu, Apr 10, 2014

Not sure if you want to attend Skidmore's annual Earth Day Festival this Saturday? Confused as to what exactly the event entails?

Well, for starters, Earth Day will feature the most popular band to grace Skidmore with its presence this semester (based on Facebook likes)--BadBadNotGood.

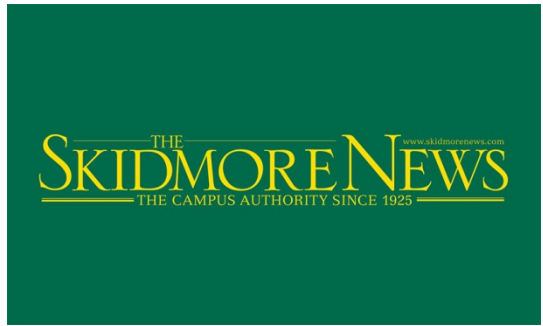
The experimental jazz trio, based out of Toronto, dabbles in hip hop, and has collaborated with Tyler the Creator and Frank Ocean. Their unique sound, mixing elements of new age jazz with classic hip hop beats and samples, stole the spotlight at South by Southwest Festival earlier this year. Check out this video to get a sense for their style.

Ava Luna, a soul pop quintet based out of New York, will also play on the Case green stage before jetting off on a European tour following the release of their second album, Electric Balloon--which received a 7.7 (a highly respectable score) from Pitchfork.

But that's hardly all. Five more bands, including Skidmore's battle of the bands winner, Queen Ambrosia, are set to play. Slothrust (New York), Endangered Speeches (Boston), The Rooks (New York) and Zula (New York) will round out the exciting lineup.

Earth Day will also feature a number of "Earth-centered" activities, including a petting zoo, tie-dye, silk-screening, gardening, bike repair, a bonfire and s'mores. Oh, not to mention free Chipotle, Ben & Jerry's and Comfort Kitchen burgers, as well as a beer garden for those who have a campus event card in hand.

In the spirit of sustainability, there will also be a clothing swap (from 1:30-4:30) at the event. Wondering what to do with your old clothes? In need of some new summer essentials but too



broke to foot the bill? Now is your chance to capitalize on your peers' impressive stylistic tendencies and generosity.

So come celebrate the Earth, good weather and the end of the semester with impressive grooves and free food, Saturday, from 1-9 p.m. on the Case green.

#1.3159630:2811314820.jpg:Earth Day

The Earth Day flyer





<https://www.facebook.com/89094026166/photos/gm.871863339506888/10151997647546167/?type=1&theater>

EAC, WSPN, SEC, & Lively Lucy's Present

EARTH DAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH
1-8PM SOUTH PARK GREEN

BADBADNOTGOOD
ENDANGERED SPEECHES
QUEEN AMBROSIA
SLOTHRUST
THE ROOKS
AVA LUNA
ZULA

 **LIVE MUSIC**
 **FREE FOOD**
 **LOCAL BEER**
 **EARTH FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES**



The background features a vertical column of planets: a small blue planet, a blue planet with rings, a yellow planet with rings, a large orange planet, a red planet, a blue and white planet, a brown planet, and a small green planet. At the bottom is a large, stylized sun with a human-like face and radiating rays. The background is a textured, parchment-like surface with faint, hand-drawn lines and symbols.

Band Profile:

Pooch

By Jesse Shayne, Features Editor

On Thu, Apr 10, 2014

Pooch, a dance-punk group formed at the beginning of this year by seniors Jon Benbeniste (guitar/vocals), Dan Alpher (bass/guitar/vocals), Wyatt Gordon (drums) and Will Kencel (guitar/bass/keyboard/vocals), isn't your average Skidmore band. Their prolific set of original songs is too deep and unique for them to be considered a party band, despite the fact that the majority of their performances this year were at house shows. So, even while they do enjoy playing for a packed off-campus house, they don't write songs for the sole purpose of entertaining an audience.

"I would hear kids talking about the ideal kind of band to play at a party...they're like: 'you play this many covers and this many original songs,'" said Benbeniste, who created Pooch last summer while at home in Los Angeles. "I don't want to say we're less of a college band because that's such a pretentious thing to say when you are a college band. But it was more like I wanted to start a band and I'm in college...I still want to form it to what the audience likes, but that becomes secondary."

Despite Pooch's sound being tagged as "minimalist" on their Bandcamp page, their music is anything but simple. As an avid Radiohead fan, Benbeniste became interested in combining electronic and analog instruments last year after playing a few solo shows using a keyboard, a loop pedal and a guitar, under the moniker "Ben Ben."

"I remember I played a Tom Yorke (of Radiohead) song, and I...noticed how it starts out completely electronic but ends completely analog...That seemed pretty cool...the chords are the same, the melody is the same, but it sounds different because it started with guitars, bass and drums, and ends with keyboards, drum pads and samples," he said.

With his drum pad, synths and guitar, Benbeniste wrote the band's debut single, "Nothin' at all," last summer. The song starts out electronic, with a 4/4 drum-pad backing and some syncopated keyboard chords, but then quickly takes its multi-dimensional form as Benbeniste's voice and bass enter the mix.

In the song Benbeniste triumphantly sings about and captures the sense of ironic apathy harbored by Generation Y, with a chorus that simply repeats: "I don't care bout nothin at all." Contrasting the upbeat tempo and bright, high-end major chords, the song alludes to the dark side effects of self-medication and overstimulation: "Happy Birthday! Dude that was last Thursday, you should ease up on that stuff / I

don't blame you in fact I'd do the same if I had it just as rough." In his charmingly indifferent cadence, Benbeniste sings about his experience as part of a generation that, despite its self-proclaimed importance and uniqueness, really has nothing new to offer: "Every morning feels like I'm conforming to somebody else's plan / Am I too young, too dumb, too high, or too drunk for me to understand?" Ironically, while Benbeniste's song alludes to the lack of originality found in today's youth, his musical sensibilities lie within the echelon of new-age electronic music, a style hasn't been around long enough to lose its novelty.

About two-and-a-half minutes into "Nothin' At All" comes a fiery guitar interlude that breaks up the dominant electronic harmonies. Distorted to sound like an 8-bit videogame melody, Benbeniste's guitar solo wreaks havoc for a solid minute, paying homage to all of the 90's kids who recognize and long for the days when video game music (and life) was that simple. Here the core aspect of Pooch shines through--complication hidden in layers of simplicity.

"I think, or at least hope it seems really simple, but actually a lot thought goes into the music," Benbeniste said.

Pooch's music can't be categorized into any one label, and in simplest terms it still combines at least two genres. Benbeniste refers to Pooch as "dance-punk" and "electronic-rock," which brings to mind some of the great acts that pioneered new-age electronic rock in the late 90's and early 2000's--groups such as LCD Soundsystem that remain timeless and have inspired albums as recent and as acclaimed as Arcade Fire's *Reflektor*.

Benbeniste said that the most distinctive characteristic of Pooch is the personal nature of the lyrics: "I just feel like after HAP (a group featuring members of Skidmore's class of 2013) left there weren't any other bands singing about themselves... I wanted to start a band and play these songs I write about my life and have a group of people who would be down to play them with me," he said.

Kencel praises Benbeniste for his ability to offer coherent songs to the group, laying out his vision for his bandmates while still granting them freedom to improvise. "I have never worked with someone who has such a full concept of a song before bringing it to the band," he said.

Kencel and Benbeniste are both music majors--although Kencel doesn't consider himself to be a typical music major given his bass performance concentration--and claim that their classroom knowledge of music theory allows them to better communicate parts, which certainly might explain how the band is so prolific despite only existing for a few months.



“My style is better suited for bands than for ensembles,” said Kencel. His music resume certainly backs that claim; Kencel has been in six bands at Skidmore and has become somewhat of a campus celebrity as a result.

Gordon is an unselfish and well-composed drummer, but when it’s his time for a fill he knows how to lay one down. Given the electronic elements of Pooch, Gordon’s kit is not always the only source of percussion; some songs start out with or end with a drum-pad backing, but as in the style that Benbeniste prefers, Gordon carries the bulk of the rhythm.

Alpher’s bass is what makes Pooch songs danceable. In most Pooch songs Alpher’s parts are solid--nothing too fancy--but at the end of every measure Alpher lets loose a funky fill, on which he self-reportedly thrives.

“His fills are my favorite part of the music,” said Kencel.

Pooch has a plethora of shows left over the last month of college following their recent release, the Talk Too Much/Telephone EP that Benbeniste recorded in Los Angeles over spring break. The band wants to stay together after college, and Benbeniste hopes that Pooch will deliver him success in the music world, either as it continues performing or when it ultimately provides a solid addition to his resume. As the band rides the coattails of modern electronic equipment into the next generation of music, they take with them a bit of Punk’s past and offer a bit of Pop’s future; whether they’re playing Pixies covers or synth arpeggiator-backed originals, Pooch is sure to make its audience happy from the main-stage in Zankel to the darkest and grungiest of basements.

You can see Pooch play tonight at Putnam Den, at 8 p.m. along with some other local (non-Skidmore affiliated) bands.

#1.3159636:1920604343.jpg:Pooch

Pooch (missing Kencel)

Pooch

<https://www.facebook.com/poochmusic?fref=photo>



Faculty Discuss the Next Academic Year, Finances, and Skidmore in China in April 4 Faculty Meeting

By Emily Singer

On Thu, Apr 10, 2014

The Skidmore College faculty discussed upcoming changes and studies on the school in their monthly faculty meeting on April 4. The faculty listened to the College's plans for refinancing its \$74.4 million debt, the latest statistics from Admissions for the Class of 2018 and voted to terminate the Skidmore in China study abroad program.

President Philip A. Glotzbach opened the meeting by calling Head of Finances Mike West to speak of the American Association of University Professors faculty assessment and data statistics, focusing on the salary data of professors, associates and assistants. West provided visual graphs which indicated that the College provides the average salary and benefits for faculty in comparison with our peer aspirant schools. The salaries of the faculty indicated that we are at a median level (nine out of 18) for full professor compensation benefits, not including retirement.

Glotzbach then discussed the College's efforts to refinance. Glotzbach stated that the College is currently \$74.4 million in debt and will refinance \$41.5 million over the next 10 years, which will ultimately save the school several million dollars. On the Moody's rating, the school has an A1 rating, which is very good for an academic institution, according to Glotzbach.

Regarding Admissions, the College received just over 8,700 applicants, a five percent increase in applicants from last year, and of these students, 34 percent self-identified as of color, 1,700 were international and 42 percent of accepted students will be on some form of financial aid.

37 percent of the students who applied were accepted, which, according to Glotzbach, is a larger number than most years due to the large size of the current graduating Class of 2014. Therefore, the school is accepting more students than usual to make up for the deficit in the fall. The first-year class, however, will not be exceed 700 students.

Dean of the Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs Beau Breslin announced the 60 new full-time faculty hired, which every current faculty member helped play a role in selecting.

Peter von Allmen, representing the Committee on Education Policies and Planning, said revisions to the all-college requirements are still underway. He then brought to the faculty a vote on terminating the

Skidmore in China program, which cost the school too much money with few students interested. The faculty almost unanimously voted to terminate the program, thus beginning a search for a new program in another country. The meeting closed with a discussion on changing the language of the Faculty Handbook concerning tenure and promotions. During this talk a governance reform proposal was posed, suggesting a new method of having more efficient, equitable and effective committees. The new committees would be restructured to work better for faculty, enabling greater changes to be done in a timely manner.

Unforgettable Performance of Cabaret Troupe's *Little Shop of Horrors*

By Gwendolyn Plummer

On Fri, Apr 11, 2014

When I was about twelve years old, my best friend's mom sat her and me down on the couch after school and told us she had found an old VHS in the basement. It was one of her favorite movies, and she was adamant that her daughter and I watch it immediately. So, we got comfortable on the couch with snacks and blankets as her mother popped in a VHS of *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Since that day, *Little Shop* has been one of my absolute favorite films. My best friend and I watched it at least twice a month and we used to walk around singing the songs to each other when we had nothing else to do. As expected, when I found out that this semester's big Cabaret Troupe production was going to be *Little Shop*, I was overwhelmed with excitement. I practically planned my entire weekend around attending the show and warned all of my friends beforehand that I would be singing along the entire time. I sat down in my seat in Filene excited and a little bit dubious - would a school, student-run production of one of my favorite movies live up to my ridiculously high expectations? As it turned out, I was in for a surprise.

Firstly, I was unaware how fundamentally different the musical actually is from the movie. The endings are completely different. In the movie adaptation, Seymour saves the day, allowing him and Audrey to live happily ever after "somewhere that's green," and as the camera pans out, a little Audrey II is seen growing ominously in their front garden. However, in the musical, Seymour is too late - Audrey dies, Seymour has to feed her to the plant, and eventually he gets eaten as well. Although this ending shocked me, it didn't upset me as much as it might have. After doing some research I learned that the original ending of the movie was the same as the musical, but it had to be changed after test audiences were displeased with the unhappy ending.

Aside from my initial shock over the ending, it took me until about halfway through the first act to warm up to the play, although that was due to my own bias and not a reflection on the production itself. Having seen the film countless times, I was expecting the musical to be exactly the same. Obviously, that expectation was not met - yet in the best way possible.

At first, I was a little uncomfortable with the differences between the movie and the musical. But halfway through the first act, right around Cody Webber's big number as the sadistic dentist, I found

myself smiling, laughing and singing along, completely immersed in this production that I had originally tried to resist. What had first made me uncomfortable about the production was the fact that the characters were not exactly the same characters I was used to seeing on the TV and I was having a hard time seeing them in that way. It took me some time, but I soon came to realize how well cast the production really was. In particular, Mark Thurner was practically a flawless Seymour. He was a perfect combination of wonderfully awkward and self-effacing, truly capturing the essence of the self-conscious but hopeful young man who suddenly finds himself thrust into money, fame and moral degradation. I felt that his portrayal of Seymour was the most on-point and in-depth of any. He truly was the star of the show. Cody Webber was also absolutely hilarious and somewhat frightening as Orin the dentist. He and Mark seemed to be impeccably cast in my opinion.

The production itself was completely hysterical, even funnier live than the actual movie, with some important moments of sincerity and seriousness. The pit orchestra (which was all freshmen) was extremely remarkable. For something entirely student run and student directed, *Little Shop of Horrors* was massively impressive, as most Cabaret Troupe productions are.

Although I went into *Little Shop of Horrors* with certain prejudices and expectations, the production exceeded all of my preconceived notions and blew my prejudices out of the water. The show reminded me of why I love *Little Shop of Horrors* so much and simultaneously showed me why a live production can have so much more life than a film.

#1.3160186:4038673943.jpg:cabaret

Skidmore's Cabaret Troupe





Speaking to Our Student Government

By The Editorial Board

On Fri, Apr 11, 2014

There seems to be some major disconnect between the general student population and the SGA, for they do not effectively adhere to the will of the students. How, then, do we take steps towards reestablishing them as the champion of the student voice?

Our student government serves primarily to voice the opinions of the student body. They are our representatives, as well as the institution most capable of taking action in response to student concern. However, it appears as if recently there is some major disconnect between the general student population and the SGA, for they do not seem to be effectively adhering to the will of the students.

We might blame this on student apathy: a lack of willingness among students to communicate with the SGA, or attend public Senate meetings, or to propose resolutions. But this claim is an easy out - perhaps the SGA should be more actively reaching out to students so as to make better use of their time, and essentially, enact change aligned with student opinion. It is not the overwhelming sense on campus that the SGA is the most valid means of reaching the administration or of doing work of critical concern.

While the SGA at times expresses the sentiments of the student body, as with the recent decision to bring a resolution addressing minimum wage on campus to the Institutional Policy Planning Committee, these efforts, as exhibited by the IPPC's rejection of the aforementioned proposal to bring the resolution before the President's Cabinet, may not be the most effective way to aid the student body.

In the most recent senate meeting, a great deal of time was allocated to the "Clothing Optional Campus" resolution. It seems that the impetus of this resolution was not the student body, but instead, that of SGA members who wanted to codify a rule they personally ascribed importance to. First and foremost, Skidmore cannot legally become clothing optional as New York State ultimately prohibits this behavior. Due to both its motivations, and its implausibility, far more time than necessary was allocated to its discussion. Furthermore, two recent Senate sessions devoted time to the passage of an attendance policy as well as whether or not SGA representatives should purchase clickers for voting. Both are policies that deserved far less consideration than they received.

There are better and more urgent issues that the SGA can address to affect change on campus, such as their budgeting power and the management of club affairs. Where the SGA holds significant power is within the realm of club budgeting. Each year they review and revise every club's budget, cutting or



augmenting based on the budget's niceties. This allows students to pay for the events and resources their clubs need to fulfill their roles in the student community.

Still, even once the SGA passes a budget, clubs must request permission to spend their funds on certain projects or items. It is understandable that the SGA would want to preclude students from spending hundreds of dollars on items or trips irrelevant to the purpose of their club, however, this micromanaging of club funds manifests itself in enormous inconvenience for students - for instance insisting that students drive lengthy distances rather than fly, even when the extra money is available in other sections of the budget.

Revisiting how budgeting works and sharing sovereignty over club funds with the clubs themselves is work much more important than the question of whether or not the purchase of clickers is worthwhile. If the student body is unhappy with something (there's always something), the SGA should be the first to respond, and it seems that the current manner of delegating funds to different clubs is a major complaint across campus. Why, then, does it not seem as if the SGA is looking to make alterations to this system? Or if these alterations are in the process of coming to be, why are more students not informed?

Another concern that was brought up during the April 1 Senate meeting by both senators and non-SGA members was a lack of communication between the SGA and the student body. While the Senate meetings, as public forums through which students may express their concerns, are an excellent way to keep in touch with the student body, the SGA might benefit from looking into ways to make the information discussed during these meetings even more accessible to students. It currently takes the SGA up to two weeks to publish their minutes from the meetings, and sometimes the agendas are not even put up onto their website.

Each year, many SGA candidates run on the same platform--communication--implying that each year the previous SGA regime failed in this regard. Students should receive more frequent updates, more general emails as to the nature and progress of their work. The SGA needs to remember that they represent the students, and are not there to merely pad their resumes -- they serve to organize student interests and pursue them, to connect the student body to the administration and to act as a forum for inter-student communication.

This is not to say the SGA has done no good. Events this year have been executed well (Moorebid has been more successful this past year than in years prior). The divestment and minimum wage resolutions, even if outside the SGA's jurisdiction, exemplified the SGA championing the student cause. Moving forward, the SGA needs to prioritize its goals but also remember why they're there: to serve the students. Communication is a perennial issue. Budgeting and club funding is another, recognized by each club board as well as the students that participate within them.



The SGA has recently suffered a depreciation in their status on campus, due to their pursuit of matters beyond their control, and consequently, their mismanagement of responsibilities that lie within the parameters of their power. The Editorial Board feels that to regain their prestige, the SGA must re-evaluate its role on this campus -- they must take a closer look at their prerogatives and responsibilities, and thus take steps to return themselves to being the champion of the students.

#1.3160219:1354685590.jpg:senate 4/11/15

Probably the only glimpse you'll get into the happenings of SGA.

Jacob Reiskin/ The Skidmore News



Blurbs Overheard

On Fri, Apr 11, 2014

Just some of the gems said around campus.

“The wet spot is fine, just stop talking about it.”

“It is shocking how many people are talking to themselves right now.”

“Yesterday, I woke up at 2:00, took a 3 hour nap during the day, and fell asleep at 9:00. All I’ve done today is stand in different parts of my room.”

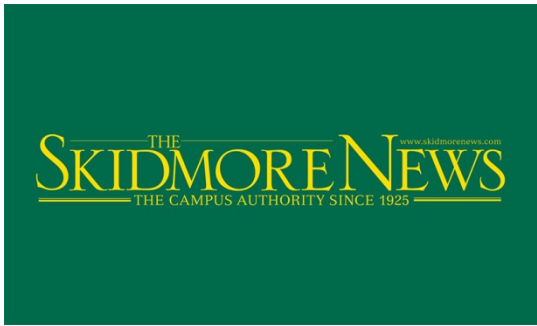
“She socialized a lot yesterday, so she’ll be out for a couple of days now.”

“I said to myself, ‘I need to read 90 pages of this book right now’ and then I fell asleep.”

“It felt like they were our dog-walkers taking us on a walk.”

