

Editorial: Optimizing the First Six Weeks Campaign

By the Editorial Board



Facebook page of the Skidmore Social Norms campaign

As first-year students arrive on campus and begin to acclimate to academics and social life at Skidmore, the administration is in the process of rolling out two major community health and awareness campaigns designed to positively affect student behavior and mold social norms. The Office of the Dean of Student Affairs is responsible for the [First Six Weeks](#) campaign, which is designed to facilitate a sense of community amongst first-year students by introducing them to the wide variety of events taking place on campus during the eponymous first six weeks of the semester. The Office of Health Promotion is sponsoring the [Skidmore College Social Norms](#) campaign, a program designed to recalibrate students' understanding of 'normal' student behavior.

The College is clearly taking action to reform how students view and participate in social life on campus, encouraging "healthy and responsible" decision-making. The programs are particularly targeted towards first-years. The wide variety of First Six Weeks [events](#), from community service to lectures and social events, reflects the diversity of interests and backgrounds on this campus and should provide ample opportunity for interested first-year students to become more involved in the community. The Editorial Board applauds the development of these programs and the intent behind them. College is a vulnerable time for everyone, but never is this vulnerability more evident than the beginning of the first year.

However, the Board has several suggestions from to improve the campaigns. To us, these campaigns are designed to introduce students to alternatives to drinking ("Trivia Night and Mocktails," for example) and to facilitate introductions to their peers who may not be interested in consuming alcohol or using drugs. This is a prudent move, but the Board believes that there is a need for revision in order to properly preempt drinking and drug abuse. Many of the events designed to replace inebriated partying do not serve as effective substitutes because they are scheduled before most parties and drinking starts. For example, the mocktail event is hosted on a Thursday and ends at 11 P.M., rather than being hosted on a Friday or Saturday and ending at 2 A.M. Late-night events are needed to provide alternatives for the students that do not want to drink.

However, there is a second cohort that these programs are meant to target, and that is those students that will drink. Within the first week, Skidmore has experienced problems with parties at off-campus locations. The risk goes up dramatically once a student leaves campus to party: Campus Safety is not present at off-campus venues to aid students, first-year and older, and students may have trouble getting back to campus or navigating the downtown scene, especially when inebriated. We propose that Skidmore make an effort to keep these parties on campus, by hosting more late-night events like dances and concerts, at times when students are more likely to be drinking. This won't keep all students on campus, but it will offer a meaningful alternative to off-campus parties. Late-night events, designed to keep partying students on campus, should join lectures and earlier community events as a key component of the campaign.

In addition to more events, both programs need more effective literature and publicity efforts. There is confusion on campus about the difference between the two campaigns, albeit recognizing that there is overlap, as well as whom to turn to with questions about each program. While RAs and UAs were informed about the programs, Peer Mentors received no information about either campaign. As the first point of contact with incoming first-year students, PMs should have been well prepared with information and resources about the campaigns so that they could have presented the information to their seminar within the first week. Instead, first-years and upperclassmen alike remain confused about the objectives and components of the two programs.

The design of the literature for both programs also leaves much to be desired. Student opinion finds the cartoonish [horse drawings](#) condescending and unequivocally "uncool," the latter at least something first-year students will avoid like the plague. Posters for the First Six Weeks are so crowded with information that students neglect to stop and sort through it all.

The Editorial Board earnestly supports the intent of the College in working towards providing a healthy and safe environment for Skidmore students. We hope these suggestions are constructive for improving the school's efforts, and we look forward to the next Six Weeks.

Field Hockey climbs the national poll



By Skidmore Athletics

The Skidmore Field Hockey team has climbed to fourth in the latest Penn Monto/NFHCA National Coaches poll. The Thoroughbreds have had a strong start to their season, with two shutouts and outscoring all of their opponents.

Dani DeGregory '16 recorded a hat trick in all three games this season. DeGregory leads the conference with 20 points and nine goals.

Sam Skott '15 ranks a close second on the team with 10 points and five goals. Krista Lamoreaux '17 is third with nine points, and a conference-high five assists.

This weekend Skidmore will host a pair of home games: New Paltz on Saturday, Sept. 13 at 1 p.m. and Babson on Sunday, Sept. 14, at 1 p.m.

The Starbucks Takeover Is Complete: Skidmore's Bubble Has Been Popped

By Ileana Paules-Bronet



The new and improved (?) Burgess. Chloe Kimberlin '17/ The Skidmore News

The announcement came in the form of a Facebook post: "Burgess is turning into a Starbucks!" And with that update, my whole life changed. Perhaps I'm being dramatic, but Starbucks does seem like an odd choice.

I understand that Skidmore has its share of yoga pants and Nike Free-wearing biddies, but we are much more of a hipster school, on which those sitting outside on the green, drinking his or her kombucha, will agree with me.

So why do we need a Starbucks? And why is everyone so happy about it? I am no coffee connoisseur, but I really do not think that the Green Mountain coffee was that bad. I get that it is not roasted to the peak of perfection and whatnot, but I am not entirely sure Starbucks coffee is much better.

The cost of Starbucks coffee does not make any sense for a college student's budget. A small coffee (or should I call it a Tall now?) used to cost \$1.50 at Burgess Café. Now, they cost \$1.77, which may not seem like a huge change, but it adds up; five of these new coffees and you could buy a whole sixth Green Mountain coffee.

Furthermore, the quality of the experience is questionable at best. The fact is that the student workers are not professionals and have little to no experience preparing the array of listed beverages. The upshot is long lines that end with a poorly made, kind of Starbucks-quality Frappuccino. Timely service and quality coffee is now a thing of the past.

On a positive note, Burgess has a pretty new redesign! It now offers less space, one fewer door, and fewer snack items. It does have some cute seating, where you can overlook the SkidShop, everyone's favorite view.

I know I am being really sarcastic and cynical, but I just do not know that changing Burgess to now offer Starbucks Coffee is going to have a positive impact on the Skidmore community. I know many people feel otherwise, but paying more for potentially better quality coffee might be too much of a hassle for a broke college student like me.