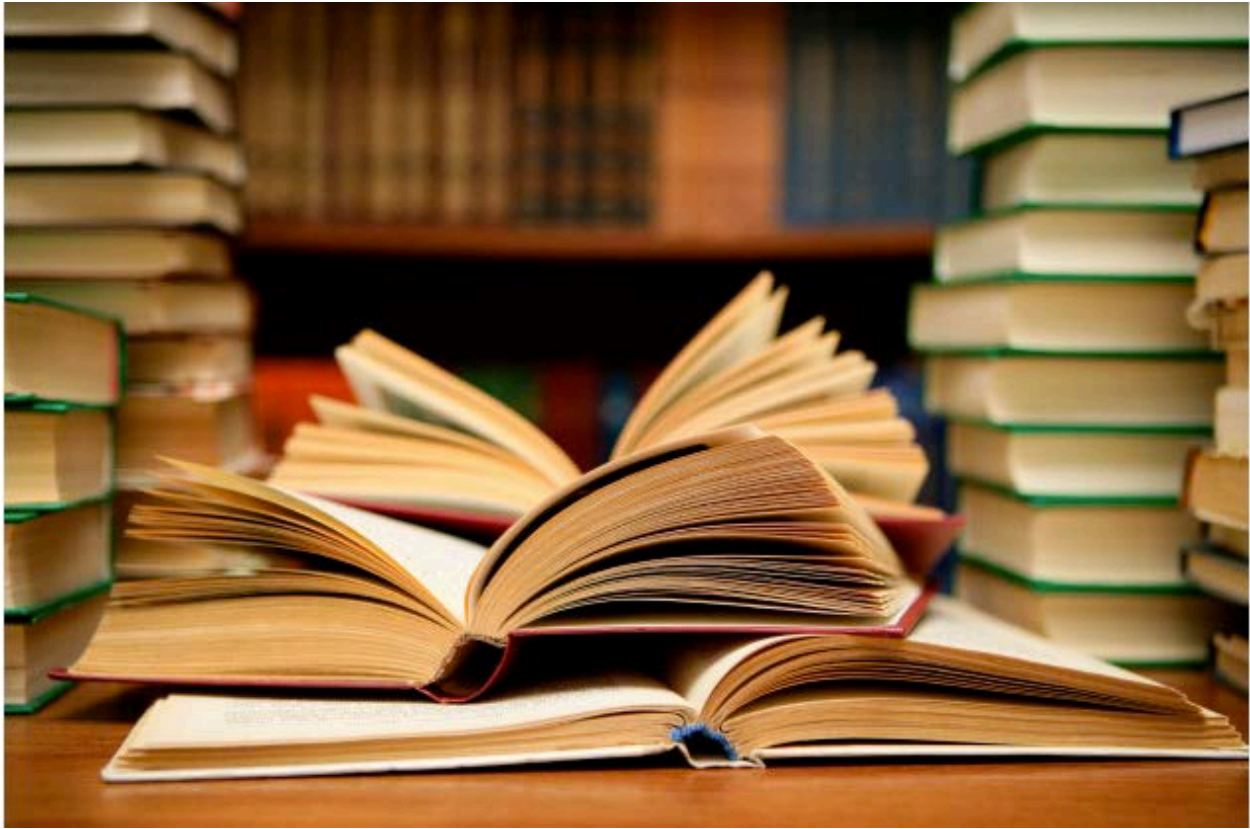
“They are Skidmore royalty. They are an integral part of my life here.”

“All I want is an STD, preferably HIV or Chlamydia; they’re the cutest.”



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www.talkandroid.com



Untold Stories of War: "If All the Sky Were Paper" Performed on the Main Stage

Theater Review

By Danny Graugnard

On Fri, Apr 11, 2014

Andrew Carroll founded The Legacy project back in November 11, 1998. It was a national, all-volunteer project which aimed to seek and preserve wartime correspondence. Carroll tried to reach out to many people, asking them to preserve any letters they have received and sent to loved one in times of war. Letters collected were sent by soldiers and their families, and many date back as early as the American Revolution, each one revealing a personal narrative. With about 200 hundred letters, Carroll edited the book *Letters of a Nation: A Collection of Extraordinary American Letters* in 1991, and then edited *War Letters: Extraordinary Correspondence from American Wars* in 2001.

If All the Sky Were Paper, written by Andrew Carroll, is based on his two books. The play activates the narratives told in these letters of wartime correspondence in a way that was delightful, endearing, sorrowful, and sometimes with a touch of dark humor.

We are taken through a journey with the narrator (presumably Carroll), played by Conor Mullen '14, as he tells us of the letters he found, pooled together, reconstructed and reimagined as the untold stories of the ones who wrote the letters. They are put together thematically; there were letters on censorship, of civilian casualties and more.

The play begins with the entire cast on the stage, where they will remain for its entirety. It was an uncommon and unexpected notion that works. With subtlety and impressive quick action; transitions between scenes were seamless, as actors changed costumes and persona right in the moment on stage, giving the play a dynamic feel that brought life into these letters. Each cast member, part of the ensemble, assumed new identities through monologues that were essentially the letters themselves.

The set design doesn't change much, but what was most dynamic were the images projected in the background. With each narrative coming to life before us, photos of the people who wrote these letters overlooked the stage, driving the unique surrealism of watching the dead rise before you further and further. There are obvious technical hiccups that occurred when the images would scroll in the background, which was slightly distracting. At key moments of dramatic turning points, I found myself ignoring the images entirely.

In the end, the audience received a pleasant surprise when Andrew Carroll himself appeared on the stage for a quick Q&A session with the audience. When asked why he felt theater was the best medium, he replied, "we wanted to do something more theatrical. I love the theater experience because you can change it. It made it possible for us to convey the stories in these letters with the focus on hope and reconciliation, and hopefully end romanticization of war."

By Andrew Carroll; directed by Larry Opitz; Danielle Turner, assistant director; Sonya G. Rosen '17, Michaela Whiting '16, assistant stage managers; costume designs by Patty Pawliczak; scenic, lighting, and projection design by Garrett E. Wilson; Peter Kobor, assistant projection design; Kendall Gross '16, stage manager. At the main stage of JKB Theater. Running time: 1 hour 35 minutes with no intermission.

WITH: Brandon Bogle '16, David Brummer '14, Will Clark '16, Ryan Crotty '15, Conor Mullen '14, Christopher Naughton '17, Christine Pardos '14, Patrick Stanny '15, Callan Suozzi-Rearic '14, Sarabell Wrigley '15, Evy Yergen '16.

#1.3160216:323768844.jpg:paper sky ensemble

(From left to right) Christopher Naughton '17, Ryan Crotty '15, David Brummer '14, Patrick Stanny '15, and William Clark '16

Madi Ellis '14





SGA Discusses Minimum Wage With IPPC

By Danny Graugnard

On Fri, Apr 11, 2014

When the minimum wage in New York State was raised to \$8 per hour, Skidmore College chose not to. The issue was a hot topic for debate and many discussions and actions were held among students, such as the petition on change.org, particularly by those are still being paid \$7.25 for their on-campus job. Recently, SGA has met with the IPPC in order to propose raising the wage for these students, and are working with them to do so.

Based on the conversation with IPPC, it was determined that it wouldn't cost the College too much money for it's next fiscal year if the wage was increased. The issue however, is that IPPC hasn't determined if wage compression is pertinent at the moment, but for now, the goal is raise the minimum wage of students from \$7.25 to \$8. The pay roll for students that are already at \$8 will not see a relative increase.

Research is being conducted to understand how to increase the wage without having an adverse effect on the budget. The College is looking at how other private institutions are working on their budgets to meet the higher minimum wage. Mary Lou Bates, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, could not be reached in time for this article's publication.

Although the matter is currently at a stand still, SGA and IPPC will be meeting again on April 18th to touch base and decide how to move forward.

#1.3160214:1692371406.jpeg:student workers

Jacob Reiskin





A Rare Moment of Perspective

By Jack Rosen, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Apr 11, 2014

Skidmore is a place full of ideas. Every day we debate and discuss issues such as poverty, justice, the penal system, opportunity and equality, and we often read books that discuss such issues. We study one author who argues that those who find themselves in prison are fully deserving of their fate; then we read the work of another writer who suggests that the imprisoned are often the victims of circumstance. Yet the perspectives on poverty, prison and justice that we examine are almost always scholarly.

It is rare at Skidmore to hear the perspective of someone who has truly experienced the challenges of America's economic and penal systems. However, the upcoming lecture "From Parole to Prosperity" promises to be a rare exception. In an event co-sponsored by Bene-Faction, Shelters of Saratoga, The Skidmo' Daily and the College's Social Work department, Kelvin Davis will speak about growing up in Bed-Stuy, his twenty four year incarceration, the events leading up to it and his quest to prevent at-risk youth from succumbing to a similar fate. A truly charismatic speaker, Kelvin will offer attendees a perspective that cannot be found in impersonal academic articles.

The lecture will take place at 6 p.m., Monday, April 14 in the Emerson Auditorium. After Kelvin speaks, there will be a Q&A followed by food and refreshments, generously donated by Esperanto. Those interested in attending are encouraged to come slightly early, as space will be limited and a high turnout is expected.

#1.3160210:2556211767.jpg:Prison Speech

From Parole to Prosperity

Jack Rosen

From Parole to Prosperity:

Paying it Forward after Prison

Kelvin Davis recounts the events leading up to his twenty year incarceration, how he survived in prison and found faith, and his pursuit to prosper and pay it forward.

6pm, Monday April 14th,

Emerson Auditorium

**Food and Beverage will be provided,
Courtsey of Esperanto**

Presented by Shelters of Saratoga,

In Conjunction with Bene-Faction & The Skidmo Daily'



Anna Graves '14 Details Saratoga Sleep Out Event

To take place tomorrow at Congress Park

By Jesse Shayne, Features Editor

On Fri, Apr 11, 2014

The Skidmore News sat down with Anna Graves '14 to talk about tomorrow's Sleep Out event at Congress Park, which she helped organize.

Q: What is the name of the event?

Anna: It's called Saratoga Sleep Out, which is working with Captain Youth and Family Services, Shelters of Saratoga, and Code Blue; it's all of those groups getting together to bring awareness of the homeless population.

The Sleep Out is going to be going from 1 p.m. on Saturday. The sleep out part starts around 8 or 9 p.m. People will get together to hang out and sleep out. The next morning they will be feeding people. It's a big community event.

On April 17 there's a fundraiser for the program. The reason we did the Sleep Out before is to bring homeless people in to talk about their experiences.

Q: What was your involvement with the event?

Anna: So Captain's whole thing is to bring awareness. I was like 'why aren't we sleeping out?' People do it. The National Homeless Coalition in D.C. does it all the time, and they'll sleep out for four days at a time. People come out and freak out because they do it in the middle of winter.

I was like 'well why aren't we just doing this? It's not that hard.' Sadly, because we weren't going to do it in the bitter cold no one is particularly interested because it's such a busy time for Skidmore kids. But community-wise it's a huge deal.

We had to get permits from the City, and the City and the government have been very supportive of this kind of awareness.

Q: So you're trying to promote awareness of the issues around homelessness in Saratoga? Or across the U.S.?

Anna: We're only thinking about Saratoga County. The definition of homelessness isn't just living in the street, but having an unstable home. That's why a lot of these youths are qualified as homeless but they just don't have a supportive home or are being abused or have some issues at home. This is in order to bring awareness to that larger issue. Also, the majority of the backs of hotels in Saratoga are just like homeless shelters. We're not just putting people in Saratoga shelters. They're sleeping in the places that we're sleeping too because we don't have anywhere to house them.

A big piece of it is that Saratoga is a tourist town, and for us to have such a large homeless population is a problem. That's why the event is at Congress Park, because that's where people walk around. That's a big part of our city.

Q: Can you tell me more about the groups that are sponsoring the event?

Anna: Shelters of Saratoga has really strict rules. Captain Youth and Family Services only have like eight beds, and the people who go there have to be under 21. Code Blue only operates when it's 10 degrees or less outside. When they went to the Mayor and City Council, City Council was like 'we don't have enough homeless people to fill Code Blue if we build this.' They have thirty beds and it's been overflowing every night that it's been 10 degrees or less. There's a huge population of people that need them, and people have just been pretending that the problem doesn't exist.

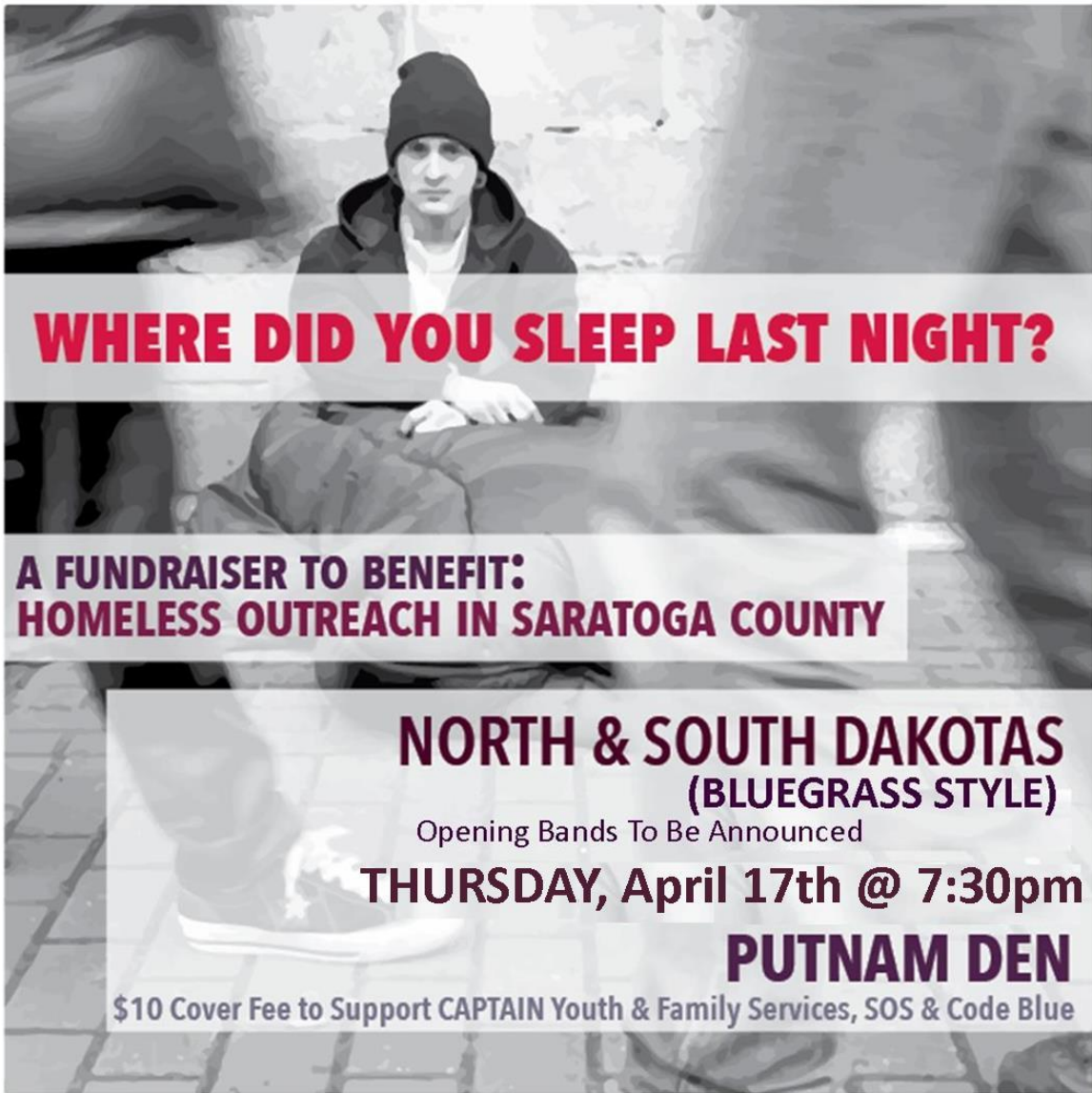
Q: Can you tell me more about the fundraiser?

Anna: It's on April 17 [at Punam Den]. Doors are 7:30 p.m. North & South Dakotas and Queen Ambrosia are playing. It's just a way to bring money to all three of those groups because they're all really underfunded. Code Blue is running fully on donations. It's kind of been taken over by a church. They're trying to be a separate organization. It's a big event for people to know who's who and talk about the issue.

#1.3160204:2248088629.jpg:Homelessness

Putnam Event on April 17:Captain

<http://www.captaincares.org/index.php/news-and-events/17-news-events/news-feed/68-sleep-out>



WHERE DID YOU SLEEP LAST NIGHT?

**A FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT:
HOMELESS OUTREACH IN SARATOGA COUNTY**

**NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTAS
(BLUEGRASS STYLE)**
Opening Bands To Be Announced
THURSDAY, April 17th @ 7:30pm
PUTNAM DEN
\$10 Cover Fee to Support CAPTAIN Youth & Family Services, SOS & Code Blue



Campus Safety Reports: April 4 to 10

On Sun, Apr 13, 2014

Incidents of Note:

- Saturday, April 5-Criminal Mischief: Multiple street signs found at 1:52 a.m. on the Clinton Street walkway. Signs were brought to the Saratoga Springs Police Department.
- Saturday, April 5-Fireworks: Report received at 11:42 p.m. that fireworks were being set off at 9 Dayton Drive. Report was unfounded.
- Wednesday, April 9-Sex Offense: A sexual assault reported at 11:32 p.m. that had taken place during the evening in late August 2013 at an on-campus location.
- Wednesday, April 9-Sex Offense: Report received at 11:32 p.m. of a sexual assault that had occurred during an evening in early March 2014 at an off-campus location.

Further Incidents:

Friday, April 4:

- Criminal Mischief: A broken window reported at 12:01 a.m. on the west end of the second floor of Penfield Hall. Report taken.
- Fire Alarm: Fire alarm activation received at 1:14 p.m. at Wilmarth Hall. Dispatched officers and advised the Saratoga Springs Fire Department.
- Larceny: A chair reported missing at 1:39 p.m. from the Wagner Room. Report taken.
- Fire Alarm: Fire alarm activation received at 2:05 p.m. at 10 Whitman Way. Alarm was due to maintenance.
- Fire Alarm: Fire alarm received at 6:51 p.m. at Sussman Apartment F. Dispatched officers and advised the Saratoga Springs Fire Department.
- Fire Alarm: Fire alarm received at 9:34 p.m. at the Sussman Apartments K. Dispatched officers and advised the Saratoga Springs Fire Department.
- Fire Alarm: Fire alarm received at 11:56 p.m. at Sussman Apartments L. Dispatched officers and advised the Saratoga Springs Fire Department.

Saturday, April 5:

- College Violation: Excessive noise reported at 12:32 a.m. at 9 Dayton Drive. Students agreed to quiet down.

- College Violation: Loud music reported at 2:38 a.m. on the first floor of Penfield Hall. Alcohol violation referral.
- Theft of Services: Report received at 3:05 a.m. that a student left without paying cab fare at the Case Center Lot. Report taken.
- Fire Alarm: Fire alarm activation received at 7:29 p.m. at Sussman Apartments K. Alarm was due to cooking. Report taken.
- Suspicious Activity: Suspicious males reported at 8:49 p.m. in front of the Scribner Library. Officer spoke with the males who went to an event on campus and purchased food in Case Center.
- College Violation: A loud noise reported at 11:07 p.m. on the seventh floor of Jonsson Tower. Report generated and alcohol violation referral made.
- Suspicious Activity: Report received at 11:26 p.m. that a laser was being pointed at people from Jonsson Tower. Report taken.
- Drug Law Violation and a Liquor Law Violation referral made.

Sunday, April 6:

- College Violation: A loud noise reported at 1:07 a.m. on the second floor of Penfield Hall. Students complied with the request to lower the volume.
- College Violation: Loud music reported at 1:44 a.m. at Moore Way. Report was unfounded.
- Criminal Mischief: Officer reported at 10:58 a.m. that hose bits had been removed from Kimball Hall. Report generated.
- Accident: Officer reported at 4:13 p.m. that the Saratoga Springs Police Department was on campus for a reported motor vehicle accident near the Tang Teaching Museum. Report taken.
- Fire Alarm: Fire alarm activation received at 8:11 p.m. at Sussman Apartments G. Alarm was due to cooking. Report taken.

Monday, April 7:

- Criminal Mischief: Officer made a check at 1 a.m. of the hallway of Starbuck Center and discovered vandalism on the hallway walls, stairs and ceiling. Officer canvassed the area for the person(s) responsible with negative results.
- Accident: Report received at 2:12 p.m. that a business vehicle had been damaged while parked in the Jonsson Tower Lot. Unknown perpetrator at the time. Report issued.
- Parking: A vehicle reported at 2:41 a.m. blocking the access road by the Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater. Officer dispatched reported that the vehicle was unregistered and possessed multiple tickets. Vehicle towed. Report issued.

- College Violation: A noise complaint reported at 11:39 p.m. at the Sussman Apartments. Dispatched officers who reported that the subject complied with the request to lower the volume of the television.

Tuesday, April 8:

- Fire Alarm: Fire alarm activation received at 12:46 p.m. at the Sussman Apartments. Officers, maintenance and the Saratoga Springs Fire Department advised. Officer reported that the activation was due to cooking. Alcohol violation found. Report issued.
- College Violation: Loud disruptive music reported at 6:37 p.m. playing outside a classroom in Case Center Lot. Officer dispatched reported that the subjects were identified and left the area.
- Suspicious Odor: A suspicious odor reported at 10:39 p.m. on the third floor of Jonsson Tower. Dispatched officer reported that a faint odor was detected, although no source was determined.

Wednesday, April 9:

- Accident: Reporting person stated at 2:17 p.m. that while she was in the Jonsson Tower Lot, she struck a sign post and railing with her vehicle. Officer was dispatched to taken the report as well as the Saratoga Springs Police Department for a Property Damage Auto Accident assessment.
- Criminal Mischief: A parking enforcement sign that was previously located in the rear of the Sussman A 30-minute parking area was reported missing at 2:49 p.m. The sign read "Don't leave vehicle idling."
- College Violation: Excessive noise reported at 11:44 p.m. on the first floor of Howe Hall. Dispatched officer.
- Fire Alarm: Fire alarm activation received at 11:09 p.m. at the Art Center. Dispatched all units and advised the Saratoga Springs Fire Department. Officer reported finding smoke in an elevator room. Elevator was shut down. Facilities on-call notified. Repair persons called in.

Thursday, April 10:

- College Violation: Noise reported at 2:05 a.m. in the common area of Penfield Hall. Officer spoke with the subjects who returned to the rooms for the night.
- Suspicious Odor: A suspicious odor reported at 10:13 p.m. at Jonsson Tower. Dispatched officer was unable to detect an odor at the time.

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Jacob Reiskin/The Skidmore News





Tang Museum's Classless Society website wins international award

On Mon, Apr 14, 2014

Skidmore College's Tang Teaching Museum's Classless Society interactive feature received the award for the Best Small Museum Project on Friday, April 4, in Baltimore at the annual Museums and the Web conference.

Classless Society, which was on exhibit at the Tang from Sept. 7, 2013 through March 9, 2014, investigated class from various social and economic perspectives. Among a number of topics, the show considered class mobility, the different ways that class is visible, the reality of the American Dream and the myths surrounding it in the United States in the 21st century.

The special online feature (https://tang.skidmore.edu/app/public/webroot/files/uploads/classless_society/index.html) that complemented the gallery exhibition provides additional background and statistics. It also offers information about the artists and how their work reflects the complex issues surrounding class status in our so-called "classless society."

Museums and the Web is an international organization with more than 600 members from 40 countries who work at the intersection of museums and the digital world. The Tang was one of only 11 winners in the annual Best of the Web competition. Other winners this year include the Dallas Museum of Art, for innovation; the Imperial War Museums and National Archives of Great Britain, for use of collections; and the Museum of Modern Art, for education.

"This award recognizes how the Tang lives up to its mission by confronting important ideas through art from an interdisciplinary perspective," The Tang Museum's Dayton Director, Ian Berry, said. "Special recognition must go to Vickie Riley, the Tang's digital resources content producer, and to Joe Klockowski, an art major in Skidmore's class of 2014."

Riley and Klockowski developed the online feature last summer by blending data and audio and video of personal stories compiled during a "Classless Society Stories" project.



Classless Society was curated by Professor of English Janet Casey, Professor of Economics Mehmet Odekon, Rachel Seligman, assistant director for curatorial affairs for the Tang Museum and John Weber, founding director of the Institute of the Arts and Sciences at the University of California at Santa Cruz

The full list of credits for the online feature is as follows:

Contributors and consultants: Janet Casey, professor of English; Mehmet Odekon, professor of economics; Rachel Seligman, Assistant Director for Curatorial Affairs, Tang Museum; John Weber Founding, Director of the Institute of the Arts and Sciences at UC Santa Cruz; Jenna Postler, Curatorial Intern, Tang Museum.

Design and production: Vickie Riley, Digital Resources Content Producer, Tang Museum; Joe Klockowski, Classless Society web site designer, Tang Museum.

Audio recordings: Gregory Carter, audio engineer; Chris Franzini, audio engineer; Frank Moskowitz, audio engineer.

Editorial: Susi Watts Kerr, former Senior Museum Educator, Tang Museum; Jay Rogoff, independent editor; Megan Hyde, Curatorial Assistant, Tang Museum.

Graphs: Joe Klockowski, Classless Society web site designer, Tang Museum.

Research: Susi Watts Kerr, former Senior Museum Educator, Tang Museum; Sophie Matyas, Curatorial Intern, Tang Museum; Jenna Postler, Curatorial Intern, Tang Museum; Beatrice Moller, Education Intern, Tang Museum; Liz Porfido, Education Intern, Tang Museum; Brett Hartman, Digital Resources Intern, Tang Museum.

Class Action for Skidmore Students (student organization).

Video: Brett Hartman, Digital Resources Intern, Tang Museum; Sophie Matyas, Curatorial Intern, Tang Museum.

Special thanks: Anthony Holland, associate professor of Music; participants in the Classless Society Stories Project; Class Action for Skidmore Students; Skidmore Office of Alumni Affairs.

The Classless Society web feature was supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Getty Foundation, the Henry Luce Foundation and the Friends of the Tang.

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Courtesy of the Tang

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CLASS IS ABOUT...

- HEALTH
- WHERE YOU LIVE
- INCOME
- FAMILY
- EDUCATION
- ETHNICITY
- GENDER
- KIND OF WORK
- NATIONAL STATUS

"WHEN PEOPLE THINK OF CLASS THEY AUTOMATICALLY THINK OF MONEY."
Charles Society Online Project

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IN THE NEWS

ABOUT



LINE celebrates this year's edition, a year of change

By Andrew Shi, Editor-in-Chief

On Tue, Apr 15, 2014

LINE, Skidmore's student-run art review magazine, will be celebrating their release party at 7 to 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 17, at the Tang. The party will also note the closing of a year marked by changes to the publication.

In a short Q&A, *LINE*'s Editor-in-Chief, Leila Farrer '16, and President, Lisa Fierstein '16, took the time to answer a few questions, including what changes the publication made this year.

SHI: *LINE* made several changes to the publication this year. Can you describe in more detail some of the larger changes that were made?

FIERSTEIN: This year, we revamped *LINE* by transforming it into an annual and more in-depth publication (*LINE* used to have new editions every semester). More than anything, we want students, faculty, and the greater community to know about *LINE* because it is where the diverse range of talents that exist on Skidmore's campus come together in a tangible form. Our first step to expand *LINE* was to increase the size of our talented staff of writers, editors, photographers, graphic designers, and artists. We hoped to create an atmosphere of inclusion and collaboration in our staff meetings, and we feel as though the 2013-2014 edition of *LINE* is a reflection of the cohesiveness of our staff members. Overall, the major changes we made this year was to expand the magazine, make the magazine be more cohesive, recruit new staff from all years and departments, increase staff participation and involvement, and create a collaborative environment.

SHI: You mentioned that *LINE* is a very interdisciplinary magazine. What departments does *LINE* work with?

FARRER: *LINE* doesn't work directly with any academic departments at Skidmore, although if I had to categorize it, I would say the Art and English departments. We did have Professor Jay Rogoff from the English department teach a workshop on how to write critical reviews about art in November that was very helpful. He recommended four keys to writing good articles: describe, interpret, evaluate, and contextualize. Beyond that, many of our articles cover student work in the Schick and Case galleries, so in that way we work with the art department. We've also had a lot of contact with the Tang by covering work in their galleries, accessing images of works to include in the magazine, and planning the release party.



SHI: Is there anything else you would like the Skidmore community to know about *LINE*?

FARRER: I guess I'd just say that we're really excited about this magazine. The staff has worked so hard over the course of this year and we've created something interesting and beautiful that shows the best side of the arts at Skidmore. The whole process has been a huge learning curve for all of us trying first to get people interested in the project and then writing good articles and then laying it all out. I give so much credit to our writers and graphic designers. *LINE* is a great way to show off the behind-the-scenes creative talent that Skidmore has.

Farrer and Fierstein also wanted to give special thanks to Treasurer Kai Inaba '16 for his hard work and leadership and also thank the rest of the managing editors and staff. This year's *LINE* will feature reviews of Classless Society, Schick Gallery's Charcoal exhibition, interviews, student artwork and more.

The release party to celebrate the 2013-2014 edition is from 7 to 9:30 p.m., Thursday, April 17, at the Tang Museum Atrium. There will be free food and drink, and performances including music from Skidmore band Otter, The Accents and Ethan Carpena with Mike Stein. There will also be spoken word from Jennifer Florence '15. Free copies of *LINE* will be distributed at the party. All are welcome.

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The cover of this year's edition of *LINE*

Line/Jacob Reiskin & The Skidmore News



Young Wanderlust by Evan Kenward Book Review

By Blair Warren

On Tue, Apr 15, 2014

College is an exciting transition into adulthood, full of friends and new experiences. What about after college, though? Do we find it necessary to jump right into our future, immediately stuck in a nine-to-five job and paying bills we didn't even know existed? The novel *Young Wanderlust* by Evan Kenward explores this question through his traveling with friends, meeting new people, and venturing out on his own. What he thought was just a post-grad road trip became an experience that changed his perspective on life.

Kenward began the journey in his home state of Massachusetts with two childhood friends. Their struggles began with car troubles, as does any good road trip story. This car's fragility and seeming mood swings is present through each passing state and pit stop. Throughout the novel, the reader is consumed not only with the development of the story but also with the tribulations of this old, distinctive car.

I'm glad I read this book while still in college, as it opened my eyes to the reality of my situation. As a college student, we often think we will be forever young with no truly extensive responsibilities, yet four years is not as long as it seems, and then all of a sudden we have mortgages and regularities, falling into the patterns of our parents. During college, Kenward spent a lot of his time taking day trips, going on hikes, and exploring what the nearby world had to offer, accompanied by friends. Yet he wanted to do more and see more. This began his plan to travel across the country, stopping at places like Michigan, Seattle and San Francisco, and even making his way to British Columbia in Canada. What is so fascinating about this story is the spontaneity, the friend dynamics that evolve after being stuck with each other for a long time, and the unexpected discoveries. Kenward shows his readers how truly beautiful this country can be and the magic of traveling not as a tourist, but as an explorer.

A constant theme in the book is the fluidity of characters and the ability to assimilate into different cultures through the mindset of acceptance of norms. Through Kenward's travels, he encounters many people and even stays with strangers greatly unlike him. He tries to be open-minded, though, letting subcultures mesh into his character. He is able to blend in with different types of people, making new friends and gaining different understandings of lifestyles and values.

Talking with Kenward, the themes in his novel persisted. He said, "Traveling and discovering new things is an education in the truest sense. I firmly believe, as a person and human being, that seeing things out of one's normal life is important for an individual."

He emphasized the significance of getting outside of one's comfort zone, branching out of one's life bubble, and not just seeing but understanding what is out there.

He said, "When you go back to your life after traveling, you have the ability to compare and contrast the way things are done in both places. This does a world of good."

After reading this book and talking with Kenward, I have gained a better perspective on the excitement of college, the reality of post-grad, and the importance of exploring what's out there. Although, according to Kenward, my perspective must also be based in experience. People should not rush into things, but instead, appreciate the little things and explore the beautiful, the natural, and the authentic. I recommend this book to anyone willing to appreciate the fluidity and freedom one can find in life.

In the final words of Evan Kenward, "If people like the book, pass it on and let other people know about it."

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On Why the Environmental Movement is Failing to "Diversify"

By Sarah Arndt and Eliza Sherpa, Contributing Writers

On Tue, Apr 15, 2014

In the following editorial, we attempt to apply the study of whiteness to environmental action. We assert first that American society maintains systems of racism and colonization that center and privilege whiteness while oppressing and marginalizing other identities. As a result, the U.S.-based environmental movement is implicated in a racial system. We believe the movement fails to adequately acknowledge or respond to the racialized nature of the politics and processes with which it engages. This failure manifests at multiple levels, including on our own college campus, Skidmore. While the environmental community on campus has attempted to foster an inclusive space and increase diversity, it has failed to do so largely due to misguided approaches. It is necessary for campus environmental activists to identify, examine, and change the ways in which our actions are influenced by racialized and colonizing economic and political systems. This begins with each of us as individuals learning and actively engaging in the constant process of becoming better allies.

*We would like to preface that we are speaking based on our own experiences and analyses of racism, whiteness studies, and environmental activism, particularly at Skidmore. We don't wish to generalize to all environmental activists, but to recognize trends we've observed within many environmental communities through our own participation. We recognize that our lens is undoubtedly limited by our own white racial identities and facets of involvement as environmental activists. We do not intend to commend ourselves for doing something "right" nor do we intend to condemn other environmental activists for failures. Instead, we hope to engage in a continued dialogue with the purpose of collectively strengthening the work we are all deeply committed to.****

At Powershift in October, a conference to bring together youth climate activists, a woman stood up in a workshop on race and the environment and asserted that while white environmentalists have been talking about how to diversify "their movement," that framing is entirely inaccurate. "This isn't about including people of color in the white American movement, this is about including white people in the global movement that indigenous and communities of color have been fighting for over 500 years." (pers. comm., paraphrase). Environmentalists looking to "diversify" the movement need a paradigm shift; rather than pursuing their own agenda, environmentalists must seek to listen, learn from, and join the global movement of indigenous and communities of color.

Environmentalism, especially on a small scale, is often criticized as a "white man's fight" (see for example, Van Jones on why the "green movement" is too white). The goal of diversification is frequently

talked about within environmental organizations, and something our own campus environmental community strives for. While commendable, we need to critically analyze the intentions, vision, and methods of diversification to understand why we seem to continuously fail at moving towards this goal.

One aspect of white privilege we often hear discussed is the ability to be treated as an individual in a white dominated society, as opposed to being profiled. While this may seem an obvious point, what this means within an environmental context is that gaining the participation of a few people of color does not mean we've successfully diversified our movement, since those voices can certainly not, nor should they be expected to, represent all communities of color. While it may seem an obvious point to make, many of us, perhaps unconsciously, make this assumption each time we wait for a person of color to raise the issue of race, assume that our own understandings of racial marginalization applies to specific people of color, or call our movement inclusive merely because of who's sitting at the table.

To address these concerns, efforts to create a broader coalition of supporters must be framed not with diversity as the end goal, but equity, because it encompasses active engagement and participation. One organizer stated in reference to marginalized populations, "We inherited this reality, but we can be architects of the future" (pers. comm.). In this sense, it's not only about gearing solutions towards underrepresented populations or even ensuring that organizing groups are diverse...

It is also about shifting the conversation to focus on lived experiences rather than attempting to apply concepts to specific realities we have not all lived out. While our impending environmental and economic crisis *will*, and in some ways does, affect everyone, we do not all experience its effects equally or even in similar ways.

Embedded within our social system is the centering and normalization of white experiences, and the assumption that those experiences are universal. While this may not be obviously evident, we accredit and validate people and their ideas based on intellectual credentials but not lived experiences, logical reasoning but not introspective analysis, and collected and articulate dialogue but not passionate assertions. These subtle interactions demonstrate the overemphasis on modes of communication certainly not exclusive to white people, but that are more easily developed through institutions more accessible and more populated by white people. In addition, lived experiences are often far more painful than "objective" analyses, triggering far greater emotional responses. On the issue, an organizer kat explained that "By invalidating our emotions, you alienate us" from the conversation.

We must restructure the American environmental movement so that it values a variety of experiences and analyses including those expressed through anger, pain, and other emotional responses.

Below we aim to demonstrate how the "alternative food movement," as a subset of the environmental movement, offers a lens to understand how the embeddedness of whiteness affects environmental activism. Many advocates of alternative foods share the same goal of diversification as the broader environmental movement. Advocates often refer to the value of getting your hands dirty in the soil, the desire to know where your food comes from, and an interest in bringing people together through spaces like farmers markets. This framing can lack appeal to the very communities that the movement claims interest in reaching out to because these values are not universal. While not exclusive to white communities, these values often coincide with certain cultural backgrounds and access to resources that not all communities share, and assume that certain populations aren't already well-versed in these practices.

The attempt to universalize these values makes larger assumptions and generalizations about why alternative food is important, failing to contextualize historical and cultural factors. Historically, the explicitly racist ways in which labor has been organized (particularly the legacy of slavery), and the way in which American land has been colonized and re-distributed, is often neglected. In other words, not everyone thinks it's so great to go dig up carrots, or sees it as a radical act, versus one born of necessity. The idea that alternative food spaces can fill a "much-needed" niche to foster community isn't always relevant, or even desired, for people who foster community through other forums.

Not only are the alternative food values culturally-specific, but the strategies for change equally so. Activists and individuals draw from the ideas disseminated by public figures like Michael Pollan who popularized ideas like "vote with your fork" and furthered the idea that those who can afford to buy high-quality food in America should do so despite the fact that not everyone is able to. These goals measure commitment to environmental change through a narrow construction of what constitutes engagement that equates good citizenship with good consumption. Not only are these modes of change exclusionary, but they also don't frame diversifying in terms of equity, and fail to challenge our inherently unequal capitalist economy.

Many people of color are faced with daily interactions where their racial identity is assumed to be essential to their thoughts, ideas, and means of communication. In contrast, due to a normalized racial identity, white people are rarely in situations where their race is apparent due to the centering of whiteness within much of our social structures and collective spaces, as exemplified in the values and methods of change - making in both the food and larger environmental movement.

While we often assume that unless one harbors racist ideals or acts in a discriminatory fashion one is in the clear, an anti-racist. In reality, embodying anti-racism necessitates an *active* process of constant engagement. What we aim to argue is that to be anti-racist, one cannot *just* recognize the way a

minority identity affects one's lived experience, but how a white racial identity affects one's experience just as much (in very different ways).

The environmental movement misinterprets the call for diversity as a matter of "reaching out." The movement must recognize that *sustainable* diversity depends on reciprocity and is as much a matter of reflexivity - of looking inwards and understanding one's own positionality - as a matter of reaching out.

In other words, positionality matters.

And we argue that to understand your positionality demands identifying, examining, and changing racially charged and colonizing mindsets. While these engrained mindsets may not be our individual faults, we all still partake, sometimes in subtle and unconscious ways. Put yourself in situations that demand you question your opinions, knowledge systems, and values - situations that make you uncomfortable. Situations that are common for everyone who doesn't "look" white. Get involved with conversations and spaces that address social injustices, and don't come with an agenda but rather to listen and learn. This may be uncomfortable, but only through discomfort can a meaningful conversation begin.

So no, "diversifying" the movement is not a matter of merely co-sponsoring an event with an OSDP club or inviting people of color to come to meetings and join "our movement." It also takes more than just going to "their table," partaking in a "cultural" food event, a dance, or watching a performance.

Instead, it is a matter of investing. Investing in the lifelong task of acting in true solidarity with people of color, who are proportionally more affected by the same systematic inequities that exacerbate climate change and other environmental ills. In order to create the mental and emotional space to truly act in solidarity, we must all engage in the process of decolonizing of our own understanding and mindsets.

By engaging in conversation, one that exposes and challenges the inequality in environmental organizing, we can begin to subvert the foundations of environmental and social injustice affecting all of us.***

Restaurant Review: El Mexicano

Authentic food for omnivores, tequila and Spanish lessons for vegans

By Erin Dillon, Contributing Writer

On Tue, Apr 15, 2014

In recent years, the world of fine dining has diverged from its glorification of French technique to embrace ethnic flavors and cultural fusion. Cuisines like Latin, African and Indian are no longer blue-collar food choices, but serve as palettes on which acclaimed chefs craft their inventive, worldly creations. As a result, ethnic restaurants have become mainstream, even in landlocked cities like Saratoga Springs. This town boasts a slew of ethnic restaurants despite its relatively homogenous racial population; from Japanese to Spanish to Belgian to Turkish, Saratoga offers an abundance of dining options.

Sadly, with a growing demand for global food, the term "authentic" tends to mean the opposite. (Why would sushi be "authentic" 6,000 miles from Japan? And can genuine jamón ibérico really come from the back of a Sysco truck?)

Thankfully, one establishment still adheres to the Webster definition of "authentic." El Mexicano, although not quite a Michelin-star restaurant, does not lie by claiming to serve "The Best Authentic Mexican Food in New York."

As a vegan from Maine, I might be unqualified to judge the authenticity of Mexican cuisine. However, my palate can discern a foil-wrapped Chipotle burrito from a dish of rice, beans and tortillas that seems to have been cooked over an open fire at a Mexican hacienda. El Mexicano serves the latter, prepared, presumably, the way mom used to make it. The restaurant serves simple, comforting plates generous enough to fuel a ranchero (or a scrawny Skidmore student). Although El Mexicano's dishes may lack in innovation, zest and molecular gastronomy, they also lack frills. You will go home satisfied from an honest meal.