But who knows? The student workers will probably improve with time and experience, and maybe there will be a protest to lower prices. Either way, I will probably be overworked and exhausted by some point next week and cave in, joining the ranks of the Starbucks cronies. And as long as they still give me a coffee punch card, I think I might survive.

Women's tennis return to the courts



Zoe Valella '15

By Skidmore Athletics

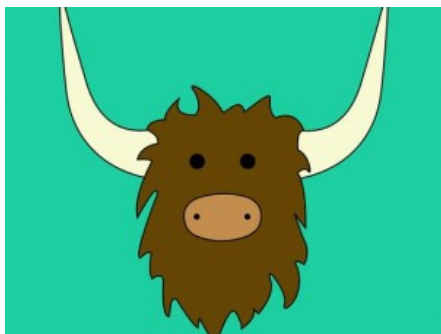
The Skidmore Tennis team begins its fall season at the Morehouse Invite Sept. 13-14 in Williamstown, Mass.

The Thoroughbreds captured their fourth consecutive Liberty League championship last year, with a 17-4 record. The team will return with six players from last season, including Madie Benn '16, 2013-2014 Liberty League Rookie of the Year and All-Liberty League First Team singles and doubles section. Also returning are Yumi Karlshoej '15, all-conference doubles honorable mention, and Zoe Valella '15, all-conference League Second Team singles and doubles selection.

Keep an eye out for upcoming events such as ITA Regionals, Sept. 27-29 in Geneva, NY and at the Oct .10-12 New York State Tournament. There will also be a home game on Sept. 20 at 9 a.m. against Union.

What's All the Yak About?

By Billie Kanfer



Yik Yak's cartoon logo

A new app called Yik Yak is currently taking our college—and many others—by storm. For those who are unaware, Yik Yak is the anonymous equivalent of Twitter, for people in your area. Let's say you're feeling witty or feeling like saying what's on your mind but don't want to put a “name” or “handle” to it, Yik Yak is your go-to place. You can post whatever you like as long as it's 140 characters or less.

Yik Yak appears to be a combination of Whisper (anonymous secret-sharing app) and Twitter, and it is quickly becoming an extremely popular app within our campus and others alike. Yik Yak prides itself on allowing students and people in general to get a live feed of what is happening/being said around them. On their website, many screenshots of the app feature witty comments, general questions about meet-ups, and other various statements that can range from comical to cynical or downright sassy.

Another aspect of Yik Yak is that the public can control whether or not a “yak” can rise to fame or fall into a black hole. As a “yakker” you can press up or down and decide the fate of the “yak.” A user can up-vote or down-vote a singular yak based on whether they find it funny or relatable.. The more up-votes a yak receives, the more visible it becomes to users. Unlike Twitter, these “likes” can also decrease and spiral into the negatives. Finally, Yik Yak has the option to “peek” at what other colleges, areas, or events are “yakking” about.

At first, Yik Yak seemed like a waste of time, and I've even encountered some who are hesitant about joining the movement yet give in after they realize that their witty comments can be heard without paying a price of identifying themselves with it.

Unfortunately, Yik Yak has been causing some problems among campuses including our own. Many harmful and inappropriate comments have been made via Yik Yak that are causing controversy and leading some to believe that Yik Yak is another outlet for cyber bullying. On their website, Yik Yak states that “Yaks should not join the herd until they are mature enough, so no one under college age should be on Yik Yak.” On Skidmore's campus there have been several incidents so far, including one student having to file a bias incident report. Another problem has included a sports team on campus in which their coach has banned the use of Yik Yak due to comments made that were inappropriate.

In all, Yik Yak is being used by an incredible amount of students across campuses and students at other institutions have said that they feel the posts are harmless and meant to be fun. Yik Yak provides students to voice their thoughts even if they happen to be the quietest person on campus. You can be whoever you want on Yik Yak with the comfort of posting anonymously behind the screen of your smartphone.

Club Profile: Film Appreciation Troupe

By Billie Kanfer

I had the pleasure of interviewing Emily Stone '17 who, along with Mirella Nappi '16, has taken over the reigns of the Film Appreciation Troupe.

Q: How would you summarize your club?

Emily: Our troupe aims to spark discussion among students after they attend bi-weekly meetings and/or screenings. We are open to anyone and include members with little to high knowledge of films. We don't want students to feel like they need to be an expert to join our club; we are all about "loving film" and sharing similar interests and passions for the subject. Currently, we have three members on the e-board but are hoping to expand this year especially with the new media studies minor being implemented.

Q: What makes the Film Appreciation Troupe so special?

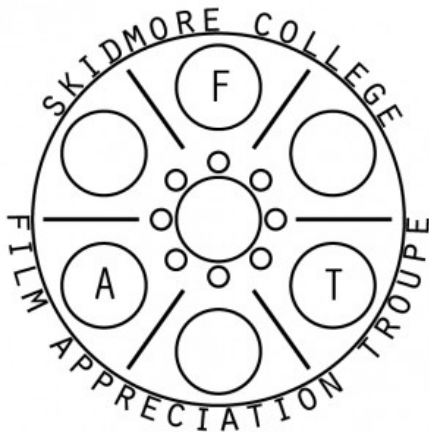
Emily: Our troupe sticks by the fact that "everyone has a say." We want the students to choose what movie they want to screen based on their own interests. At our meetings we all disclose what genre/actor/theme/director, etc. we are interested in. We draw a random selection from a hat and then generate a list of films that could possibly be viewed. We are unique in the way that we send out a survey via the student announcements and ask for the students to choose their favorites. We want the people to be happy and to enjoy discussing a film of their choice.

Q: Do you feel that film appreciation is underrepresented on campus?

Emily: I do feel that way sometimes. On the surface, we appear to be a club that is fun and enjoyable, but we really hope to generate more discussion even outside of our club. Last year we had a fluctuating membership; however, we want to expand and broaden our scope. I find that film can be underrepresented on campus yet we want to combine entertaining with film discussion and ignite excitement on campus.

Q: What are your future plans?

Emily: Our plans are to expand and generate discussion. We want people to talk, enjoy film and pursue the minor or even just pursue our club more intensely. Film Appreciation Troupe is all about conversation, and we want to continue that in our endeavors.



Club's logo designed by Emily Stone

Q: What are some events for this semester and year?