Walking into El Mexicano induces a sort of sensory overload that soon fades into an endearingly festive ambiance. The space is colorful and well-lit, piñatas dangle coyly from the ceiling, murals paint the walls, mariachi music plays not too loudly; it is as if a stereotypical Cinco de Mayo fiesta were about to ensue.

At 8 o'clock on a Thursday night, the restaurant was less than half full, and my dining companion and I were seated promptly. At least four different waiters attended to our table throughout the meal. Chips and salsa, followed by two small cheese quesadillas - both on the house - appeared before we could

place our orders. I skipped the free quesadilla and instead ordered a cactus salad to share with my companion. Like I said, El Mexicano is authentic; most of the wait staff speaks English as a second language. And although I used Spanish and English to ask for no cheese, the cactus salad still arrived with a sprinkling of queso. What was untouched by cheese I sampled - the light acidity of the cactus, tomato and onion was refreshing compared to what was about to come.

El Mexicano offers an abundance of typical Mexican dishes. The long menu, written in Spanglish, contains an array of proteins - mainly beef, chicken, pork and shrimp - packed inside any vessel one could imagine. Tacos, enchiladas, tostons, chimichangas, burritos and chalupas are only some of the possible preparations. These words may conjure horrifying flashbacks of Taco Bell, but remain calm: also available are interesting, rustic dishes like the Campesino Platter and the Fiesta de Camarones.

A vegetarian or vegan might have more luck elsewhere, but I still managed to gorge myself. I asked if the kitchen could prepare a vegetable burrito, sin queso. What materialized was a large plate of three vegetable-filled flour tortillas engulfed in a mild red sauce, alongside a heap of yellow rice, refried beans and lettuce. The burrito filling of green peppers, mushrooms, zucchini and onion was too oily and soft, especially within sauce-soaked tortillas. I yearned for spiciness, only then reading on the menu that dishes are not prepared spicy unless requested. Okay, the burritos lacked piquancy and a crunch factor. But El Mexicano is no restaurant for snoots. The food tasted good, I was full, I was happy.

Before we could rehydrate from the salt overload, a new waiter presented us with dessert, also on the house. The banana-filled tortilla, fried until pastry-like, and soaked in something like artificial maple syrup evokes a carnival version of bananas foster. Don't look a gift horse in the mouth, I suppose.

Especially considering the free chips and salsa, quesadilla and dessert, the bill amounted to little. I spent around \$15 for the salad and colossal burrito platter. My companion and I left a generous tip for our attentive and friendly servers (all four of them).

I went home feeling pleasantly stuffed, doggie-bag in hand. Likely, I will return to El Mexicano, but not necessarily for the food. The animated atmosphere, the nearly humorous onslaught of complimentary food (lucky ones will be offered a free tequila shot after dessert) and inexpensive margarita menu will lure me back.

Leaf Pile Media LLC wins \$20,000 top prize in the fourth Freirich Business Plan Competition

On Tue, Apr 15, 2014

The final round of the Fourth Annual Kenneth A. Freirich Business Plan Competition was held Friday April 11. The \$20,000 first prize went to seniors Walter Barber, Ian Van Nest and Andrew Zimmerman for Leaf Pile Media LLC, a "transmedia fictional universe," to put it in their words.

Their business's next priority will be to market the game, Champions of Hara, that the three freshman year roommates created two years ago, including the development of a promotional video. The prize money will also go to constructing a website to advertise their product and support sales as well as to setting up exhibits at game conventions and also manufacturing the game.

The game takes players on a fantastical journey through a fictional universe called Hara. "Aesthetically, Hara is grounded in everything we've ever loved. It's a hybrid fantasy, drawing in equal parts from ancient mythologies, pop culture, folklore, and everything in between. We've been really influenced by some of today's giants like Adventure Time and Skylanders, but obviously our roots are in franchises like Pokémon and Harry Potter. Our characters are a little whacky but they all have deep motivations and goals, and I think people are really going to connect with that," Barber said.

The game will sell for \$50 and, if popular, will be developed further into other medias.

"Our primary intention behind the board game is to be the first vehicle for telling their story – it is going to be accompanied by graphic novels and a mobile game, all of which serve to build the world and the characters," Barber said.

On what inspired them to create Hara, Barber said, "Hara comes from a mutual love of games and stories. The three of us lived together freshman year and used to pour over comic books together in the window seat and spend hours crowded around a tiny TV playing games when we should have been doing homework. We still play games like Magic whenever we can steal some spare time. As weird as it sounds we really study this stuff; we've been life-long nerds who have always believed we can contribute to the industry."

To keep up to date on the happenings of Hara and its creators, visit their Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/leafpilemedia>.



The Freirich Business Plan was started four years ago by Freirich, a serial entrepreneur who is now president of Health Monitor Network. In that time span, more than 170 students and 100 businesses have entered the competition.

The second prize of \$10,000 was awarded to Alexander Nassief '16 and Zach Rohde '14 for Rum Dogs, Inc., a Dominica-based luxury rum brand that ages its rum in barrels submerged in the Caribbean Sea.

Third prize went to Seth Berger '14 for East Coast Lacrosse, a maker of custom lacrosse apparel. Berger projects sales to reach \$200,000 for 2014 as lacrosse continues to expand in popularity across the nation.

Three other teams competed in the final round of the competition and were given \$1,000 each. Stella Langat '16 is currently registering Double Dee's LLC in Kenya. Double Dee's LLC will be the nation's first undergarment production company. Adam Beek '15 has launched Munchi Heaven Agri, an organic farming enterprise in Jamaica, and Ezra Levy '15 and Marcella Jewell '15 have started a web-based business called Open Campus, which matches college students with businesses offering real-world projects.

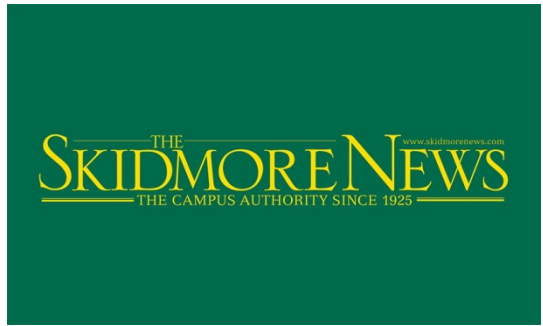
This year's competition was coordinated by Paula Tancredi Penman, lecturer in Management and Business. The other judges in this year's competition were: Nancy Cohen Wekselbaum '73, owner of The Gracious Gourmet; Jody Klein '85, chief executive officer of ABKCO Music & Records, Inc.; Susan Magrino Dunning '83, president of Susan Magrino Agency; Nick MacShane '91, senior managing director of Progress Partners; and Ellen Sherman '68, producer for Dateline NBC.

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From left, Ian Van Nest '14, Walter Barber '14, and Andrew Zimmermann '14

Office of Communications





A Copy

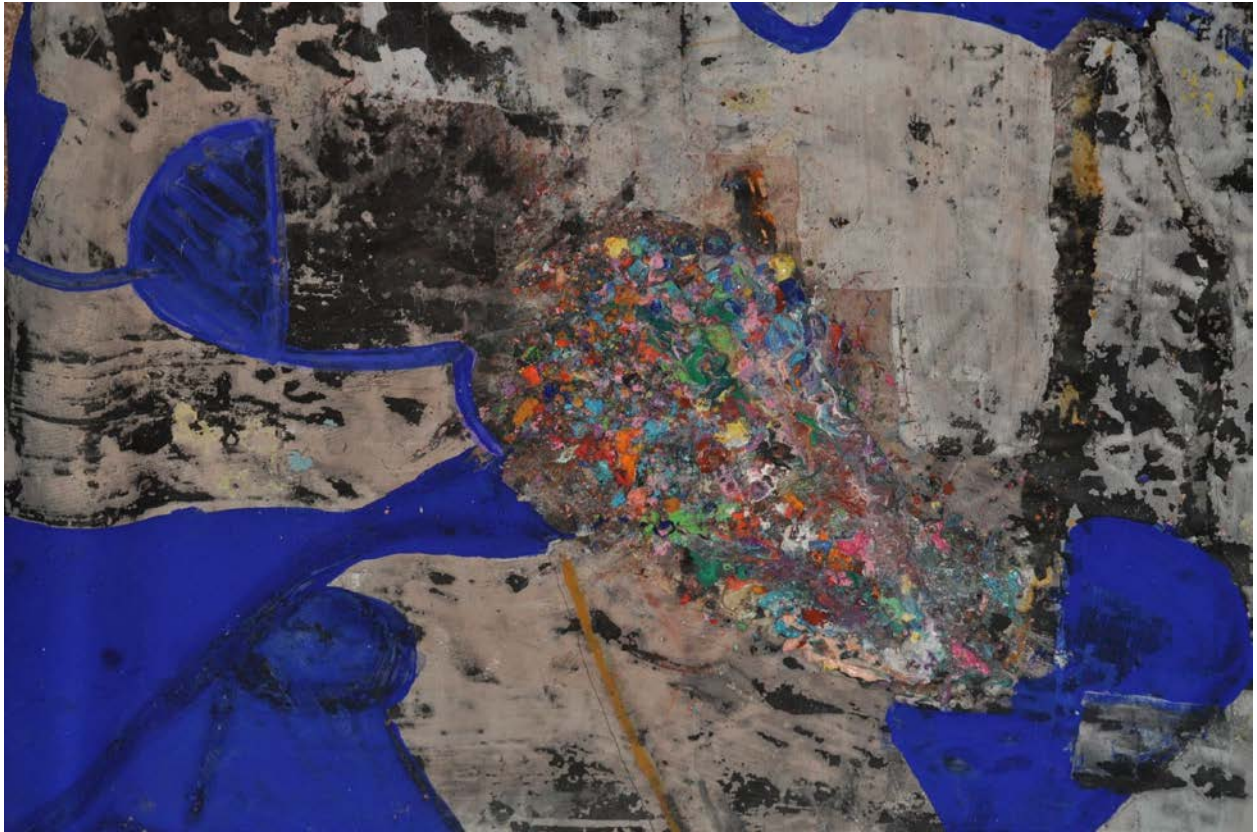
By Anonymous, Contributing Writer
On Wed, Apr 16, 2014

I am a copy

I am a copy of a copy of a copy. I am a posteriori. I am dependent on experience. I am a concept but I can't perceive myself without experience.

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Allison Smith



#3 Amherst proves too much to handle for women's lacrosse

Women's lacrosse falls 12-4

By Katie Peverada, Sports Editor

On Thu, Apr 17, 2014

On a rainy Tuesday evening, the women's lacrosse team took to the field to take on the No. 3-ranked Amherst College Jeffs, and came out on the wrong side of the 12-4 nonconference matchup. The Jeffs remained undefeated with their 12th win of the season, but the loss dropped the Thoroughbreds to 4-9.

Even though the temperature at game time was hovering around a cold 35 degrees, that didn't stop the Jeffs from opening the scoring with five unanswered goals, a deficit Skidmore was never able to recover from. Amherst's Priscilla Tyler opened the scoring at the 24:23 mark of the first half after she picked up a groundball and eventually shot from within the circle 10 seconds later for her 10th goal of the season. Tyler would go on to score a total of three goals and register two assists, and contributed six of the eight Jeff draw controls in the game.

Skidmore turned the ball over 12 times in the first half, with Amherst capitalizing on several of them. Finally, at the 13:04 mark of the first half, Tyler Phillips '17 put a free position shot up high and past Christy Forrest to make it 5-1. The Jeffs answered right back, though scoring five more unanswered goals to end the half with a 10-1 lead. During the 5-0 run, Meghan Mills netted a hat trick, with all three of her shots coming from within the circle.

Amherst had seven different goal scorers in the first half. Skidmore's Megan Kolopsky '17 faced 22 first half shots, 15 of which were on net, and she registered an admirable five saves.

In the second half, Skidmore seemed destined for more of the same when Tyler completed her hat trick just 45 seconds into the frame to make it 11-1. But Skidmore proved determined to not let the rout continue, and actually outscored Amherst 3-2 in the second half. Spencer Morgan '15 tallied her 20th goal of the season off of a free position at the 21:29 mark. With 14 minutes to go in the game, Caroline Browne '15 responded to a Jeffs score when she took a pass from Phillips and put it past Forrest to make it 12-3. With about three minutes left on the clock, Paige DiAntonio '15 scooped up a groundball and Skidmore was able to maintain possession long enough for Krista Lamoreaux '17 to feed Brittney Dioneda '15 in the circle, who scored her sixth goal of the season.

Even though Skidmore controlled the draws, 10-8, the Amherst attack was too powerful for the Thoroughbred defense. Amherst put up 29 shots to Skidmore's 15, and collected 26 groundballs to



Skidmore's eight. Skidmore's 22 turnovers also proved costly, as the Jeffs were often able to capitalize on the miscues.

Kolopsky registered six saves in the game while her counterpart Forrest tallied eight. Offensively, Dioneda, Morgan, and Browne all tallied one goal, Lamoreaux had one assist, and Phillips had one goal and one assist for her eighth multi-point game of the season.

Skidmore sits at 3-3 in Liberty League play, which puts them in fifth place with three league games remaining, with two coming against RPI and St. Lawrence, teams that sit ahead of them in the standings. The Thoroughbreds are right in the mix, and their road to the playoffs starts with a 1p.m. home game on Saturday against RPI.

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Tyler Philips '17 (left) notched her eighth multi-point game of the season in the 12-4 loss.

Katie Peverada '14



Stephen King and the Science of Stress

Why 'All Work, No Play' Doesn't Work

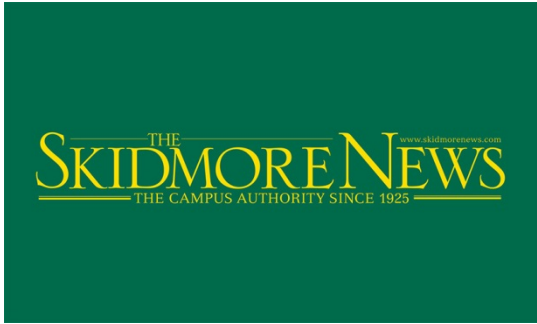
By Brittany Dingler, Peer Health Educator

On Thu, Apr 17, 2014

It is no wonder that Jack Torrance's "all work, no play" obsession led to a rather, shall we say, unproductive ending while forcing himself to write his novel non-stop in the dead of winter in Stephen King's *The Shining*. Although a fictitious example, we can all relate to it as we emerge from hibernation only to be greeted by the end of the school year, and a seemingly bottomless pile of final papers, projects, presentations and tests. It seems truly impossible to fit all of our obligations into such a limited period of time and, in response, we push ourselves physically, mentally and emotionally to use every free moment to keep working - even if that means skipping meals, sleep and social commitments with friends. Although this undoubtedly seems like the only possible strategy to get everything done, recent research shows that the all work, no play method is actually more detrimental to achieving our goals. Rather, it is the play that is key to allowing us to complete our work more efficiently and effectively.

One idea that may help to explain the necessity of breaking up study-thons is Parkinson's Law. First identified by Cyril Northcote Parkinson, columnist for *The Economist* in 1955, this eponymous law of productivity essentially states that we inflate the complexity and difficulty of the task at hand to fit the time we allot to it. For example, if we arrange to clear our schedule to finish a 15-page term paper over the weekend, our minds will stretch the intricacy of the assignment to fit that allotted time. Parkinson's Law, however, suggests that by restricting ourselves to small chunks of time, our brains prioritize the challenge to more quickly and efficiently complete the project, therefore giving us more time later to fix anything and - goodness forbid the thought - have some time left over for ourselves.

Many psychologists and self-proclaimed "life-hackers" like Tim Ferris advocate for this less-is-more approach by working in chunks interspersed with *play*. Although often considered to be reserved for those age-groups more often seen in Greenberg or the E.C.C., play is a critical tool for surviving the stressors of adulthood. Furthermore, learning how to incorporate play daily is particularly important for college students whose academic and personal lives never really cleave. Playing - even if it just entails skipping through Northwoods, spending some time with a friend's pet (and maybe the friend, too), braving a hike to the top of Palmountain with the Outing Club, reading Frank McCourt's last upper, cooking some vegan, gluten-free, sugar-free, (fun-free?) cookies or throwing around a frisbee - reenergizes you to focus on the task at hand, no matter how scary it may be, and prepares you to prioritize so you can slay that task dragon in record time and return to the puppy and the frisbee.



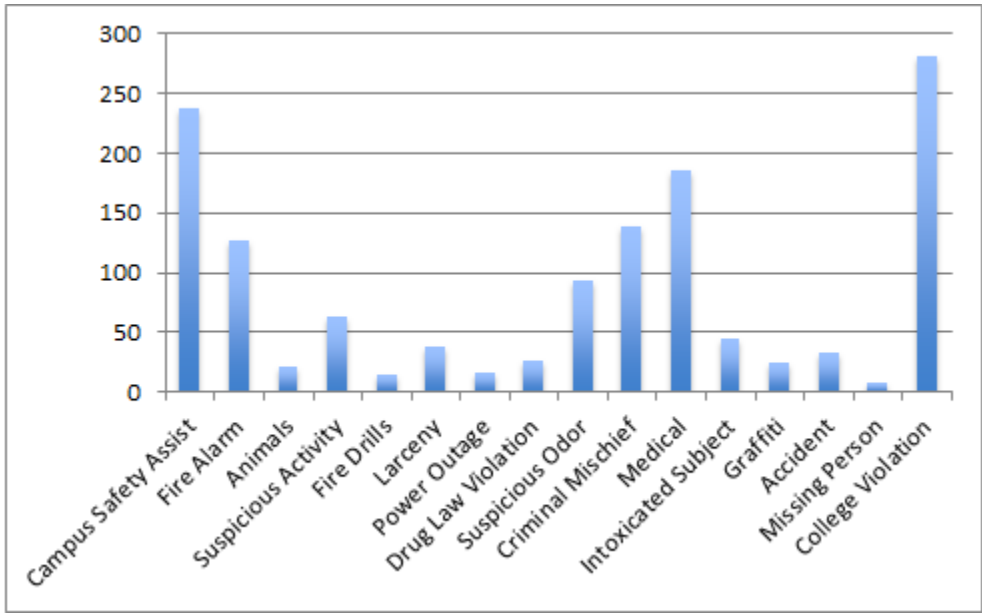
Campus Safety Statistics Report 2013

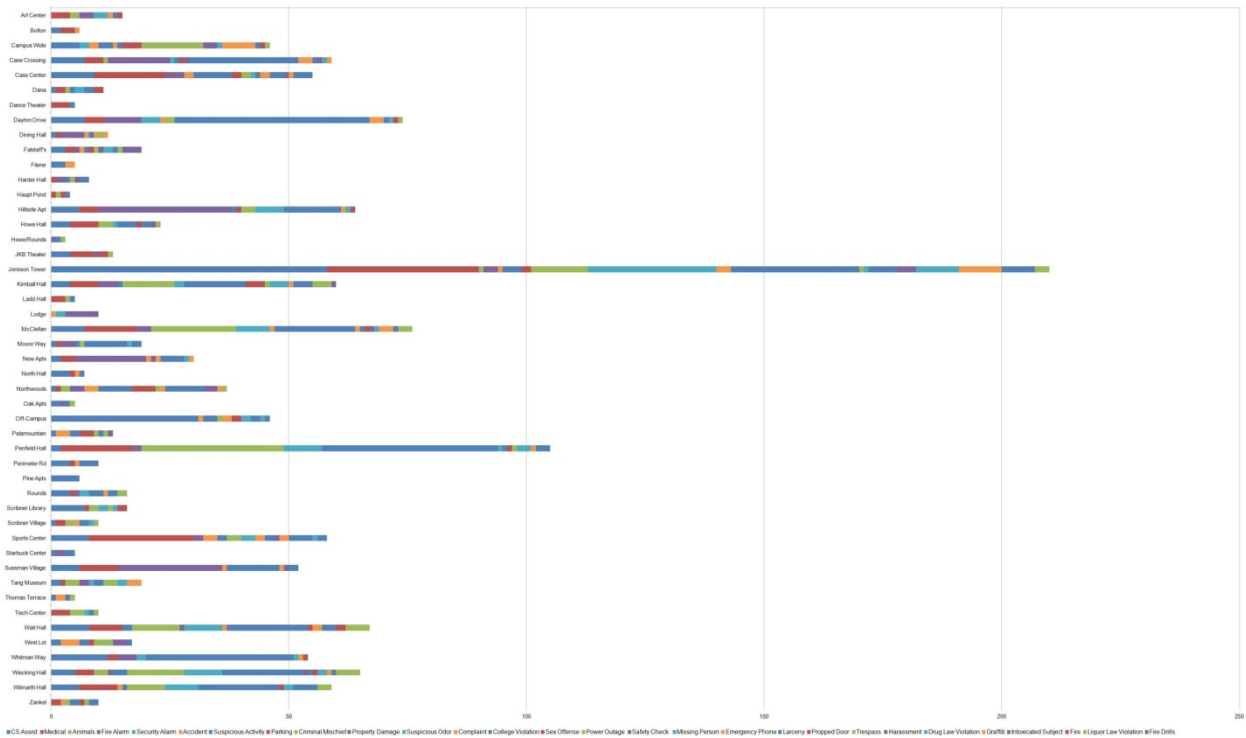
By Compiled by David Goroff, Managing Editor
On Fri, Apr 18, 2014

A compilation of all the Campus Safety Reports from the year 2013.