Emily: We will be having weekly screenings, and meetings hopefully on Wednesday evenings. We hope to cultivate a Film Festival and we will be having our second annual Oscars screening on February 22nd, 2015.

I Was a Double: Making and Breaking Rules

By Connor Batsimm, Contributing writer



I was a double

When we think of artists, we picture painters, sculptors, photographers, even graffiti artists, who begin with a handful of materials and end with something tangible. However, leading modern artist Sol LeWitt argues that the role of an artist is less about the production of a physical object and more about the formation of an idea. LeWitt, who died in 2007, created a variety of rules which artists have kept in mind while constructing their works of art.

LeWitt has compared himself to a composer, stating “It’s as though I were writing a piece of music and somebody else is going to play it on the piano.”

One of LeWitt’s pieces, Wall drawing #1202, a massive drawing of shaded rectangles composed entirely of pencil scribbles, is currently on display at Skidmore’s Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery, as a part of the ongoing “I Was a Double” exhibition. I Was a Double, which opened July 5 and is scheduled to run until Jan. 4 of the following year, features the works of artists, like LeWitt, who invent rules that can be used to create art. Unlike LeWitt, many of these artists went on to construct the actual piece themselves.

The artwork displayed in I Was a Double features a variety of mediums. Thoughts on Crystals, created by Tony Feher, is made of bottles and red and blue marbles arranged to form shapes. Céleste Boursier-Mougenot’s piece, Untitled (Series #2), is an inflatable plastic pool filled with water, clorox, and porcelain bowls designed to bump against each other and produce noise. This piece came about in the idea that music can be made from anything. There are also several chairs and cushions created by modern artist and designer Johanna Jackson and her husband Chris Johanson. In addition to the visual art, I Was a Double also features a soundtrack composed by David Lang.

Each piece of artwork also features a sentence written by the artist, describing his or her rule-making process. The sentence provided by Sarah Cain for her painting Separated at Birth, “I was a double until I was no more,” is what inspired the title of the exhibition. The word “double” can convey multiple meanings. On one level it can refer to a pair, duplicate, or doppelganger. It can also mean two musical instruments playing together, as well as the dual role played by many of the artists featured in the exhibition: inventing an idea and then executing it.

Critics of modern art may be skeptical that all of the pieces featured in this exhibit are indeed art; however, this exhibit has something for everyone. It’s hard not to marvel at the simple beauty of Ruth Vollmer’s Intersecting Ovals or the dizzying patterns of Karin Davie’s In Out In Out Drawing #16 and #17. If nothing else, I Was a Double provides a fresh perspective on the age-old question of what exactly makes something art. For those interested in art of any form, this exhibition is not to be missed.

Reel Talk: Fall Film Preview



By Sean van der Heijden, Staff writer

There are a ridiculous amount of good movies coming out for Oscar seasons this year, but a few stand out from all the rest. If you love going to the movies as much as I do, try checking out these films this fall:

5. *The Imitation Game*: dir. Morten Tyldum, starring Benedict Cumberbatch, Keira Knightley, and Matthew Goode. Cumberbatch, who recently won an Emmy for his work on *Sherlock*, has been on a roll lately, and this movie looks to be no different. Focusing on the life of controversial mathematician Alan Turing, the film tracks his life as he works to solve Enigma code during WWII. If all of that sounds too technical, Turing was also shunned for being a homosexual and (spoiler alert) nobody really knows how he died. *The Imitation Game* opens in theaters on Nov. 21.

4. *Gone Girl*: dir. David Fincher, starring Ben Affleck, Rosamund Pike, Neil Patrick Harris, and Tyler Perry. Adapted by Gillian Flynn from her own novel, *Gone Girl* tells the story of a man who becomes a media sensation after his wife disappears and he is blamed for the murder. The whole cast is controversial, with Affleck and Perry standing out the most, but early reviews have been incredible and Rosamund Pike is supposed to give a chilling performance. Another team up with experimental composers Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross can't hurt, either. *Gone Girl* arrives into theaters on Oct. 3.

3. *Birdman*: dir. Alejandro González Iñárritu, starring Michael Keaton, Edward Norton, Naomi Watts, Emma Stone, Amy Ryan, and Zach Galifianakis.

After opening to rave reviews at the Venice Film Festival recently, *Birdman* is becoming the most hyped-about movie thus far this season. For those unaware with Iñárritu's work (*Babel*, *Amores Perros*), he is a very experimental director, and the film is supposedly shot all in one take. Keaton's performance, as well, is supposed to be just about the best thing he's done. *Birdman* opens in limited release on Oct. 17.

2. *Nightcrawler*: dir. Dan Gilroy, starring Jake Gyllenhaal, Rene Russo, and Bill Paxton.

A really edgy looking film (with an amazing trailer, by the way), this debut by Dan Gilroy is about a man who gets caught up in underground crime journalism in L.A. That is to say, he does some messed up stuff that's questionably illegal and definitely immoral in order to get good news footage on breaking crimes. Gyllenhaal, who lost 20 lbs. for the role, looks fantastic, as does the film itself, which opens on Halloween night.

1. *Interstellar*: dir. Christopher Nolan, starring Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway, Jessica Chastain, Casey Affleck, and everybody else ever.

Nolan's first film since *The Dark Knight Rises*, *Interstellar* is loaded with a bunch of new people Nolan has never worked with (plus

Michael Caine), and looks spectacular. Based on the works of theoretical physicist Kip Thorne, *Interstellar* tells the story of a group of scientists who travel via wormhole throughout our universe in order to find another habitable planet for our race. This film seems a lot deeper and more thought-out than much of Nolan's preceding work, and all the footage released so far suggests just that. *Interstellar* makes it's way into theaters on Nov. 10.

While these five films happen to be the ones I am most looking forward to, there are plenty of others throughout the season. The Liam Neeson thriller *A Walk Among the Tombstones* comes out on Sept. 19, the Brad Pitt-starring WWII movie *Fury* comes out on Oct. 17, and the Bill Murray comedy *St. Vincent* comes out on Oct. 25. Later in the fall, there's the Stephen Hawking biopic *The Theory of Everything* on Nov. 7, as well as *Foxcatcher*, which sees Steve Carrell (of all people) playing a creepy, schizophrenic wrestling coach and is supposed to be, well, creepy. That, along with *Dumb and Dumber To*, comes out on Nov. 14, with *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part 1* closing the season on Nov. 21.

Campus Safety Reports Aug 29-Sept 4

By Andrew Shi, Editor-in-Chief



August 29

- At 3:02 p.m. near Wiecking Hall, there was a report of a street sign being taken out of someone's vehicle. The sign was returned to the City of Saratoga
- At 4 p.m. there was a driving complaint in the Jonsson Tower Lot. The visitor that caused the complaint was banned from campus.
- At 9:45 p.m. there was a report of suspicious activity in the Sussman apartments. Campus Safety Officers and SSPD were dispatched.

August 30

No reportable Clery Act incidences recorded on this date.

August 31

- At 10:16 a.m. a fire alarm was set off by burnt bacon in the Sussman apartments.
- At 1:16 p.m. A welfare check was carried out for a student in Jonsson Tower.

September 1

- At 2:44 a.m. the SSPD advised that two male students were causing criminal mischief and larceny of city property. One student was located in Jonsson Tower and arrested.
- At 10 a.m. there was reported that a sexual assault had occurred on campus approximately two years ago. No further information disclosed.
- At 2:15 p.m. there was a report of observed alcohol in a Penfield Hall room. Officer dispatched to speak with student and discard remainder.
- At 2:56 p.m. there was a report of marijuana or incense odor coming from a room in Wait Hall. Officer dispatched.
- At 5:08 p.m. the blue light emergency phone near the Tang Teaching Museum was activated. There was no response from the caller, and the dispatched officer found no one at the phone but noted several subjects walking in the area.
- At 7:44 p.m. there was a report of a suspicious male sitting in a vehicle in the Tang parking lot. Officers were dispatched and the subject was identified and left campus without incident upon request.
- At 10:43 p.m. there was a report of a possible party on the third floor of Wait Hall. Dispatched officers report subjects gone on arrival.

September 2

- At 5:44 a.m. a fire alarm in the Dayton apartments was activated due to humidifier running

- At 3:19 p.m. a fire alarm in the Sussman apartments was activated due to cooking.
- At 9:07 p.m. there was a report of a suspicious odor in Jonsson Tower. Call unfounded.
- At 9:19 p.m. there was a report of a suspicious odor in Wait Hall. Odor unfounded.
- At 10:43 p.m. There was a report of a suspicious odor in Jonsson Tower. Odor due to incense.

September 3

- At 12:56 p.m. a fire alarm in the Sussman Apartments was set off due to cooking.
- At 8:46 p.m. a call was made requesting a welfare check on a student. Officers dispatched and found student in the Zankel Music Building. Student okay.
- At 8:43 p.m. a call was made requesting assistance in locating off-campus housemate. Housemate located.

September 4

- At 2:41 a.m. an emergency phone was activated in the Arts Quad A. Officers dispatched but found no one in the area.
- At 10:26 a.m. the SSPD called requesting assistance in locating a missing person off-campus. Officers assisted but no one located.
- At 3:23 p.m. a fire alarm in the Cane apartments was activated due to cooking.
- At 3:20 p.m. a student found a dent in their vehicle hood. Officer dispatched, took photographs and report.
- At 4:13p.m. a fire alarm in the Sussman apartments was activated due to cooking.
- At 5:50 p.m. a fire alarm in the Sussman apartments was activated to due cooking, again.

A Chapter in which Two Colleagues Reaffirm that Mechsuits are Much Better than Work Parties

The hall opened inward, a vast iron and glass space polished with precision and filled with grey chairs, tables draped in white table cloth. I sighed and switched my weight to my right foot, bracing myself to step into the mire of office party conversation. And I probably should have worn flats, I bemoaned silently. Heels make walking so difficult.

"Maya!" I turned at the sound of my name, posture relaxing as Daniel approached, limping slightly in his new shoes. "Daniel, I'm so glad you're here. I need help with people's names." I whispered, grimacing as an expressly average lady sauntered over, waving. His eyes swung around the room, taking stock of the clumps of milling people.

"I'll make a deal with you- I'll feed you names if you get the drinks."

"Fine, yes. You have a deal." I made a face return and went in search of some champagne. At least we were in this together. Daniel joined the Cygnus Labs family shortly after my promotion to division laboratory manager. It took a few months for us to hold a conversation lasting more than four sentences, but once it happened we had no trouble finding things to talk about. Time heals most awkwardness, I suppose.

The controlled tap of a champagne flute brought my attention to the projection wall emblazoned with newscasts, clipped voices ringing off the glass walls. "It was confirmed today by the head of Cygnus Laboratories that two scientists, Maya Derosier and Daniel Grayson have successfully found and extracted the root of consciousness..." I felt every eye in the hushed room swivel towards me as the broadcast was silenced and the CEO began to speak.

"Welcome, all. We're here to celebrate the achievements of two of Cygnus' brightest minds, Daniel Grayson and Maya Desrosier. Join me in congratulating their strives toward a more self-aware future." He raised a toast to signal the end of his brief involvement in the affair.

The keypad flashed as I entered my code, and with a pneumatic wheeze the doors parted. I lunged for my boots to free my feet from their shiny constraints. A metal shop is no place for heels. Catching my attention, Daniel pulled one leg of his black trousers above the top of his dress shoe to reveal photorealistic Sprite socks, which made his legs look like cans. I busted out laughing and he cocked an eyebrow. "Something funny?"

"It kinda looks like you have can ankles."

"Well...yeah. I guess I do." He chuckled for a few seconds, then staring at the floor, began to untie his shoes pensively. Stealing some nerve, he looked up at me.

"Jerry from accounting told me you were building the suit," he started, and I threw my hands in the air in almost mock indignation.

"Well now I have no surprise for you." Daniel laughed and raised an eyebrow expectantly. "You got excited and told him, didn't you?"

"Well, not exactly. I was on the phone with my mother and he overheard. Anyway, surprise! I built the suit to save some time, but it's had to undergo a few revisions between blueprint and prototype. We'll discuss them tomorrow."