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Incident Totals from Jan. to Dec. of 2013
Compiled by David Goroff

#1.3162222:2493413599.jpg:C/S Reports Locations
Campus Safety Incident Reports organized by location.
Compiled by David Goroff





NHL Awards: Hart, Norris and Vezina

By Katie Peverada, Sports Editor

On Fri, Apr 18, 2014

With the playoffs beginning this week, the NHL is in for a wild two months (the best two months in sports!). It also means another two months of speculating who will get an invitation to Vegas for the annual NHL Awards.

With the NHL regular season in the books, the statistical awards have already been handed out and, to absolutely no surprise, Sidney Crosby of the Penguins and Alexander Ovechkin of the Capitals took home the two scoring trophies. Crosby, who finished with 104 points (36G, 68A), won his second career Art Ross Trophy as the NHL scoring champion. Ovechkin used a 51-goal season to earn his second straight Maurice "Rocket" Richard Trophy as the league's leading goal scorer. And taking home the William M. Jennings Trophy, awarded to the goalie who allows the fewest goals and plays at least 25 games, was the King's Jonathan Quick.

For most of the other awards there are always going to be arguments about players and teams facing different levels of competition. These award picks, however, ignore that and go off of pure performance. Here are my picks for the Hart Memorial Trophy, James Norris Memorial Trophy and the Vezina Trophy:

Hart Memorial Trophy (most valuable player):

There's always a discussion over whether this award should go to the player who is the most valuable to his team or the most valuable player in the league. However, Sidney Crosby's 2013-14 season makes that discussion obsolete. Crosby's Art Ross Trophy gives him the best NHL player award, and it doesn't hurt that he finished 17 points ahead of Ryan Getzlaf in that category. If you go down the most valuable player to his team route, Crosby wins there too. Crosby led all forwards in TOI/G (21:58) and took 104 more face-offs (1,887) than any other player. But perhaps the statistic that shows how valuable Crosby was for the Penguins this season comes in the team's league-leading 531 man-games lost to injury. So yes, with players like Lee Stempniak on his wing - instead of Pascal Dupuis - Crosby was still able to carry his team to the second-seed in the East.

James Norris Memorial Trophy (best all-around defenseman):

In maybe the tightest awards race, in which there are six legitimate contenders, there should be a repeat winner in the Chicago Blackhawk's Duncan Keith. Among defensemen, Keith is second in points (6G, 55A), eighth in +/- with +22 rating and 15th in TOI with 24:38. Part of the reason Keith was able to

be on the ice so often for Chicago was because he only had 28 penalty minutes. His two-way play is of the utmost importance to the Blackhawks.

Vezina Trophy (best goaltender):

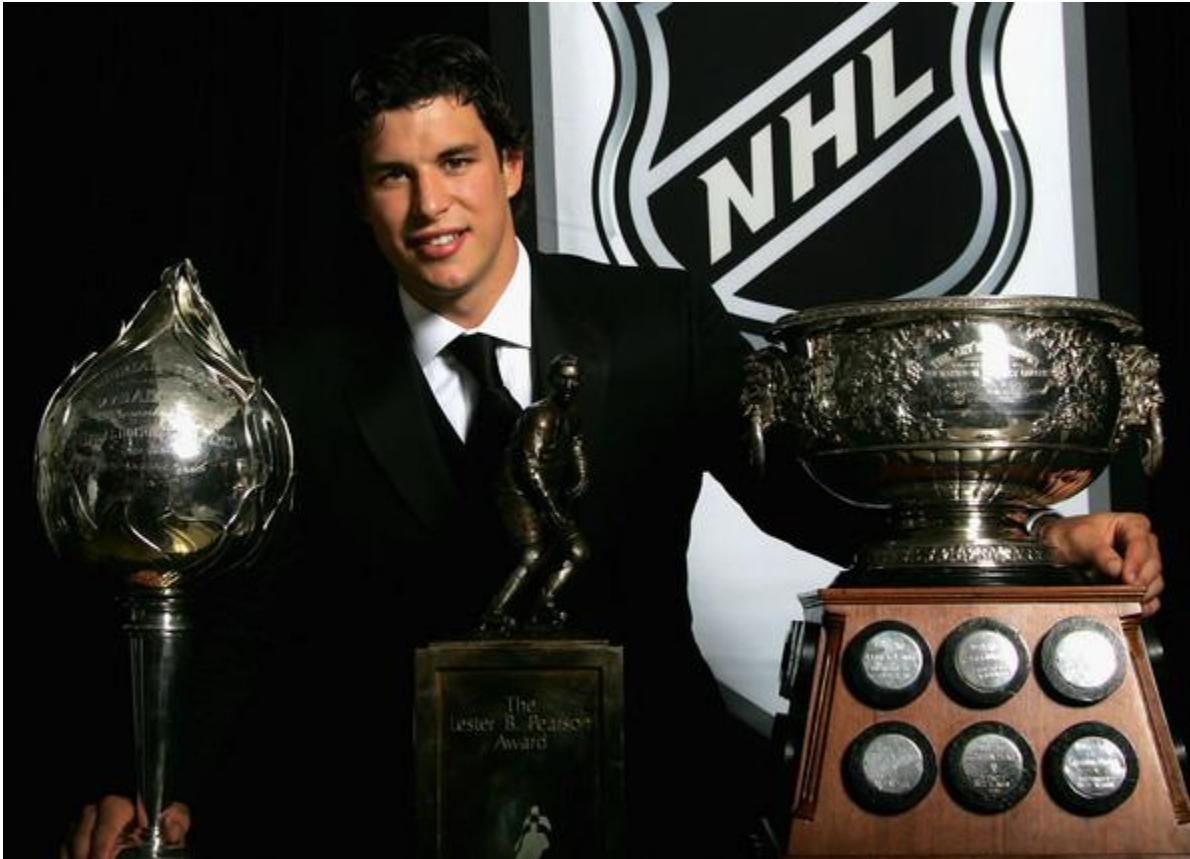
A year ago, there were questions surrounding Semyon Varlamov's tenure in Colorado, but when Hall of Fame goaltender Patrick Roy took over as coach of the Colorado Avalanche, he was transformed into a Vezina-winning goalie. Varlamov led the league in wins (41), which was also a franchise record, and was third in save-percentage (.927) - all while backstopping one of the weakest defensive teams in the league. He was the only goaltender to face more than 2,000 shots, seeing a league high of 2,013. Varlamov overcame all of this, earning a new contract along the way, to lead Colorado to the playoffs.

Next week: Picks for the Calder Trophy (rookie of the year), the Jack Adams Award (coach of the year), the Selke Trophy (best defensive forward) and the Lady Byng Award (sportsmanship).

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Crosby has already won the Hart Trophy (far left) in his career, for his 2006-07 season.

Bruce Bennett/Getty Images Sport



Club Conversations: Skidmore E-Sports

Skidmore E-Sports

By Julia Leef, Managing Editor

On Fri, Apr 18, 2014

The Skidmore News sits down with the President of Skidmore E-Sports, Dan Petricca '15, to talk about one of the newest clubs on campus.

So, briefly, could you just tell me what E-Sports is?

E-Sports are competitive games that have a large following, enough that there are tournaments with cash prizes. There's a more finite definition of it, but to give a very simplified version that doesn't go into a lot of technical jargon, that's basically what they are. And at E-Sports club, we respect those games and practice them, play them; we have fun.

We have a few goals set in place for E-Sports. We want to eliminate toxicity within the gaming community on campus. I'm not saying that there is a toxic nature within the gaming community on campus, but we just want to try to slowly whittle away at the general level of toxicity. The gaming culture gets a bit of a bad rep because of games like Call of Duty and others of that variety that have bad communities, language-wise and just in general. We're trying to unify the gaming culture on campus to help it grow and become a more accepted part of daily society. People shouldn't be ashamed that they like playing games, but yet they are. And then they think that they grow out of it, but really they just miss it. Some people grow out of it, I admit that, but a lot of people shy away from it because they don't think it's socially acceptable anymore. Times have changed, and it's more "socially acceptable" than it has been, but it's still in a rough patch because in E-Sports there are professionals, professional gamers, and that's not considered an athlete by many people; it is.

Obviously, this is very new, you just started it, and I know you had a bit of trouble getting it started up as a club. Could you tell me a bit about that?

There's a general lack of knowledge as to what E-Sports are, because when we say E-Sports, people say, 'Oh, so you're a video game club?' Yes, we are, but also no, because we're trying to improve ourselves as players by getting better at certain games like League of Legends, Starcraft, DOTA 2 [Defense of the Ancients], Hearthstone, even Pokemon, because its competitive scene is growing very quickly. There's a very big lack of knowledge about it and I think that's the main reason we didn't get issued the first time.

Can you run through what you do during a typical meeting?

Well if there's anything to discuss we usually discuss it at the beginning or the end of the meeting, depending on people's personal schedules. We've had to discuss where we're going with the club, because we have our consistent members and we want to expand. So we talk about different events that we're going to be holding and different games we're going to explore further. We're going to be holding a 'noob night,' and I say that in the most loving way, because people can be new to games and they're 'noobs,' but that's not like, 'Ah, you noob, you're bad at this game and you should feel bad about it.' No, it's like, 'You're new to this game, let me teach you. Let me help you have more fun with this game.' And we're doing things like that.

In our typical meetings we discuss whether we're going to have a tournament or discuss any relevant news in the gaming society or E-Sports. Then we play different games within our E-Sports just to have fun, and we also practice as teams. So teams usually practice in a separate area of the room so that they're together. And then we have fun little games inside of the games. So instead of playing the competitive game where we have to do this, that, and the other, we just go into a game and have fun with it and play it differently.

Do you mean like customizable maps?

No. In League of Legends, which is my specialty, I don't know a lot about Starcraft or DOTA 2 but I'm learning because that's what this club wants to do. You go into a map and basically the normal rules are to destroy the enemy's nexus by accomplishing x, y and z. But instead of that, we ignore the main objective and we create rules within that map ourselves, rather than trying to defeat the enemy traditionally. Does that make sense?

Yeah, I think so. I'm not that familiar with League of Legends other than knowing it's some kind of MMO [Massively Multiplayer Online].

Actually, it's a MOBA.

What's a MOBA?

Multiplayer Online Battle Arena.

So it's a fighting MMO?

No. It's a real-time strategy game where you control one unit. That unit levels up to a cap of 18. You can get six items per character plus a trinket, and you have four skills that you level up according to your own choice. It's not like a traditional 2-D fighter; it's an over-the-top, epic, head-down game.

For students who have recently joined E-Sports and have not necessarily dabbled in these games before, I'm assuming for something like League of Legends you need to purchase some kind of membership?

Nope. League of Legends is completely free. There are some premiums you can pay for, like cosmetic changes, or you can unlock different champions with cash, but it is a free game to download and play. Of course, a lot of people do bend and break and spend real money on buying champions or skins so that they have not an upper hand but just more versatility with what they can do. Whereas, maybe players starting out only get access to the free champions per week.

So are all the games that you play in the club free for members? Do people have to buy anything?

No. Well, Starcraft 2 you have to buy. But most of the games are free; we're not exclusive in that regard. And if someone came with a problem we'd probably try and pull our club budgeting to create a public-type thing for players who want to try something out.

Are you looking do to anything outside of simply meeting and playing games, like participating in tournaments?

Yes. We just recently had a movie night on a documentary about professional players and their struggles. The movie focuses on pro-players before E-Sports was big. And E-Sports have always kind of been there but they've recently skyrocketed in the past five years. It was really nice. We mainly had the main group of club members come, which is about 15 or 20 people, a large number, but we all got closer from just watching the movie, and afterwards we played a few games and it was fun.

We're also planning on hosting events in the Spa whenever the larger tournaments are occurring--not necessarily tournaments that we're hosting, but when the world happens for League of Legends and when big tournaments for DOTA and Starcraft happen. So we're going to try and rent out the Spa so we can put it on the projector and show people that we're not a bunch of recluses quietly playing our little games; we actually do stuff. Of course we're going to be cheering on our teams like crazy people, and it should be fun.

We also have a few other plans in motion. We're doing noob night where we're going to try and actively bring in members of the Skidmore community who are even the slightest bit interested in understanding what League of Legends, Starcraft, DOTA and Hearthstone is. We'll play Pokemon too, because we do have a competitive Pokemon scene. The Pokemon fan base is pretty big, so we just need to get them to come. We're trying to accomplish little things to make us known, because I feel that a lot of people know that we're a club, but their mentality is, 'Why can't I just play the game from my room? It's all the



same.' So we're going to give them more incentive with being active in the community, and having free food.

Do you ever communicate with other colleges who have similar organizations?

I've been in contact with RPI once. I haven't gotten in contact with a lot of other ones just because I've been trying to set this up and it's stressful and chaotic. But there is a collegiate program for League of Legends where other colleges compete against each other.

You touched on this a bit already but I'll say it anyway. The misconceptions people have about this club I think boil down to the misconceptions about the video game culture in general. Do people ever come up to you and ask you if they have to know a lot about video games to do this?

People have asked me, 'Oh is it just video games? Do you guys play this game?' and people I think have the misconception that we just focus on the games I talked about in this interview. Even though it is E-Sports we welcome all forms of gaming. When we started this club we weren't sure that Pokemon was going to be a part of it. I had no idea that the competitive scene would blow up this much. And people can even bring their own fan-favorite game that we've never heard about, and more than enough of us would be willing to try it out and play it with them. They would teach and we would learn. I don't know if it would become a regular part of the club but we welcome all gaming. We focus on the competitive ones just because that's what we want. If someone wanted something else we'd welcome them with open arms and try whatever it is they want.

So if I wanted to play Wii-Sports, for example?

You could, but it's a console game, and we mainly focus on PC-gaming. That being said, we will always focus on our competitive sports first, but we do have nights when it's open game night. So that's more what I'm referring to when it's like, you want to play Wii-Sports. Okay, bring a system and some controllers and we'll play it.

When are your meeting times?

We meet Fridays from five to seven, most weeks. Sometimes a lot of us are busy and we decide to cancel just because you need people to actually play these games and have fun. So if only two or three people can show up, which has not happened yet, we have a consistent 15-member show rate and I'm proud of that. If only three members can come I would call it a cancel. It's like canceling sports practice; if only a fifth of the team can show up because everyone's sick or it's finals week, then it's not worth having practice.

And where would students find out about that or any other updates or information?

We have a Facebook group and an email list. The Facebook group is public: Skidmore E-Sports. We try and stay consistent with the postings. The email is a little less reliable just because we've had trouble with our list and we're going to have to remake it at this point. But generally we use the Facebook group, word of mouth, finding out through the game, things like that.

Is there anything that we didn't talk about that you want to say?

One of our long-term goals for next year is to get a bigger budget so we can take a group of students to PAX [The Penny Arcade Expo]. It's a three-day event where a bunch of game developers come and talk about and showcase their games. There are little mini-tournaments with League of Legends and DOTA 2. It showcases E-Sports and traditional gaming, and that's one of the things that we're trying to cover with our club. As much as we want to focus on E-Sports, we do not want to leave traditional gaming behind because we can learn a lot from it.

One of the things we're trying to work towards is getting a stable platform for players who don't have a laptop with the game downloaded, or something like that, to be able to play the game. A lot of people have desktops in the gaming world. If that means being able to use the computer lab and have games on that, or whatever that is, we haven't talked to them yet, but it's something we're going to discuss in the future. It's not something that we're going to demand because that is not something for us to demand, but we're trying to make it more inclusive rather than excluding people because they can't bring their fifty-pound desktop with them to club every Friday.



Improving FYE

By The Editorial Board

On Fri, Apr 18, 2014

Perhaps more than any other experience in the first year, the FYE has the power to influence a student's experience and success at the College. To further improve the first-year seminars, we should do everything in our power to ensure that the professors teaching FYEs are the strongest and the most effective. To do this, we need to change the selection and feedback mechanisms for FYE professors.

What seminar are you in? This omnipresent question is indicative of the impact of Skidmore's First-Year Experience on campus life. [According to Skidmore](https://www.skidmore.edu/fye/about/index.php), the FYE is "a combination of offerings and opportunities aimed at the student as a whole person." First-year students are placed in a Scribner seminar that is designed to be the centerpiece of this program. Each seminar is usually paired with both a professor, who also serves as the student's advisor until they declare a major, and a peer mentor, an upper-class student who works to facilitate the student's adjustment to college. The program is designed to both ease the academic and social transition into college and to introduce students to the level of academic rigor demanded by the College. The Editorial Board strongly supports the work of the FYE and suggests several changes to the process of selecting faculty members to teach the seminars in order to better improve the overall experience.

The academic experience is central to the success of the FYE. There are a number of factors that go into making a class successful: the energy and intellect of the students enrolled in the course, the chemistry in the classroom, the content of the course and the level of rigor required. It is obvious, however, that professors play an integral role in this equation. The FYE classes are unlike any other introductory course at the College: the experience extends beyond the basic curriculum into other aspects of students' social, residential and intellectual lives.

Perhaps more than any other experience in the first year, the FYE has the power to influence a student's experience and success at the College. To further improve the first-year seminars, we should do everything in our power to ensure that the professors teaching FYEs are the strongest and the most effective. To do this, we need to change the selection and feedback mechanisms for FYE professors.

Currently, each academic department selects a certain number of its experienced professors to teach first-year seminars each fall. (This number is based on the size of the department and the availability of faculty.) Teaching these seminars is generally regarded as a desirable job: professors are able to teach a



topic they are enthusiastic about, which they might not be able to teach within their own department (courses must pass approval from the director of the FYE, English professor Janet Casey, and the Curriculum Committee), and each seminar comes with a spending stipend to enable professors to engage their students outside of class. Despite these incentives, most students will agree that, as with the College in general, professors range in teaching ability. Incoming students are as likely to get a strong, engaging professor as they are to end up with a dull, ineffective one.

To amend this, the Editorial Board suggests instituting a stronger system of student feedback into the process. As with every course, first-year students fill out evaluation forms for their professors. But these evaluations go to the department; their effect on the FYE is more distant. Furthermore, students may positively evaluate their professors on qualities that they liked but undermines the FYE, such as easiness -- thanks for my A, here's yours. The Editorial Board proposes direct student influence on FYE professor selection. Each spring, juniors and seniors within each departmental major would vote for the professors they have found to be the strongest and most engaging. The professors who receive the most votes would be given the first option of teaching a first-year seminar. We reason that upperclassmen in each major have taken a significant number of courses within the department and know the professors intimately. And because these students will not be taking the class, they will not be influenced by factors such as easiness or tendency to get sick. This voting process could become an important part of the selection process for FYE professors, a way of ensuring that the professors who experienced students have benefited and learned the most from have the opportunity to influence future first-year classes.

Student feedback is just one of the many factors that determine whether a professor is effective or not. It would be foolish to assume that one negative course experience means a professor is truly ineffective. Bad classes can be attributed to poor student involvement as often as poor teaching. But direct student feedback should be a greater part of the process, especially for the FYE, which has such a direct and immediate influence on the student experience at Skidmore.

The FYE seminar introduces students to Skidmore; the professor is the student's advisor for almost two years. Guaranteeing that only the best of the best are assigned to these influential roles is imperative to the success of the students.

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Welcome incoming students with the best of the best.

Skidmore.edu



Megan McArdle Delivers Esteemed Carr Lecture

The Up Side of Down: Why Failing is the Key to Success

By Rebecca Shesser, Business Manager

On Fri, Apr 18, 2014

I am not a failure - I am someone who has failed. These words capped off journalist Megan McArdle's delivery of this spring's Carr Distinguished Interdisciplinary Lecture - a semi-annual lecture series with the purpose of "more intentionally preparing Skidmore students for the transition from college to the working world or to further studies".

McArdle spoke Thursday night, April 10, about her new book, *The Up Side of Down: Why Failing Well Is the Key to Success*, which is an examination of various social issues through an intense factual lens. McArdle's talk was riddled with charming anecdotes and sobering TED-talk-esque advice. As a self-identified libertarian, McArdle brought a wave of individualistic thought to challenge the typical Skidmore vantage point.