Recently the benefactors had taken to dropping the phrase "the greater good" in their emails, but their greater good was a glaucous, silver edged, multi-plated metal alloy exoskeleton, equipped with limited food, water and ammo storage, 8 in armor M202 rounds, a poly-weapon spinal holster, and an internal consciousness port. Mine was closer to walks in the forest and socialized medicine, but both Daniel and I were contracted employees. We had no say regarding the ethics of our projects so long as Cygnus was signing our paychecks.

Daniel took my cue and turned towards the wall. I walked towards the somnolent chassis, standing halved with its front plates retracted to expose the gel innersuit. I tied my hair and pressed my back against the gel. The room echoed of metal joints clashing and fastening as my body was encased. When it had finished, I took a step forward to call Daniel's name but he was already striding towards me with a radiant smile, changes to the original blueprints already forgotten.

"For an androgynous piece of machinery, it's surprisingly beautiful. OSIRIS will proceed ahead of schedule."

"Avoid Compulsively Making Things Worse"

He works the daylight hours.

The artist mends rifts in

trend in an attempt to render
a better make than the current model

and wishes cynicism were
only temporary. Still

he scans, canvas
dripping a face from the crowd

now left to the imagination, eyes
unrealized as he lifts his head

from the surface of oil
fingers saturated

but with a nod, consciousness
intent to drop other thoughts his

way like hindsight bombs
foresight anxieties

send him another taken way
his mind, diverted, forgets

the shape and color of the
eyes in recall as he moves forward,

faster, sitting shivering in
the breeze of scrutiny,

mutinously studious and reduced
to the pursuit of serenity though

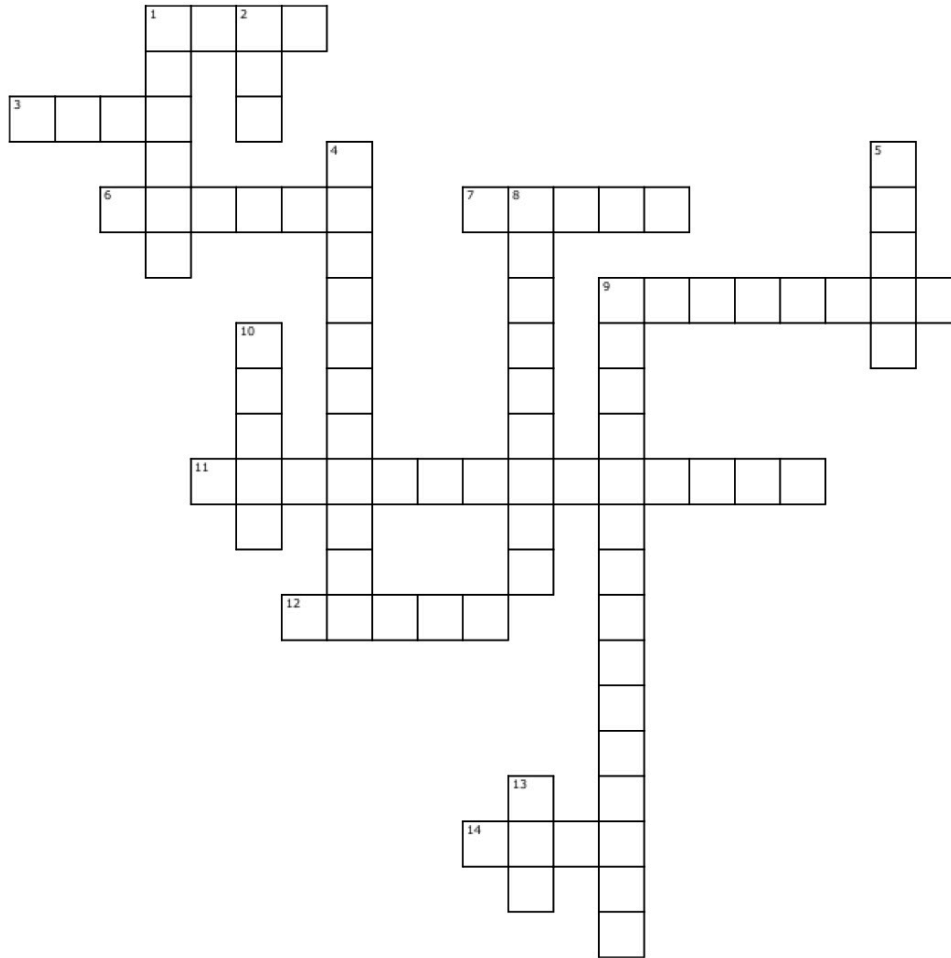
painting
an unstoppable slave
to happiness

with a bowl of rice and beans
set by the easel, its easy to

see why the pictures have been
painting themselves

Trivia Crossword: The Simpsons

The Simpsons



Across

1. Homer's helper monkey
3. Lisa's first word
6. This character makes a guest appearance in the episode Bart vs. Lisa vs. the Third Grade
7. A terrible Christmas toy
9. Groening's stated religious orientation
11. The town's New Age shop
12. Number of eyelashes on Maggie
14. Number of points in Bart's hair

Down

1. Chief Wiggum's surname is taken from which parent
2. On whom Mr. Quimby is based
4. One of Cletus' children
5. Sideshow Mel's brother
8. Sideshow Bob's middle name
9. The Comic Store
10. Homer's first name on his fake ID
13. Groundskeeper Willie's father was hanged for stealing this animal

Skidmore College to observe Jewish high holy days

Skidmore College to observe Jewish high holy days



The holiest days on the Jewish religious calendar are approaching. Known in Hebrew as hayamin hanoraim—the Days of Awe—or in English as the high holy days, these holidays include the Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah, and the Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur.

Religious services for both holidays will be held on the Skidmore College campus in the Janet Kinghorn Bernhard Theater, sponsored by college's Office of Religious and Spiritual Life in conjunction with Temple Sinai, the Reform synagogue of Saratoga Springs. Rosh Hashanah services will begin at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 24, and 10 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 25; Yom Kippur services will begin at 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3, and continue throughout the day on Saturday, Oct. 4, beginning at 10 a.m. and concluding with a break-fast after dark, at approximately 7:30 p.m. These services will be led by Rabbis Linda Motzkin, Skidmore's Jewish chaplain, and Jonathan Rubenstein, who together are the co-rabbis of Temple Sinai. There will also be a service for the second day of Rosh Hashanah at 10 a.m. Friday, Sept. 26, at Temple Sinai, 509 Broadway, Saratoga Springs.