Social Work Professor, Pat Oles, was in charge of the selection committee whose goal was to bring in an individual whose career would provide Skidmore students with guidance and inspiration for their own. Oles, who first started reading McArdle's work when she began blogging for The Economist, thought she would be the perfect Carr resident.

"I like reading business press as well as about politics and policy," Oles commented, "I think she is one of the best writers on the business - politics side".

While liberals might not agree with the political views McArdle expresses regularly in her work, she did not focus much on politics. Instead, her overall message of the night - one that might have resonated particularly for graduating seniors - was that failure isn't necessarily a bad thing. McArdle's most repeated anecdote was about her unemployment status for the years that followed her college graduation. McArdle told of her 2-year, 1,400 resume journey to full-time, stable employment - a story that might have scared many seniors. Luckily, McArdle offered hope for those individuals who may find themselves in sticky and undesirable situations as they make their transitions to the real world.

"We all fail, but we don't all fail well," said McArdle during her lecture - a piece of advice which was weaved throughout her talk. By preaching the idea of "failing well," McArdle advised students to admit their failures, let go of them and move on in order to gain and grow from unfortunate life experiences.



"Don't fail blindly," McArdle said as she encouraged the audience to take smart risks and to sometimes let things fail rather than be able to let go, reevaluate, and move on.

In addition to talking about her book, McArdle also shared some journalistic wisdom with the crowd. One particularly relevant piece of advice had to do with the Internet's impact on journalism and adapting to the widespread availability of information. She described situations in which (perhaps biased) journalists would post information to the Internet that wasn't quite true. As a result, more informed citizens would comment on this false information, calling out the author on their failure to post the facts. She stated that the journalists that failed well were the ones who checked those facts and posted corrections or apologies. Those journalists who failed less than well would stubbornly defend their work despite the fact that their information wasn't correct.

McArdle closed the lecture by fielding questions from the audience. McArdle delivered two additional lectures: one on Thursday afternoon to a combined government and social work class and another private lecture on Friday morning for those individuals on campus who are interested in pursuing a career in journalism. McArdle's fresh individualistic, libertarian perspective made for interesting conversations around campus and achieved all that the Carr Lecture aims to deliver.



Spring Round II Election results are in

On Fri, Apr 18, 2014

The results for the Spring Round II Elections were emailed to students Friday morning. A total of 275 votes were cast in this election, approximately half of those cast for the first round. Here are the results:

Vice President For Communications and Outreach: Lyssa Jackson '16

Senators-at-Large:

Julia Elstein '17

Orr Genish '17

Justin Ho '16

Luca Mobilia '17

Wenting "Lexi" Pan '16

Alex Salerno '16

Emma Starr '16

Student Entertainment Committee (SEC) Chair: Jeff Sadueste '15

Late Night Committee Chair: Musa Komeh '15

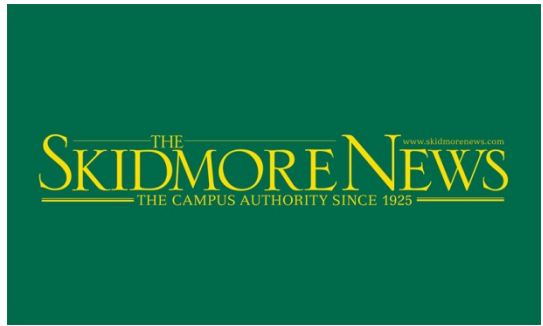
Speakers Bureau Chair: Hope Spector '15

Traditions Committee Chair: Lauren Scauzzo '15

Senior Class Social Chair: Jarred Green

Sophomore Class Secretary: Leah Schwaikert

Student Life Delegate: Meg Caccavale '16



SGA Constitutional Changes for 'Club Affairs Committee Policies and Procedures,' 'Establish a Residential Life Seat on Senate' and 'Late Night Committee Change' were also Approved.

Several positions still remain open, including VP for Diversity Affairs. Students interested in filling these positions can go through Willingess-to-Serve and should contact Madeliene Kanazawa at mkanazaw@skidmore.edu.

Book Review:

Tell The Wolves I'm Home

By Zoe Dartley, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Apr 18, 2014

I may be biased in regards to *Tell the Wolves I'm Home*, by Carol Rifka Brunt, because – confession - coming of age books are a weakness of mine, especially when they're narrated by quirky-bordering-on-weird girls. (Am I giving too much away about my own adolescence?) Honestly, though, this book is truly special.

The year is 1987, and fourteen-year-old June Elbus is struggling with growing up in the shadow of her vivacious older sister, Greta. June is shy at school and can't seem to relate to her peers. Rather than socialize or star in plays like Greta, she would rather escape to the woods and pretend to be a medieval huntress. While her mother and father are caring and sympathetic, June finds the ultimate companion in her uncle, renowned painter Finn Weiss.

June's world is shaken at its core when Finn mysteriously dies of an illness her mother won't speak to June about. Stricken with AIDS, Finn leaves behind his devoted partner, Toby. June begins to receive mysterious packages containing sentimental memorabilia, trinkets from her relationship with Finn. This correspondence leads her to reach out to Toby, and the two develop a unique bond in order to help one another heal.

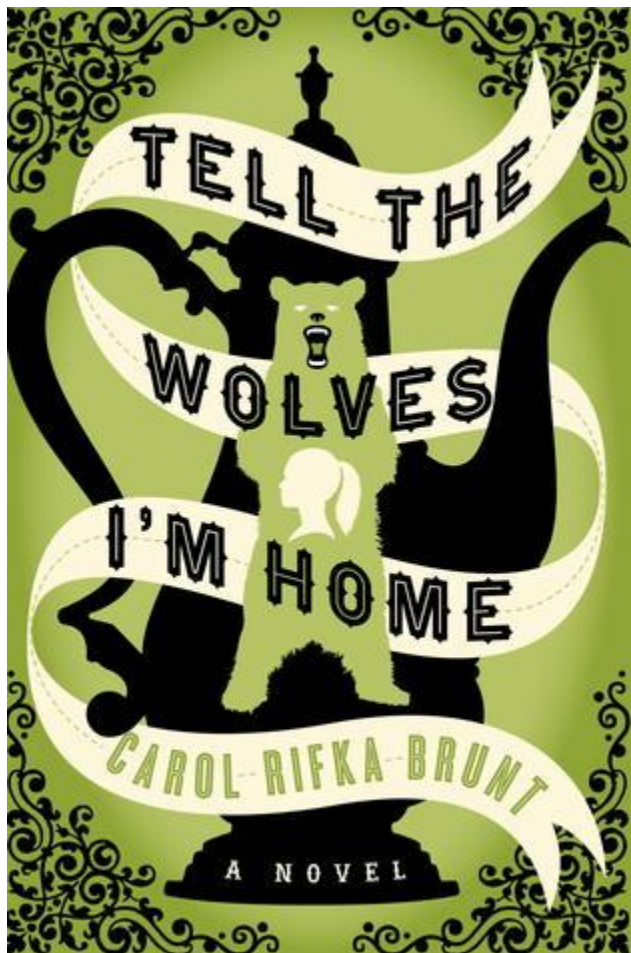
While the beating heart of the story lies in the relationship between June and Toby, it is woven with the intricacies of family heartbreak: June and her sister fail to connect with one another despite each of their desperate attempts to communicate, while June's mother grapples with her grief over the loss of her brother. The dynamic between the Elbus family becomes turbulent and complicated as each member tries to suppress their emotions. Of course, this increases the tension as it finally amounts to a boiling point.

Brunt expertly juggles the difficult task of poignantly narrating the inner-lives of each character while also flawlessly depicting the turbulent period of the late eighties, especially for gay victims of AIDS and their families. She articulates the devastation and confusion of the epidemic with brilliant sensitivity. The mystery that AIDS was at the time parallels the novel's own mystery, which occurs when Finn's last piece of art before his death - a portrait of June and her sister - begins to be vandalized, despite the fact that it is locked in a vault. This mystery haunts the story, adding an eerie page-turning effect to the already turbulent novel.

June is one of the most sympathetic characters that I have ever encountered - racked with grief larger than herself, she is drawn to but also jealous of Toby, who was kept secret from her and her family. As the two grow closer, June must confront her feelings for her deceased uncle: was she herself in love with him? Despite her quirks, June is also a fourteen-year-old girl, and she pines for the intense connection that her uncle and Toby had, as she tries to understand the frightening illness that riddled both of them.

While "Tell the Wolves I'm Home" juggles many themes, it is, above all, a story about love. Through masterful and emotional prose, the novel articulates the different types of love that humans are capable of, and how dazzling they can be.

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On Bicycles (and Vulnerability)

By Eliza Dumais, Op-Ed Editor

On Mon, Apr 21, 2014

A meditation on the value in choosing to submit ourselves to our vulnerabilities

Bike-riders seem to me the trendiest class of commuters. They are fundamentally *hip*, simply by virtue of their chosen mode of transportation. They are fearless pioneers of self-sufficiency, bravely exposing themselves to the elements along traffic-jammed highways and narrow, curbside bike lanes. They maintain full control over their direction, over the energy that propels them forward as they speed beside masses of Toyota Highlanders and Honda Civics occupied by drivers resting comfortably in their heated, leather seats. This is, however, a world from which I am entirely excluded: I do not know how to ride a bike.

This is, of course, an inability that I find both humiliating and childish. At nineteen, I am far too old to remain inept in such a juvenile category. I am well aware that, like any motivated, healthy human being, I am fully capable of learning to ride a bike - of taking the necessary steps to join the ranks of profoundly cool bicycle-commuters. But I don't.

I have discovered that this is because I am painfully attached to the idea that I am too late - this ridiculous notion that skill-sets, or certain categories of knowledge are time-sensitive, and that in turn, we are marked with expiration dates for the acquisition of this information. I am simply *too old* to learn to ride a bike. The older we get, the more reluctant we grow to start over, to immerse ourselves in the areas where we remain entirely ignorant or incapable. We do not want to be made vulnerable to our incompetencies, so we cling to this notion that it is simply too late to learn - too late to exert effort in the face of the unfamiliar, we are too old to be taught. Like bike riding, this is an act of bravery.

The Tacoma Narrows Bridge, the third longest suspension bridge in the world at the time of its construction, was opened to the public in July of 1940. It stretched over the Puget Sound, between Tacoma and the Kitsap Peninsula in Washington, and it collapsed on November 7 of that very same year. The bridge, while it stood, was nicknamed "Galloping Gertie," as the deck moved violently in the wind, constantly shifting in "vertical oscillations". It was clear that there was some fundamental flaw in the bridge's construction from the moment it was completed, but rather than start over, the Washington Toll Bridge Authority added cables and hydraulic buffers, in the attempt to stabilize the structure as it was. Its collapse into the Puget Sound was reflective of the stubborn lack of willingness to begin again - to admit initial ignorance and start over. The engineering team chose to await imminent destruction



rather than acknowledge the design flaws and return to the drawing board. Once the bridge was constructed, they had simply decided it was too late.

David Foster Wallace, in his novel, *Infinite Jest*, wrote, "Be a Student of the Game. Like most clichés of sport, this is profound. You can be shaped, or you can be broken. There is not much in between. Try to learn. Be coachable. This is hard." In many ways, to start over is to admit defeat. It is to willingly engage with an acknowledgment of our own shortcomings and it seems that as we get older, we are more inclined to hide comfortably behind the notion that it is too late for us to submit ourselves to the process of learning, to being taught what it is that we do not already know. But, like the Tacoma Narrows Bridge, "you can be shaped, or you can broken," and the latter is much more likely if we choose to stubbornly hold on to the imperfect architecture of our lives *as they are*.

It is outrageous that at nineteen years old, I can claim that there is anything at all that I am too old to learn. Bravery does not rest in the realm of things it is too late to access -we owe ourselves a willingness to greet the unfamiliar. Perhaps it is not a matter of timing, but rather, of enduring the vulnerability that comes with choosing to rely on the training wheels. The fearless, too, must start at the beginning.

David Foster Wallace, among the fearless, hung himself on September 12, 2008. In his writing, he once likened the man who contemplates suicide with the man who must choose whether or not to jump from a burning building - both still experience the human fear of falling. "The variable here is the other terror, the fire's flames," he wrote, "when the flames get close enough, falling to death becomes the slightly less terrible of two terrors. It's not desiring the fall; it's terror of the flames." Wallace interacted with what terrified him most on a daily basis, confronted the tangled, thankless inside of his own head in order write with the authenticity that resonates, dark and heavy, through his works. He endured the flames, faced them head on in his commitment to communication. Sometimes, the breakage is irredeemable, but there is still enormous value in the bravery that accompanies the process - the embrace of the damage.

I was in the second grade when the Twin Towers fell, along with my belief in constants, in the indestructible - in what could not be damaged. We devote a great portion of our lives to the assurance that we are not breakable, that our bridges do not move in "vertical oscillations" and the David Foster Wallace's of the world are simply flawed at the outset unfixable. Evidently, this is not true - it is foolish to rely completely on what we choose to believe is permanent.

I remember what I was wearing on September 11, 2001: I was wearing jeans and a Mia Hamm jersey because I promised myself I would be number nine on the U.S. Women's soccer team. That was before I loved words and after I swore never to wear dresses again. I remember sitting on the carpet of the

classroom in my jersey when the phone rang. We were learning about Native Americans or clocks or multiplication, when we were interrupted by the news about the jet liners.

I hadn't thought buildings could break like that, that they could collapse so completely. James Glanz covered the attack for the New York Times. He wrote that the cause of the demolition was most likely the fire, fueled by all of the gallons of fuel aboard the two jet liners - "The high temperatures, of perhaps 1,000 to 2,000 degrees, probably weakened the steel supports, the experts said, causing the external walls to buckle and allowing the floors above to fall almost straight down. That led to catastrophic failures of the rest of the buildings." They came down like dominoes, both in pieces, and all at once.

Glanz reported that, "one of the engineers who worked on the towers' structural design in the 1960's even claimed that each one had been built to withstand the impact of a fully loaded, fully fueled Boeing 707, then the heaviest aircraft flying." Like the Tacoma Narrows Bridge, the World Trade Center was built under the operative belief that we can create something incapable of ruin - that we can construct the unbreakable. On September 12th of 2001, Glanz wrote that, according to the experts, "No engineer could have prepared for what happened yesterday." No engineer could possibly have acknowledged the helplessness of something so stable, so secure, as the twin towers. In a similar article, John F. Burns called us "America the vulnerable." He said that on the eleventh, we had learned that, "no amount of power can provide protection against an enemy with limited means but a ruthless determination." We are incredibly reluctant to take into consideration, the fact that in some regard, from some angle, we are always exposed. Whether we choose to accept this or not, in some fashion, we are and always have been, America, the vulnerable.

Brian Doyle wrote, in an essay called Leap, that he had heard stories of two people, jumping from the smoking skeleton of one of the buildings, and reaching out to hold each other's hands as they free fell toward the smog-shrouded sidewalk. He said it reminded him, "that human beings have greatness and holiness within them like seeds that open only under great fires." There is something beautiful about building up from ground zero - something perfectly holy about the significance we derive from devastation. It is only when we address our vulnerabilities, or perhaps when they address us, that we can stumble upon this sort of clarity. Wallace had it right: to live is to submit to, "the terror of the flames," but, still, we are at our greatest, our most transparently pure and most perfectly gratified, only under those great fires.

Choosing to keep our weak points at arms length, to strategically position them within our blind spots, is a product of our desire to hold on to the belief that to some degree, we are invincible. The flaw therein, of course, is that we are breakable. It is fundamental to our very personhood that we are indisputably transient creatures, and therefore, always and inescapably vulnerable in some sense. As with bridges and burning buildings and bicycles, we cannot move forward until we interact with what is difficult,

what is new, what implies that we were never perfect, or entirely unyielding to begin with. But, as Wallace would attest, it is in these embraces that we are the most utterly open. This is where we are profoundly authentic in the broadest sense. We are holy in the midst of the flames, built to withstand incredible things and to collapse in the face of others. It is simply a matter of making peace with the possibility of the wreckage.

#1.3162836:3227970557.jpg:Bicycles 4/21/14

Eliza Dumais/ The Skidmore News





(Sometimes I Confuse Love and Respect)

By Allison Smith, Contributing Writer

On Tue, Apr 22, 2014

She outlived three husbands.

She,

Outlived,

Three,

Husbands.

Independent,

Make me dinner,

Make me dinner,

Make me dinner,

Dependent.

Outlived,

No she was not -

Except in her heart.

Three,

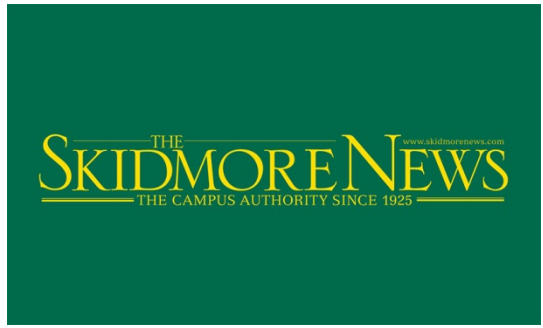
One,

Two,

Three,

Husband,

Husband,



Husband,

- Alone.

It would never be hers.

Things I Love

By Allison Smith, Contributing Writer
On Tue, Apr 22, 2014

Heavy heart

Heavy heart,

Aching back,

No turning back,

Beyond mimicry.

#1.3163363:2449009854.JPG:Ugly Self

Allison Smith





Campus Safety Reports: April 11 to 17

On Wed, Apr 23, 2014

Incidents of Note:

- Friday, April 11-Intoxicated Subject: Report received at 12:08 a.m. of three possibly intoxicated prospective students. Two of the students were located and escorted to their proper temporary residences. No medical attention necessary. Report issued.
- Monday, April 14-Accident: Reporting person stated at 12:15 p.m. that he struck a student with his car in the Sussman Village. The student was not seriously injured and left the scene hastily.
- Monday, April 14-Criminal Mischief: Reporting person stated at 7:50 p.m. that person(s) unknown had thrown a rock through his window in McClellan Hall. Dispatched officers who recorded the damage. Report issued.

Further Incidents:

Friday, April 11:

- College Violation: Excessive noise reported at 12:18 a.m. at Moore Way. Dispatched officers reported that residents lowered the volume upon request.
- College Violation: A large disruptive group was reported at 12:25 a.m. outside of the Sussman Apartments. Officers reported that the crowd had dispersed prior to their arrival.
- College Violation: Excessive noise reported at 12:30 a.m. at Dayton Drive. Officers dispatched reported that the occupants lowered the volume upon request.
- Drug Law Violation: Loud music and a suspicious odor reported at 12:30 a.m. at Wait Hall. Officer dispatched advised of a drug law violation. Report issued.
- Fire Alarm: Fire alarm activation received at 4:35 a.m. in Wilmarth Hall. All officers, maintenance and the Saratoga Springs Fire Department were notified to respond. Officers reported finding a faulty smoke head.
- Campus Safety Assist: A neighborhood complaint received at 8:30 p.m. of a disruptive party at a Skidmore-rented house. Police advised.

Saturday, April 12:

- Criminal Mischief: Report received at 1:44 a.m. that unknown subjects had thrown food on the stairwell in Penfield Hall. Officer was dispatched and the damage was recorded.

- College Violation: Loud music reported at 10:24 p.m. at Moore Way. Officer dispatched reported not detecting any noise.
- Campus Safety Assist: A neighborhood complaint received at 2:02 p.m. for excessive noise from an event at Case Center. Organizers were notified.
- Drug Law Violation: Officer detected drug use at 2:58 p.m. near Haupt Pond in violation of the New York State drug law and Campus policy. A marijuana pipe was confiscated with a report.

Sunday, April 13:

- College Violation: A noise complaint received at midnight in Kimball Hall. Officer reported that the complaint was unfounded at the time.
- Criminal Mischief: An empty vending machine with shattered glass reported at 7:07 a.m. in the Howe/Rounds lobby. Report issued.
- Criminal Mischief: Report received at 7:19 a.m. of a hole kicked in the wall at Wilmarth Hall. Officer dispatched recorded the damage and issued a report.
- Criminal Mischief: A discharged fire extinguisher reported at 8:21 a.m. in the basement of Penfield Hall. Report issued.
- Criminal Mischief: Criminal mischief reported at 7:39 p.m. in West Lot. Officer dispatched recorded the damage and issued a report.

Monday, April 14:

- College Violation: Noise complaint received at 12:03 a.m. at Whitman Way. Officers reported that residents lowered the volume of voices upon request.
- College Violation: Excessive noise reported at 10:50 a.m. at Moore Way. Officer dispatched reported being unable to detect any noise in the area.
- Suspicious Odor: A suspicious odor reported at 10:08 p.m. in Jonsson Tower. Dispatched officers reported that the odor had dissipated prior to their arrival. Subjects were gone on arrival.