All the high holy day services are free and open to the public. For further information, contact Rabbi Motzkin, lmotzkin@skidmore.edu; 580-5683.

New Bikeshare Program

By Noa Maltzman



Recently, in major cities across the world, bike share programs have sprung up into the public use. People rent a bike at one rack location, pedal around for a while, and simply drop it off at any bike rack in the city. As of June, Skidmore has expanded their bike share program from last year's. Originally started in Fall 2013, bikes were checked out like library books, from the library desk. Now, individuals have a personalized pin. "Before we were relying on the library and the library hours and now people have 24 hour access to the bicycles," said sustainability coordinator Levi Rogers.

With grant funding from the Margaret Cargill Foundation, the bike share program changed. "After our [old] program became so successful, we sought funding to expand the program, both in size and functionality," said co coordinator of the program senior Emily Durante. Rogers explained that the old program was so successful that, "when we first launched that program the library kind of felt overwhelmed because all the bicycles were being taken out over and over again. So as soon as a bike came in, that same bike would leave."

So from now until November (or when the snow arrives) then starting again in late March, for any member of the Skidmore community in need of some wheels need not worry because there is a new bike program called Bikemore. "Once a user obtains a personalized PIN from the Sustainability Office, they have access to the bikes 24/7," said Durante.

"The program is open to the entire college community, so I think it's really cool to see faculty/staff biking to a lunch meeting or students biking downtown to explore Saratoga Springs," Durante said.

The new bikes came from a Rhode Island company called On Bike. Unlike the old ones, these new bikes are designed for bike share programs and are very durable. The old bikes were donated by Bikeatoga and, because used, they required lots of maintenance and repair.

Currently the only bike share rack is located outside the library. However, it is likely the bike share program will grow to include the larger Saratoga Springs community. Durante talked about how, "over the summer, the City of Saratoga Springs launched a pilot bike share program that went incredibly well, so the prospect of a city-wide bike sharing program is definitely on the horizon and Skidmore would naturally be involved."

The Realities of Form



Hand with Reflecting Sphere, M.C. Escher (1935)

Woman

Woman, bound by beauty-
Melt the silver from your wrists,
ears, fingers and instead fix
intelligence around your neck
not as an adornment or justification,
but as a symbol of your conscious independence.

&

The Name Game

Nonchalant
on the way to the bathroom he said
"we're all girls here"

He takes his testosterone
on Tuesdays; the alliteration
seems to fit the occasion.

&

A Visit to the Plastic Surgeon
for Remedios Varo

Ferdinand turned to the kindly creature
jacketed by starched white robes, its
teeth bleached perfectly to match-
with the flourish of his hand,
the pleasant golem flashed a smile
spinning his apocryphal tales of patients
that he'd personally rescued from the
tattered rags they called a life,
how with a gentle shaping of their body
he could p-pop a failed relationship
back into place, how stunning they could be
after a quick crack with a hammer
to the bridge of the nose and maybe
a little filling of facial cartilage, nothing
too violent, no, just enough scraping to shape the jaw bone-

(he mentioned of course
that he believed all his clients beautiful, naturally
before restoring them to an approximate self)

But Ferdinand wasn't listening, too busy
marveling at his attempt at perfection
proffered by those friendly tombstone teeth
and offered himself too willingly, thinking *i will be young forever*

Campus Safety Reports Sept. 5-11



Incidents of Note:

Saturday, September 6 - BIAS INCIDENT/HATE CRIME – At 12:26 AM individual stated he had filed a bias incident report on line regarding a computerized application and would like to file a report with campus safety. Report taken.

Monday, September 8 – BURGLARY – at 2:20 PM individual reported someone entered her secured office in Dana Science Center over the summer and removed items. Report issued.

Friday, September 5th 2014

- COLLEGE VIOLATION – At 12:00 AM reported gathering of students outside Sussman. Officers dispatched report of unregistered party with several violations.

- COLLEGE VIOLATION – At 12:07 AM anonymous person reported loud music at Dayton Drive. Dispatched Officers report situation corrected. Residents lowered volume.

- COLLEGE VIOLATION – At 12:38 AM Anonymous person reports a noise complaint for Dayton. Dispatched Officers report loud bass music was turned down at officer's request

- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF – At 12:58 AM Individual reports broken molecule sculpture in Palamountain by unknown person. Dispatched Officers recorded damage and issued report.

- LARCENY – At unknown time individual reported tools stolen from unsecured vehicle outside Dana Science Center. Report issued.

- MOVING VIOLATIONS – At 12:52 AM Officers report male subject driving recklessly the wrong way almost causing a head on collision in Sussman Apartment Complex. Subject warned and ticketed. Report issued.

- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY – At 3:20 AM Two suspicious males observed exiting the woods by the Chapel. Officers requested identification and the subjects ran. SSPD dispatched. Subjects under arrest warrant.

- CAMPUS SAFETY ASSIST – At 5:51 PM individual reported an off campus large gathering of students causing a neighborhood disturbance. SCSD advised.

- LARCENY – At 7:05 PM Individual reports a hubcap from vehicle in Wait Lot was stolen. Report issued.

- FIRE ALARM – At 7:02 PM Fire alarm activation in Sussman Apartments received. Maintenance, SSFD, and Officers dispatched. Activation due to cooking error. Report issued.

- FIRE ALARM – At 9:23 PM Fire alarm activation received on Whitman Way. Maintenance, SSFD, and Officers dispatched. Activation due to cooking error. Report issued.

- SUSPICIOUS ODOR – At 10:13 PM Officer reported a strong odor of natural gas. Notified SSPD and SSFD. Area shut down due to gas leak. National Grid on scene for repairs. Report issued.

Saturday, September 6th 2014

- COLLEGE VIOLATION/NOISE – At 1:23 AM individual called to report a noise complaint. Dispatched officers reported speaking with residents who agreed to clear out the apartment. No further issues.
- AUTO ACCIDENT – At 8:15 AM Sgt. Sullivan discovered grass and dirt on lower driver's side door. Door appeared to be slightly bent out from frame. Report made.
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY – At 9:40 PM Officers report suspicious activity on Perimeter Road. Officers observed three individuals with office furnishings. Report made.

Sunday, September 7 2014

- CAMPUS SAFETY ASSIST – At 2:17 AM individual requested assistance with removing an unwanted subject from her residence in Sussman Village. Officer provided assistance with no problems reported.
- COLLEGE VIOLATION – At 1:33 AM report of excessive noise on Cane Crossing. Group disbanded upon officers' arrival.
- FIRE ALARM – Activation received at 8:46 PM. Officers, maintenance and SSFD dispatched. Activation due to cooking error. Report issued.

Monday, September 8, 2014

- FALSE PERSONATION At 9:15 AM individual turned over found identification in Wiecking Hall. ID found to have false information on it. Identification turned into College administrator.
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY – At 11:14 AM Officer observed male carrying what looked like a traffic sign. Upon interview male stated he found the sign abandoned. Municipality contacted and sign was reported stolen. Report issued.
- SUSPICIOUS ODOR – At 2:45 PM Individual reported the gas line near Colton House on North Broadway was just broken. All officers, SSPD, and Fire Department dispatched. Area evacuated. Problem fixed. No injuries. Report issued.
- FIRE ALARM – At 7:40 PM Fire alarm received in Sussman Apartments. All officers, maintenance, and SSFD advised. Activation due to burned food. Report issued.

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY – At 6:52 AM individual reported two males sitting in car on North Broadway near trails. Office dispatched. Officer reports GOA.
- POSSESSION OF STOLEN PROPERTY – At 8:48 am individual requests an officer retrieve balloon stand that was taken from the front entrance of the college. Disp. Officer who reports the balloon stand was located and returned to RP. Report made.
- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF – At 11:58 AM received call stating there is a hole in the wall near the bathroom on the second floor of Jonsson Tower. Officer dispatched. Report made.
- COLLEGE VIOLATION/NOISE – At 12:27 PM individual reports loud music coming from McClellan dorm room. Dispatched Officer reports he is unable to hear any loud music in this area. Case unfounded.
- FIRE ALARM – At 1:10 PM Fire Alarm reported on Moore Way. Dispatched Maintenance, Officers and notified SSFD. Officers report alarm caused by steam from shower.

Wednesday, September 10th 2014

- DATING VIOLENCE – at 12:58 PM individual reports incident that occurred on Campus about 3 years ago. Report made.
- SKATEBOARDING ON CAMPUS – Report of subject skateboarding on hill by Perimeter Road. Officer dispatched.
- ACCIDENT /OTHER – At 8:37 PM individual reports a truck off in a ditch on North Broadway. Dispatched officers

who state that the driver has requested a tow truck. Notified Matt's. Officers report no damage to vehicle and no damage to college property.

- SUSPICIOUS ODOR – At 9:31 PM report of a suspicious odor in Kimball Hall. Officer dispatched.
- LARCENY FROM BUILDINGS – At 6:20 PM individual in office to file report of a missing speaker. Report taken.
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY – At 10:23 PM individual called to report males with alcohol. Dispatched officer who checked the area to no avail; subjects GOA.
- FIRE ALARM – At 11:20 PM activation received. Dispatched Officers, Maintenance and notified SSFD. Officers' report burnt food. SSFD advised.

Thursday, September 11 2014

- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY – At 1:33 AM received a call about two males sleeping on the second floor of Case Center by the elevator. A cab was called for the two non-community members. Report made.
- PROPERTY DAMAGE AUTO ACCIDENT – At 3:18 PM received request for an Officer to take a report of a property damage accident that occurred in North Hall a day earlier. Dispatched officer. Report made.
- LARCENY FROM BUILDINGS – At 4:15 PM received report of a bicycle stolen from Kimball Basement.
- COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE – At 11:00 PM report of a noise complain on Dayton Drive. Dispatched Officers reported speaking with residents.

Looking Critically at Skidmore's Handicap Accessibility



A rare functioning handicap button outside of Wait Hall. Chloe Kimberlin '17 / The Skidmore News

By Tara Lerman

Skidmore College has a beautiful campus located in a scenic region of Upstate New York. Its academic buildings are fairly new and relatively easy to navigate, and while the dorms are, well, dorms, they provide most students with a convenient space. The dining hall serves fresh, healthy food and creates a comfortable atmosphere for socializing. Overall, I would say Skidmore's campus is an ideal environment. But, that is probably because I am an able-bodied student.

What many of us fail to realize is that the Skidmore campus is horribly inaccessible for those students who utilize wheelchairs, crutches, or any other sort of physical aid.

For instance, the handicap button for many on-campus buildings does not work properly, which poses a problem for handicapped students trying to get to class on time. Most dorms and apartments, with the exception of Jonsson Tower, are without elevators or ramps. Now one might argue that a handicapped person could just live on the first floor. In theory, such an assumption makes sense.

However, certain dorms on campus, such as Wilmarth Hall, actually require students to walk up or down a staircase in order to simply reach the first floor. Assume that a student wants to visit his or her friend who lives on the third floor of a dorm, or attend a party in a lofted apartment. Not so simple now, is it? This poor architectural organization makes it difficult, and often impossible for students with physical disabilities to socialize the way they may wish to.

Do not get me wrong; Skidmore's treatment of students with disabilities is not all negative. In fact, when it comes to learning disabilities or disorders that affect academics, Skidmore does an excellent job accommodating students. Every professor at Skidmore is required to include in their syllabus how a student's disabilities can and will be accommodated.

The office of Student Academic Services (SAS), located on the bottom floor of Starbuck Center, provides accommodation letters, tutoring, and a quiet study environment for students. However, when it comes to getting around campus quickly and efficiently, there is certainly some more work to be done.

It is important to note that Skidmore does not have an abundance of physically handicapped students, or at least not visibly so. However, I suppose there is a reason for that. People with physical disabilities pay attention to accessibility on each campus they visit before they, like all other prospective students, decide which one best fits their needs socially and academically.