Tuesday, April 15:

- Campus Safety Assist: Assistance requested at 5:02 p.m. with a welfare check in the Sussman Village. Dispatched officer located the subject and provided assistance. Report issued.

Wednesday, April 16:

- College Violation: Noise complaint received at 12:26 a.m. in Wait Hall. Officers who were dispatched reported that the residents lowered the volume upon request.

- Suspicious Odor: A suspicious odor reported at 9:08 p.m. in the Barrett Center. Dispatched officers reported that subjects fled the area upon their arrival. An odor of marijuana was detected.

Thursday, April 17:

- Suspicious Activity: A man on a motorcycle was reported at 4:09 a.m. conducting suspicious activity at the Zankel Music Center. The person was identified and no suspicious activity noted.
- College Violation: A loud noise was reported at 11:28 p.m. on the third floor of Wiecking Hall. Dispatched officers reported locating a loud noise on the second floor and that the subjects dispersed from the

#1.3137712:2630079076.jpg:campus safety

Jacob Reiskin/The Skidmore News



NHL Awards: Calder, Adams, Selke and Lady Byng

By Katie Peverada, Sports Editor

On Wed, Apr 23, 2014

The Jack Adams Award could go to several different coaches, while the Calder Trophy could go to two rookies on the same team - or that guy out in Colorado. Here are my picks for the Calder Trophy, Jack Adams Award, Selke Trophy and the Lady Byng Award.

Last week I wrote about [my picks for the Hart Memorial Trophy, James Norris Memorial Trophy and Vezina Trophy](http://www.skidmorenews.com/sports/nhl-awards-hart-norris-and-vezina-1.3162122). And other than Crosby being a lock for the Hart, the awards are highly contested. The Jack Adams Award could go to several different coaches, while the Calder Trophy could go to two rookies on the same team - or that guy out in Colorado. Here are my picks for the Calder Trophy, Jack Adams Award, Selke Trophy and the Lady Byng Award:

Calder Trophy (rookie of the year):

As tempting as it is to give Tomas Hertl the nod for his [four-goal dangle-fest](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3WDzvjc40U), it's hard to ignore the impact that Nathan MacKinnon had on the rise of the Colorado Avalanche. MacKinnon led all rookies with 63 points and 39 assists and tied for first in scoring with 24 goals. MacKinnon did all this in an overachieving rookie class - see Ondrej Palat and Tyler Johnson in Tampa - and broke a Wayne Gretzky record by getting on the score sheet 13 games in a row. That 17 of his goals came on the power play shows the faith that Patrick Roy has in the rookie. MacKinnon, who averages 17:20 of ice time per game, wins for his overall contributions to his team and his rookie point-leading.

Jack Adams Award (coach of the year):

Patrick Roy or Mike Babcock? Can't go wrong with either one. Babcock lost 417 man games to injury, including captain Henrik Zetterberg (37) and Pavel Datsyuk (37), but still managed to get the Red Wings to the playoffs for the 23rd straight season. Meanwhile, Roy took an Avalanche team that finished 29th overall last year and has turned them into a third place Cup contender. But the award has to go to Babcock because of what he did with, essentially, an AHL team. Roy had a potential Vezina and Calder winner on the ice for him. Babcock had Gustav Nyquist - who three months ago nobody outside of Maine knew anything about - and eight other Grand Rapids call-ups leading the way. It's only fitting that



Babcock gets his first Jack Adams Award for the season in which he passed the Jack Adams for most wins by a Detroit coach with 414.

Selke Trophy (best defensive forward):

In this case, thinking about whom the player is playing against is actually relevant. Patric Bergeron routinely takes on the opposing teams' best players for Boston, and starts 45.7 percent of his shifts in the defensive zone. Bergeron netted 62 points (30G, 32A) while winning 58.6 percent of his face-offs out of a total of 1,732 taken (for what it's worth, that's 35.4 percent of the Bruins' face-offs). Bergeron does it all, and he does it all over the ice.

Lady Byng Award (sportsmanship):

Martin St. Louis had a minimal 10 penalty minutes this season while putting up 69 points (30G, 39A) and being on the ice for 25.7 shifts per game. That's nice and all, but Ryan O'Reilly of Colorado put up 64 points (28G, 36A), good enough for third on the team, averaged 19:49 per game, and had one minor penalty all year, because he played with a broken stick. Supporters of Tyler Seguin might point to O'Reilly's measly 22 hits as a sign that he isn't penalized because he stays away from contact, but his 83 takeaways prove otherwise. His 64 points was a career high, by the way, and will undoubtedly help Colorado add to its award haul.

Special Stat Alert:

82 games make up the NHL season, but David Legwand - due to a midseason trade from Nashville to Detroit - played in 83 regular season games.

#1.3163499:3196194607.jpg:hockey

Ryan O'Reilly (90) deserves this year's Lady Byng Trophy for leading the Avalanche in goals (28), leading the NHL in takeaways (83), and being penalized only once.

USA TODAY Sports/Ron Chenoy





Grant from Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Supports Skidmore's New Visual Communication Program

On Wed, Apr 23, 2014

Skidmore College has received a grant of \$750,000 from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for "Project VIS," an initiative to advance strategic, pedagogical, and liberal learning goals in the area of visual literacy and communication.

Project VIS will help expand and focus Skidmore's efforts to help students both create images that can effectively communicate their thoughts and evaluate critically the complex meanings embedded in images. The college believes these proficiencies are fundamental to critical thinking and responsible citizenship in the 21st century. John Anzalone, professor of French and Class of 1948 Professor for Excellence in Teaching, will oversee the grant's implementation.

The Andrew Mellon Foundation grant will support the creation of three innovative, integrative, and complementary teaching and learning initiatives. The John B. Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative will be an interdisciplinary center where the stories of human life are translated into documentary forms. Activities within the Moore Center will include courses, exploration of the contemporary and historical life of Saratoga County and Skidmore College, and a summer "Storytellers' Institute" that will afford students the opportunity for an intense and focused period of documentary study with faculty members and outside experts. A new interdisciplinary academic minor in Media and Film Studies explores the function and structure of written, aural, and visual communication systems, while a Visualization Forum will both overlap and reach beyond the network of faculty involved in the Moore Collaborative and the new minor to enhance, increase, and diversify the number of coached visual projects across the curriculum.

The awarding of this grant represents "a wonderful endorsement of Skidmore as a college on the cutting edge of liberal education," said Skidmore President Philip A. Glotzbach. "The focus on visual communication is critical, considering the growing ubiquity of images in our lives and students' consequent need to achieve a more sophisticated understanding of visual communication and all that it entails for our society."

Funds from the grant will support two postdoctoral positions. One, in Media and Film Studies, will engage students in the theoretical, aesthetic, cultural, and practical aspects of the discipline. The other,



in Visualization Technologies, will complement existing Skidmore faculty expertise. The grant will also support workshops, residencies, a speaker series, and community partnerships.

The Moore Collaborative is being launched with support from John B. Moore, son of Skidmore's second president, Henry T. Moore; John's wife Bettina Towne Moore, Skidmore Class of 1941; and Bettina's son and daughter-in-law James and Sue Towne.

Project VIS complements, and is an intentional outgrowth of, the pedagogical work, funded with an endowment challenge grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, associated with Skidmore's Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery. Borrowing from the Tang's Mellon Seminar model of faculty engagement, with this grant Skidmore intends to create a cohort of faculty with growing expertise in visualization techniques and technologies by offering support for the development of pilot courses that especially foreground visual literacy.

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Andrew:Andrew W. Mellon



"I, Too, Am Skidmore" Aims to Express Individual Experiences On Predominantly White Campus

By Danny Graugnard, News Editor

On Wed, Apr 23, 2014

"I, Too, Am Skidmore" is a campaign organized by a group of students in order to express voices of students of color and the experiences they've had on Skidmore's not-so diverse campus. The campaign is seeking to collect written opinions and experiences from both students and faculty.

Their mission statement reads: "As people of color our voices and experiences are all too often silenced. Our presence here is questioned. This campaign centers our voices and sheds light on our myriad experiences on Skidmore's predominantly white campus. We are here. Our voices matter. We, too, are Skidmore." Anyone interested may submit a piece of writing that can be an anecdote or opinion regarding their own personal experiences as minorities on campus.

The campaign has also launched a petition on change.org. The petition itself has made very specific demands about the College's curriculum, requirements, and more.

"We demand that Skidmore invest in an Ethnic Studies Department that focuses on the transnational experiences, cultures, histories of colonized and exploited groups around the world including, but not limited to African American, Caribbean American, Arab American, Indigenous, Latin, and Asian Pacific American courses. We demand that the courses in this department be taught by faculty of color."

Overall, the petition demands that topics such as race, ethnicity, and racial micro-aggressions, should be included in the curriculum in some form for the purpose of raising awareness of the presence of diversity in the College. At the moment, the petition, which requires at least 300 signatures, has reached more than 150 signatures.

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Kimberly Caceres '14: "I, Too, Am Skidmore" Campaign





In Defense of the Career Development Center

By The Editorial Board

On Thu, Apr 24, 2014

As graduation draws closer, most seniors will tell you that finding a job is first and foremost on their list of concerns. Indeed, many students are still scurrying for the summer job or internship. With the cost of college at an all-time high and the economy only recently beginning to pick back up, graduation looms large as a deadline for finding productive employment. During this time, the common narrative amongst seniors in the midst of the job search reacts negatively to the Career Development Center, a college resource meant to serve this very purpose. Students often voice frustrations with the scope of the CDC's knowledge and ability to help them find a job. However, this Editorial Board views the CDC more favorably and believes that, if utilized actively and exhaustively, the CDC has the tools to help students secure jobs and internships.

The Career Development Center offers a variety of resources, designed to aid students throughout their four years at the College. The CDC's main resources are its staff, available for career counseling appointments, the team of student Career Coaches, available in the CDC and the Library for office hours for resume and cover letter help, and the [online resource My CDC](http://www.skidmore.edu/career/docs/CDCResourceMap.pdf) where students can search a variety of databases for internships, jobs and alumni connections.

The CDC awards the [Susan Hirsch Schwartz grants](http://www.skidmore.edu/career/about/shsaward.php) of up to \$100 for students to put towards clothing, travel and other expenses associated with the job search. The CDC also provides a comprehensive [timeline](http://www.skidmore.edu/career/timeline/index.php) for students to manage and set up their career aspirations over the course of four years. Finally, the Center hosts a number of events throughout the year, from networking events in major cities (Boston or New York City) to Career Jam, a job and networking event, on campus.

This collection of services makes the CDC an incredible resource. It provides outlets for individualized material review, networking opportunities, job searches and funding for these opportunities. The CDC has covered all the bases necessary for a successful job search, and this Editorial Board holds that it is the student's job to take advantage of these resources to their full extent. Merely meeting with a Career Coach to look over your resume, or compiling a list of alumni contacts is not enough. Applying to five jobs gives you no guarantee of getting one. The job-seeking process is exhausting and must be



exhaustive. There is always more to be done, on the part of both the student and the CDC. The CDC can and should continue to expand its services, but students should utilize existing services fully before beginning to blame their unemployment on the failure of Skidmore's career services.

It is in this College's best interest to have as many of its graduates employed as possible. Employed graduates are an excellent source of advertising for the College, are likely to provide job opportunities to current students, and are more likely to have the financial resources and the inclinations to donate to the College later on. The CDC is actively working to improve and respond to student needs. Under the new leadership of [Kim Crabbe](http://www.skidmore.edu/news/2014/012514-kim-crabbe-named-director-of-career-development.php), the CDC has already adopted several new databases. Plans are in progress to adapt the business model of the center to make closer ties to other offices on campus. But the CDC can only do so much--ultimately, the responsibility falls to the student .

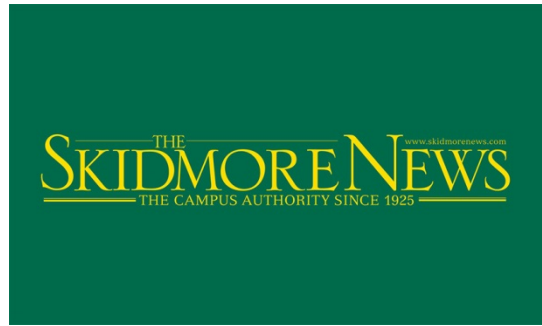
This is a stressful time, but students should step up to the plate and take advantage of everything the CDC has to offer. Utilization of Career Services is not equivalent to the guarantee of employment, but it will provide a leg up. And for those students fortunate to not yet be at this milestone, the prudent initiative would be to stop by and familiarize yourself with these resources so that you are prepared for life beyond Skidmore, whenever that moment may be.

#1.3164464:1946635166.jpg:Career Services 4/25

They can give you the ladder, but you have to do the climbing.

<http://4.bp.blogspot.com/>





Task Force Assembled to Lead the College To Divestment

By Danny Graugnard, News Editor

On Thu, Apr 24, 2014

A couple of months ago, the student body as well as general members of the College had been debating, discussing, and demanding that Skidmore College should divest from companies that do not appeal to the College's expectations and philosophies of sustainability.

In order to finally move forward in the process of divestment, the college has assembled a task force composed of three faculty members, three staff members, three students, and one trustee, all who have been carefully put through various willingness-to-serve processes and have their own respective constituency groups.

The task force will proceed to attain divestment in two focused phases detailed in the president's charge to the task force.

Phase I will be primarily research and brainstorming. The task force will be exploring what divestment means. "The purpose of this initial inquiry is to understand what this call for divestment is intended to accomplish in advancing the goals of sustainability and responsible operations." The task force will be researching what other similar colleges and universities have done regarding the issue of divestment, such as Middlebury or Colby. The task force is expected to complete the first phase by the end of the academic year.

Phase II focuses on taking all of this information and determining how divestment will affect the College's endowment, annual budget, financial aid, and other areas. Phase II is expected to be completed by the end of January 2015.

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Resilience and records power Boston Marathon

By Katie Peverada, Sports Editor

On Thu, Apr 24, 2014

Emotionally, the city showed its resilience, coming out in full force and lining the streets. Physically, the athletes pushed their bodily limits. It all seems fitting. This year's marathon was one of the greatest collective running efforts of all time.

By now, even people on the periphery of the sports world know that on Monday, Meb Keflezighi became the first American man to win the Boston marathon since Greg Meyer did it in 1983. Undoubtedly, the most important aspect of Keflezighi's victory was the exclamation point it put on the recovery and response of the city of Boston in the wake of last year's bombings.

But Keflezighi's win also put an exclamation on four incredible, jaw-dropping and record-breaking performances that all four Elite races wielded.

For Keflezighi, who came to the U.S. from Eritrea in 1987 when he was 12, he set a personal record for 26.2 miles with a time of 2:08:37. He also came into this race as an underdog and an afterthought, with people citing his injuries and age (38) as hindrances to hanging with the likes of Lelisa Desisa or Moses Mosup. There were five men in the elite field that have run faster than 2:05. But Keflezighi has always had it in him, as he won a silver medal in the marathon at the 2004 Olympics, finished fourth at the London games and won New York in 2009. Keflezighi didn't set a record time or win by a large margin, but he did something different than the pack expected. He and fellow American Josphat Boit made a move around mile eight, catching a cautious pack by surprise. By the time he got to the 25k mark, his lead was up to a minute. The thing about the Boston Marathon, though, is that there's something called the Newton Hills. Keflezighi should have lost time there but he attacked them and maintained his lead. Wilson Chebet made a move of his own, running 5k in 14:29 and, for the first time, Keflezighi looked over his shoulder. Chebet got within six seconds of him, but Keflezighi held on for the win after finding a final push as he turned down Boylston Street. It marked the 45th time an American man has won the race (and, quite possibly, the first time the winning male won wearing Skechers!)

The elite women's race featured the most impressive performances of the day. Rita Jeptoo defended her 2013 title, and won her third Boston overall, with a finish time of 2:18:57, breaking the course record of 2:20:43. It marked the first time in Boston history that a woman broke the 2:20 mark. Second place finisher Buzunesh Deba also broke the 2:20 mark and the old course record, coming in at 2:19:59. These fast paced times were not at all surprising, given the way the race started.

American Shalane Flanagan, aiming to become the first American woman to win the race since Lisa Larsen Weidenbach in 1985, set a blistering pace when the gun went off in Hopkinton. Flanagan seemingly tried to outrun the group, but it stayed together through 5:10 splits in the second mile and ran a 5:20 split over the first half of the race, breezing through the 13.1 mark with a 1:09:20 half. None of the women were able to shake each other. None of them probably dared to even try, as at the pace Flanagan went through the first 15, it was next to impossible to break away without emptying the tank. Eventually, a group of about five decided to make a move on Flanagan, together pushing the pace as they neared the bottom of Heartbreak Hill, the final climb of the Newton Hills. Eventually, Jeptoo and Deba broke from the back too, with the lead flip-flopping. But in the 24th mile, Jeptoo did something absolutely mind-boggling and ran a 4:48 mile. Cameras showed her running faster than the Green Line T in the background. At one point, according to commentator Larry Rawson, Jeptoo was even running faster than Keflezighi.

Flanagan ultimately finished seventh with a PR of 2:22:02, clearly not the result she set out to get with her ambitious pacing. However, without her pacing, Jeptoo wouldn't have set the record and this wouldn't have been one of the highest quality women's marathons in history.

But Jeptoo wasn't the only repeat marathon winner at Boston this year, as Tayana McFadden won her second consecutive title in convincing fashion, finishing over two minutes ahead of Wakako Tsuchida in 1:35:06.

McFadden's victory was her second major marathon victory in eight days, as on April 13 she won the London Marathon, setting a new course record in the process. With these two wins, McFadden is halfway to a second-straight, same-year Grand Slam (winning all four major marathons). McFadden, who didn't compete in her first marathon until 2009, has now won every major marathon that she's run, including New York (2010, 2013), Chicago (2009, 2011, 2012, and 2013), Boston (2013, 2014) and London (2013, 2014). And, for what it's worth, McFadden just brought home a silver medal from Sochi in the 1km Sprint sitting cross-country skiing event. Though, it was just her second career Boston victory, it's not outrageous to imagine McFadden winning a couple more and maybe, eventually, catching American Jean Driscoll, who holds the career record at Boston with eight.

But, no matter how many more victories McFadden gets at Boston, it'll be hard to catch the winningest competitor at Boston, Ernst Van Dyk. Van Dyk, from South Africa, won his 10th career title in 1:20:36. Van Dyk hadn't won in Boston since 2010 finishing third, sixth and second in the years between victories. But this year, Van Dyk took the lead and never looked back. There was no doubt that Van Dyk would recover from the previous years and win the race.

How very Bostonian of him.

Emotionally, the city showed its resilience, coming out in full force and lining the streets. Physically, the athletes pushed their bodily limits. It all seems fitting. This year's marathon was one of the greatest collective running efforts of all time. In typical Boston attitude, they had to be the best.

#1.3163911:3671900241.png:running:

Jeptoo (I) won her second straight title, while Keflezighi won his first Boston title.

AP/The Wire.com

#1.3163912:1054529218.jpg:running

Ernst Van Dyk won his 10th career Boston title, the most in the history of the marathon.

John Tlumacki/Boston Globe

#1.3163913:312444596.jpg:running

McFadden continued her marathon dominance and won her second-straight Boston title.

Charles Krupa/AP

#1.3163914:2681304131.jpg:running

Shalane Flanagan (I) lead the pack through the first half of the race in record setting time, but eventually fell to 7th place.

Essdras M. Suarez/Boston Globe









Combatting Stress:

Exercise, Nutrition and Sleep

By Amber Charette, Peer Health Educator

On Fri, Apr 25, 2014

It's finally that time of the year again! The only things stopping us from summertime fun are those dreaded (but academically enriching, of course) final papers, projects and exams. Many of us are beginning to feel the rush of anxiety coming our way, which means it's time to send out a reminder on how to reduce this along with the general stressors present in everyday life. As such, here are some tips on exercise, nutrition and sleep, and I hope you may find these strategies useful for the last few weeks of the semester.

It's understandable to feel as though there is just no opportunity for exercise during this busy time of year. But believe it or not, sometimes taking 15 to 30 minutes out of your day to be active is just the boost you need to keep going. And who knows, maybe it will help you cut down on that nasty coffee college students seem so addicted to (and yes, I am biased against drinking coffee...just think of how it stains your teeth!). You may also wonder how you can possibly get exercise in with just 15 minutes of spare time in your day. No worries there. [The Harvard School of Public Health website covers this very well](http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/nutritionsource/tips-for-getting-exercise-into-your-life/).

This site provides 20 tips on how to incorporate exercise into your busy schedule. I encourage you all to take a closer look, but here are the 20 tip headings:

- choose activities you like
- piece your workout together
- exercise with a friend
- keep it brisk
- take lunch on the move
- try a pedometer, take the stairs
- turn off the TV, computer and smart phone
- walk an extra stop, hunt for the farthest parking space
- make it your own
- make it fun
- make it social

- sign up for a class
- turn sit time into fit time
- keep an exercise log
- walk or bike for errands around town
- ask the experts
- plan exercise into your day
- reward yourself

Nutrition also plays a crucial role in how much energy you have throughout the day to be productive. Eating junk food with high amounts of sugar and sodium and carbohydrates and fatty foods are not going to keep your energy up for very long. For anyone who wants a good laugh and to learn some useful information on eating healthy, take a look at [this link](http://www.nerdfitness.com/blog/2012/10/18/a-college-guide-to-eating-healthy/). It has some humor in it, but overall provides good advice on one of the most recent diets on the rise: the paleo diet. Essentially, the paleo diet revolves around eating a diet rich in certain meats, fish, vegetables, fruits, nuts and natural oils (in moderation of course).

Restaurant Review: 15 Church

By Tegan O'Neill, Restaurant Columnist

On Fri, Apr 25, 2014

Rich. Classic. Special. Splurge. Top-tier. These are the words that come to mind to describe 15 Church, Saratoga's newest dining establishment. From the hostess's initial greeting to the bill placed on the table at the end of the meal, 15 Church checks off all the boxes of a fine-dining experience, but, nevertheless, some of their practices feel outdated and the price tag feels unjustified.

From the moment we sat down, a battalion of servers, and even the owner himself, were at the ready to tend to our every whim and need. When we ordered two entrees to share, we were even spared the inconvenience of portioning out the dishes ourselves. It seemed ludicrous to watch someone else delicately spoon the veal cheeks evenly between two plates. On display for us was the epitome of full service. And yet, the well-intended effort felt awkward and wrong on some level to watch someone do this task for us. The deed seemed contrived when we became curious about the proper etiquette for other entree, the lobster thermidor; should we have waited for our server to portion it for us, and therefore, let it go cold, or should we have dug in and made a farce of our server's first effort? We decided to take the initiative to serve ourselves our own food, but no sooner had we done this were we chided by our server.

The ruthless attention did have its perks. Never did we have to use a dirtied fork for a fresh dish. The empty wine glasses on the table were whisked away in a flash and our water glasses refilled to the brim without us ever realizing a pitcher had been tipped. Our request for more bread was granted with no hesitation. My casual question, which was really more of an inquisitive praise of the herbs used in the lobster, resulted in a comprehensive list from the kitchen. This over-eager attention bordered on intrusive.

I wish I had not felt as uncomfortable under the gaze of the servers as I did. After all, part of going out to eat at a restaurant is about being waited on and not having to lift a finger.

However, the food really did shine, which is a fact that deserves more attention in this review. The gastronomic experience at 15 Church serves as a reminder of the magic that butter and cream can bring to the table, and of the wonderful phenomenon that comes with letting a chef add those ingredients to your food so that you can enjoy it without acknowledging just how artery-clogging it really is.

The fare at 15 Church is heavy and luxurious meant to be eaten on special occasions, not on a daily basis. We started with the sweetbreads, which were a good indication of what was to come. The sweetbreads themselves were mysterious; they are soft and light, but perplexingly similar in texture to scallops. Their shallow bath of cream sauce is rich enough to make your head hurt. Thankfully, a lovely slice of fennel, like a peacock feather underneath, provided a bright vegetal bite to the otherwise soft, cushiony dish. Bites of puff pastry spaced between sweetbreads provided important textural contrast. Saffron and pepper also livened up the flavor landscape.

If I were Catholic, I would go to confession after ordering (and eating) the lobster thermidor. The price tag alone is enough to throw one into a pool of guilty regret; then comes the trinity of cognac cream, lobster meat and gruyere. Sinful hints of cheese sneak up between bites of meaty, creamy richness. Fennel and chive at least provide some green to the plate's color palette. The best part of all was the unassuming marquez sausage crepinette. The first bite of lamb sausage with a slightly North African, slightly Spanish spiciness is alluring and undeniably delectable. Essentially, it is a huge meatball, and although I remain unsure as to how it fit in with the dish, I am glad that it was there. The spiciness cut the richness of the rest of the dish and provided some spunk to an otherwise more streamlined savory schema.

"They're like butter," a busser said to us in a low voice as he walked by our table. Our server had just placed shiny steak knives in front of us for the veal cheeks, but this effort, it turns out, was unnecessary. The 15 hours of braising leaves the cheeks so soft that teeth are hardly necessary, never mind a knife. The meat melted like chocolate in the mouth. Next to the veal cheeks sat a medley of mushrooms, sunchoke and artichokes that seriously delivered in the umami department. All together, it was a dish of high caliber and high quality, and was richer and better than anything you would eat at home or really anywhere else.

From my vantage, tucked into a booth near the back of the restaurant, I was limited in my view of the restaurant, but judging by the number of candles that passed by, many people were celebrating, which leads to my conclusion. 15 Church is an exceptional place that is appropriate for special occasions. The prices make it impractical to frequent regularly, but the service and the food elevate it to the type of place reserved for a memorable night.

#1.3164556:1263563009.jpg:15 Church

Lobster Thermidor at 15 Church

Sarah Weitzman/The Skidmore News



Professor Chernoff Talks Miley Cyrus:

Media Rumors Demystified

By Sarah Benson, Contributing Writer

On Fri, Apr 25, 2014

The Skidmore News caught up with visiting professor Carolyn Chernoff to discuss the recent media frenzy surrounding her course slated for this summer, "The Sociology of Miley Cyrus: Race, Class, Gender and Media." After a student posted the picture of the flier advertising the course, the explosion of critical attention has run the gamut from outrage to high praise. Here's what Chernoff had to say about those responses, the class itself, and Miley as an important component in larger culture wars.

Several other national outlets have already covered the news of your course slated for this summer, "The Sociology of Miley Cyrus: Race, Class, Gender and Media." Can you tell me a little bit about how word got out?

So at this point we're a couple weeks into it, and I've been on Swedish radio, and I've been interviewed by French TV; there have been a bunch of other international outlets both mainstream and huge, and also tiny, that have expressed interest. So there's actually been a lot of media coverage, most of it useful. In the first wave of media coverage, I believe a student had tweeted a picture of the course flier. I made five whole fliers and posted them around Tisch, and the student tweeted it. I guess *Context Magazine*, which mostly writes about street style and culture, somehow saw the tweet, and reposted the picture with a kind of snarky article - you know, doing the usual thing of decrying, "Oh, the liberal arts." It turns out the student who originally tweeted the flier sent me an email saying that they had posted it because it looked really good and they wanted to take the course, so they were very, very sweet and apologetic, thinking that they had somehow brought unwanted attention. And I let them know: it's cool. I'm always happy for the opportunity to speak about the importance of sociology. So I think it was just one of those weird social media explosion moments, where somebody tweeted a picture, an online street culture mag did an article, there were lots of comments, and I think maybe Skidmore Unofficial was the next to do something about it. I talked to two local newspapers; one of the articles was a little more in-depth than the other. Though I'm not sure what people are using as their source. So again, this is a great case study about viral media, old and new, the way that that twitter, the internet, internet-only blogs and magazines, TV news journalism, print journalism with on and offline presence form an echo chamber. So again, it's useful. Even the outrage and the snarky stuff provides me great material for the start of the course, which is that some of the reaction to the course parallels the reaction to Miley's public representation. So it's a great object lesson analysis.



Other colleges have offered courses about musicians and controversial public figures. Why is your course, which features Miley as the central person of interest, so particularly news worthy?

The short answer is, it's not. It's a sociology class. We're looking at intersectional identity, race, class and gender. We're looking at media and representations of culture, so those are pretty standard things, and many of the other college courses looking at a particular celebrity are doing the same thing. Maybe what's different about my course is, in some ways, I'm looking at somebody who is young, but who has had several phases to her career, somebody who now seems to be interpreted through the public eye as low-status, or trivial, or trash, which has nothing to do with Miley herself or what her fans think. The courses on Lady Gaga or *The Wire* people are less likely to criticize, although they criticize the Gaga class more than *The Wire Class* because the latter was started by William Julius Wilson, who's the preeminent urban sociologist of our time and he did that in Harvard as a grad class. So I think the context matters. The higher status schools doing things at a grad level with tenured professors who are well known get a little bit more latitude. I think Miley's an easy target, which is one of the reasons why she makes a great focus for looking at identity and representation through a sociological lens.

What feedback, if any, have you received from fellow faculty in the sociology department and across disciplines?

The sociology department here is fantastic. That's one of the reasons I'm here, and I'd like to stay here as long as possible. My colleagues are really good, rigorous scholars and teachers who are interested in creativity, but also in reading reality like a text. One of the best things sociology does for us, regardless of your major, or your future career, is help you engage with contemporary social problems. It helps you develop your critical reading skills of pop culture texts, your analysis, your ability to suss out what's happening in terms of larger culture wars. So yeah, all of my colleagues here, and across departments, and at other schools are super supportive. They all get it.

On ABC.com, in the comments section after an article about your course, someone vehemently claimed, "Skidmore should lose its accreditation." On the NY Daily News website, another anonymous reader concluded flippantly that the class must only be about STDs. What do you say to these skeptics?

So, again, most of that reaction has nothing to do with me, or my scholarship, or Skidmore as an institution, or this class. The best thing about the tweet that started this all is that it showed the flier for the class, which shows sociological ways we're going to address things. Miley is a primary source. If you take the time to read the flier, you can see that all of the snarky comments are part of this larger culture war. Attacking Miley Cyrus and her image, and her public representation. Some of it, I think, feeds into the notion of, "If it's not either a natural science, or creationism..." There are a lot of people out there

who think nothing else should be taught at college - well, natural science, creationism, and business. Those are the only things that matter. The humanities and the social sciences are useless. And again, that's clearly not true, but we're in a time of very polarized political rhetoric, so things as seemingly unrelated as food or music videos get dragged in as examples of this ongoing polarization. So that stuff is just silly. It's both grist for the mill for my course, and it's amusing to me. The great thing is I'm still getting some interview requests that are asking the same questions that I've covered in eight thousand different outlets now, so I'm less interested in re-answering the same questions, especially because everybody just keeps putting out the same answers, but I've been talking more to really critical journalists who aren't looking at outrage; they're looking for better understanding of culture. So I'm talking to feminist journalists and bloggers, I'm talking to more race critical scholars and popular writers, so the types of people that as an urban and cultural sociologist I'm just in dialogue with anyhow through my research and through my more applied cultural work. So that's where we're seeing the useful writing coming out of this. Not through just the, "Can you believe this *silly* lady has the gall to teach a *silly* course about a *silly* lady!" I was actually surprised - you know Dave Chappelle's joke about how if the Internet were a real place, it would be disgusting and no one would ever go there - so there's also that. This is one of our few public forums and the anonymity means that we do the things we tend to do with new forms of media, which is post naked pictures and attack people. So I was actually surprised that more people didn't bring up how I look, how "hideous" I am, or how "silly" my politics are, because those tend to also be the ways we dismiss women in particular. If I listen to things people say about me, I'd never leave the house, right? That's part of being a human being in this society; everybody feels free to criticize you, not based on any actual data, just based on their own political agenda.

Would it be uncouth to ask for a "teaser" of sorts? What might be a sample lesson plan?

No. Cosmo.com wants to have exclusive rights to "leak" the syllabus before the class starts, and again, I'm not going to do it, and if I did, they and their readers would be super disappointed because, although there will be some more popular texts, it's going to be a lot of academic *stuff*. On the one hand, that would be great to get out on the internet; on the other hand, someone will tweet it, or circulate it, or not. It's a course in development. It's a summer course, a seminar, an experiment.

If this class was to become a real hit, and you could offer a series of courses modeled after this one, who would be your next celebrity focal point?

Hmm, well let's say that if I were to stay at Skidmore for a while, and this were to become a rostered course instead of a "special topics," I think there's a lot in race, class, gender and media, because that's really what the course is about. Some things would remain consistent over the years, and some things would be different. I think it's useful to have real-world examples. All of my courses have them; I'm always asking my students as part of the vamp and intro into the class, "What's new in terms of social

issues and social problems?" We're connected to the real world and the things we see unfolding around us. So on the one hand, the course could continue to be about media representation and intersectional identity with different examples, depending on what's current. I don't know if I would always necessarily choose a single celebrity or pop icon as a focus. I might do a focus on daytime talk shows, on mainstream media satire-like MADtv and Saturday Night Live. Some people in sociology do celebrity studies, and it's important and useful work, but I'm an urban-cultural sociologist particularly interested in conflict. Miley's perfect for what I do right now, but I'm not the sociologist of Miley Cyrus.

Do you listen to and enjoy Miley Cyrus' music in your free time, outside of professional research?

Officially, I enjoy nothing. I hate music. I hate everything. One of the jokes I make in my class that many of my colleagues here and elsewhere also make is that sociology ruins everything you think is fun because it forces you to reveal the deep inequalities that are being reproduced through seemingly trivial channels.

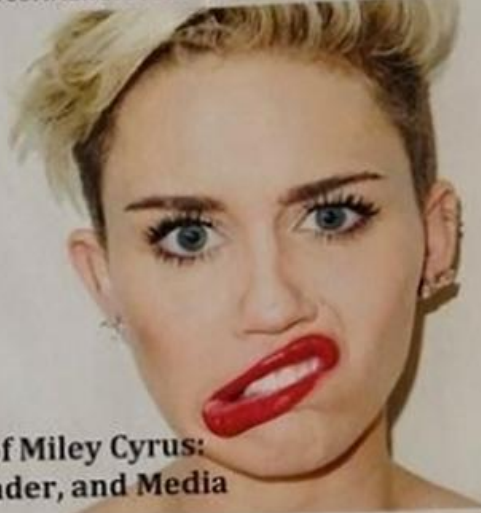
How do you stay passionate about teaching sociology if everything's a downer?

Well, again, I'm a conflict sociologist in one sense, so I'm horrified, but also amused. My background before I became an academic was doing activist work, especially around dating, domestic violence and conflict resolution. In the trenches you get that humor, where stuff is really, really bad, but at the same time, people are working to change it. So that's something that I say to my students, and that I also believe as an engaged scholar: social change - progressive, positive social change - is a historical fact and a contemporary reality. Even in the middle of so many very real social problems, people are changing the world, and that's hopeful. Also, I make a lot of jokes; is *everything* a downer? Do I hate *everything*? I don't know. Ask some of my students.

#1.3164555:738879584.jpg:Miley Cyrus 4/26

The poster tweeted around the world.

SUMMER 2014 SUMMER 2014 SUMMER 2014 SUMMER 2014



The Sociology of Miley Cyrus: Race, Class, Gender, and Media

Summer Session I
T/W/R 1-3:30 PM
Professor Carolyn Chernoff

From Disney tween to twerking machine, Miley Cyrus has grown up in the public eye, trying on and discarding very different identities onscreen and off. She provides rich examples for analyzing aspects of intersectional identities and media representation, including:

- The rise of the Disney Princess
- Gender stratification and the hyper-commodification of childhood
- Transitions to adulthood
- What happens to Disney stars as they age (see Justin Timberlake, Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera, and more)
- Allies and appropriation
- Uses of culture across race, class, and gender
- Bisexuality, queerness, and the female body

Ongoing media frenzy focused on Miley Cyrus's public image, music, and body highlights the ways in which intersectional identities are shaped by pop culture and mass media. In this special topics course, we will explore core issues of intersectionality theory, looking at race, class, and gender, as well as taking a feminist critique of media, using Miley as a lens through which to explore sociological thinking about identity, entertainment, media, and fame.

SUMMER 2014 SUMMER 2014 SUMMER 2014 SUMMER 2014

Campus Safety Report: April 18 to 24

By Julia Leef '14, Managing Editor

On Mon, Apr 28, 2014

Campus Safety Reports for the week of April 18.

Incidents of Note:

- **Sunday, April 20**-Suspicious Activity: Officers reported at 6:19 p.m. finding 10 students on the Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater roof. Students were asked to leave and complied.
- **Tuesday, April 22**-Campus Safety Assist: Report received at 3:29 p.m. of a suspicious male carrying a rifle and getting into a vehicle by the Zankel Music building. Dispatched officers identified the subject as a professor and that the weapon was a prop for a play.
- **Thursday, April 24**-Criminal Mischief: Reporting person was in the Campus Safety office at 8:54 a.m. stating that person(s) unknown have hit the new directional sign post at the main North Broadway entrance on Perimeter Road, breaking it. Dispatched officer who took photos and made the report. Maintenance will replace the post.

Further Incidents:

Friday, April 18:

- College Violation: A loud argument was reported at 12:45 p.m. on the second floor of Jonsson Tower. Officers dispersed the parties.
- Moving Violations: The reporting person issued a moving violation at 2:46 p.m. on Perimeter Road.

Saturday, April 19:

- College Violation: Loud music and chanting reported at 12:33 a.m. at 7 Dayton Drive. Officers dispersed the people, who cleared out after a second call an hour later.
- Criminal Mischief: A hole reported at 1:18 a.m. in the wall on the third floor of a stairwell in Kimball Hall. Report taken.
- Criminal Mischief: Unknown persons observed at 1:47 a.m. setting off a fire extinguisher outside of Wiecking Hall. Report taken.
- Criminal Mischief: A broken window reported at 7:18 a.m. in the north stairwell on the first floor of Wilmarth Hall. Report taken.

- Criminal Mischief: Damage reported at 8:41 a.m. to a vehicle in West Lot. Report taken. The Saratoga Springs Police Department advised.
- Liquor Law Violation: A liquor law violation reported at 9:14 p.m. on the second floor of Wiecking Hall. Report taken. Alcohol violation referral.

Sunday, April 20:

- Fire Alarm: A fire alarm reported at 12:28 a.m. in the Sussman Apartments B. Alarm was due to cooking.
- College Violation: Loud music reported at 1:14 a.m. at Whitman Way. Students agreed to lower the music.
- Fire Alarm: Fire alarm activation received at 2:07 a.m. at Kimball Hall. Criminal mischief found and report taken.
- Fire Alarm: Fire alarm activation received at 9:22 p.m. at the Sussman Apartments H. Alarm was due to cooking.

Monday, April 21:

- Criminal Mischief: Damage reported at 8:41 a.m. to the exit light in the hallway of the ground floor of Case Center. Dispatched officer documented the damage and issued a report.
- Suspicious Odor: Report received at 10:06 a.m. of a burning plastic odor in Admissions. Dispatched officer and maintenance. Odor determined to be caused by dust on wires. Report issued. Dust removed.
- Suspicious Odor: An odor of marijuana reported at 1:12 p.m. in Wiecking Hall. Officer dispatched reported that the call was unfounded. No marijuana odor was detected.

Tuesday, April 22:

- College Violation: Excessive noise reported at 1:39 a.m. causing a disturbance to an apartment complex at Moore Way. Officer was dispatched. Residents lowered the volume upon request.
- Graffiti: Officer reported graffiti at 6:47 a.m. on the wall in the Starbuck Center staircase.
- Suspicious Odor: A suspicious odor reported at 11:24 p.m. on the third floor of Penfield Hall. Dispatched officer canvassed the area with negative results.

Wednesday, April 23:

- Suspicious Odor: Reporting person called at 10:48 a.m. to state that there was a sulfur odor on the first floor of Jonsson Tower. Dispatched officer and maintenance. Officer reported that the odor had dissipated and could not find any problems or the cause.
- Fire Alarm: Fire alarm sounded at 11:43 a.m. for the Sussman Apartments L. Dispatched all officers, maintenance and advised the Saratoga Springs Fire Department. Alarm was due to burnt food.
- Graffiti: Reporting person stated at 12:06 p.m. that there was graffiti on the sidewalk behind the Sussman Apartments B. Dispatched officer who took photos of the writing. No known witnesses at the time.
- Accident: Reporting person stated at 4:13 p.m. that she would like to file a report due to an injury sustained during dress rehearsal at the Dance Theater. Dispatched officer. The reporting person sought medical attention via Health Services. Accident report filed.

Thursday, April 24:

- Larceny: Reporting person stated at 10:05 a.m. that person(s) unknown have taken 10 of the black seat cushions measuring 2'x2' from the Wilson Chapel. Dispatched officer.
- Property Damage Auto Accident: Reporting person in the Campus Safety office at 7:32 p.m. stated that she struck a vehicle while attempting to park in the West Lot. Dispatched officer.
- College Violation: A noise complaint reported at 11:14 p.m. at a North Woods apartment complex. Dispatched officers located a small gathering and requested that the noise be kept down. Group dispersed.

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Jacob Reiskin/The Skidmore News