Perhaps if Skidmore were to adjust the way its campus is organized, we would be able to accommodate more students with disabilities in the student body. That way, students of all kinds will be able to thrive at Skidmore and view the college as the creative and tolerant place that it really is.

Editorial: Encouraging Transparency on Course Expenses

By the Editorial Board



Some of the required supplies for Introduction to Drawing. Henry Brefka '17

With a whopping tuition of \$59,942, including room and board, no one is fooling themselves into believing Skidmore College is inexpensive. However, tuition costs are upfront and made easily available to prospective students. The hefty fees for taking certain classes at Skidmore are not.

As part of our breadth requirement for graduation, each Skidmore student must take a class designated as an art. However, it is common knowledge among art students, and it soon becomes shockingly apparent to newcomers, that art classes entail numerous unlisted extra fees.

For an idea of just how pricy the average introductory level art class at Skidmore can get, Introduction to Drawing has cost students \$200-300 for required supplies, although the price tag can vary with the professor. These students were not made aware of the specific supplies they needed until class began. Color Theory requires about \$120 for paint and supplies, which one student reports actually using only about \$40-worth throughout the semester. Another student dropped the course because they could not afford to pay for additional supplies. Printing paper for Intro to Printmaking costs \$10 per sheet of paper, of which one student reports already having used three in just the past two weeks. Students were not made aware of the cost of printing paper unless they inquired ahead of time themselves. Jewelry and Metals 1 requires a starting kit for which students expected to pay \$90, but ended up paying \$150. Communication Design 1 students report having to spend an additional \$130 on top of the preexisting \$105 lab fee.

That being said, art is not the only discipline that springs unforeseen costs on students. Business and Organization Management (MB107) required its students to purchase an \$80 set of case studies, which they were unaware of until the second week of the semester. However, these kinds of instances are more rare.

Few of the supply costs are explicit in course descriptions and some professors withhold this information deliberately so that they can go over the specifics in class. This practice prevents students from looking online for affordable options and assumes that they will readily have the spare money to purchase their supplies.

Of course, the arts are not the only department that demands extra fees, and the Board understands that classes require additional costs. The prices aforementioned are not unreasonably high. Rather, what the Board disagrees with is the lack of price transparency for supplies required by many art classes. Textbooks, required for the majority of academic courses, often surpass art supplies in

price, but students are made aware of their classes' required reading far in advance, which gives them adequate time to compare prices. Renting a book or purchasing a used textbook is a great way to save money, but is not an option for art supplies.

It is important to note that the Board recognizes that withholding required materials from students does not hold true for all professors. Many are very conscientious about letting students know in advance what they will need to purchase. And we certainly are not accusing the professors who do not inform students of acting maliciously. But the board does ask that all professors consider the affordability of class supplies. Transparency would make required purchases much more manageable for students. Knowing the extra costs a few weeks before the first class, and ideally before even enrolling in the course, seems fair. That way, no student will be blindsided in their first week by the need to leave campus and spend hundreds of dollars of pocket money on supplies they never knew they needed.

On another note, many students report never finding a use for some of the leftover supplies that they purchased for a certain course. We would like to bring to the student body's attention the [Skidmore Swap Sale](#), an online forum in which students can exchange or sell items they no longer need. Using that forum, unused or lightly used supplies can be passed on and offer more affordable options amongst students on campus. As of now, it is underused and unpublicized. Perhaps if more students began visiting the forum, the school could work on improving its online format. The forum would also be great for the exchange of textbooks.

We do not ask for changes to the curriculum, or even for supplies to be readily available for students. But we do ask that professors keep in mind the burden of expenses they place on students and allow them the opportunity to minimize cost by informing them ahead of time what exactly it is that will be required of them.

Thoroughbred Society Athletes awarded for Spring 2014 term

By Skidmore Athletics

The Skidmore College Athletic Department celebrated 100 student-athletes recognized as members of the Thoroughbred Society on September 15, 2014 at the Williamson Sports Center.



The Thoroughbred Society was created to honor student-athletes who achieve a 3.67 GPA or higher for any given semester. The society also honors teams with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

For Spring 2014, the group of students in the Thoroughbred Society included 13 student-athletes who achieved a perfect 4.0 GPA.

The highest semester team GPA belonged to the Field Hockey Team (3.617), Women's Crew (3.517), and Riding (3.511).

Follow this link for the complete list: [Thoroughbred Society September 2014](#)

Women's soccer defeats Castleton, 4-0



By Skidmore Athletics

On Tuesday evening at Wachenheim Field, the women's soccer team came out with a 4-0 non-conference win against Castleton.

Midfielder Emily Saliterman '17 achieved her first career hat trick, along with Erin Barry '16 scoring her first goal of the season. Both Arena Manning '16 and Nicole LoRusso '17 produced assists.

12:25 into the first half, Barry '16 gave Skidmore a lead. She collected a loose ball in the midfield, and then fired a strike from 25 yards into the near post.

Saliterman '17 then extended the lead over Castleton during the 32nd minute. She received a cross from Manning '16 and shot past the Spartans goalkeeper Jessica Binkowski.

Saliterman '17 secured the win for Skidmore in the 71st minute with her goal of the game.

Deirdre Walsh '17 made three saves in goal during her first career shutout. Skidmore beat Castleton 12.7 and won a 2-1 edge in corners.

This weekend the Thoroughbreds will host Plattsburgh at 1p.m. on Saturday, September 20.

Field Hockey climbs to third



By Skidmore Athletics

In the latest Penn Monto/NFHCA Division III National Coaches Poll, the Skidmore College Field Hockey team moved up to third.

After winning back-to-back games last week, beating New Paltz 8-2 and Babson 7-1 the Thoroughbreds outscored opponents 39-6 through five games this season, and has outshot the opposition 162-33.

The Thoroughbreds rank first in the NCAA Division III in goals per game and scoring average, both at with 7.8 . They also rank third in scoring margin at 6.6 and points per game at 20.40. They rank fourth in assists per game at 4.8.

Dani DeGregory '16 leads the division in points per game at 6.4, along with goals per game at 2.6. DeGregory '16 holds a slight edge on teammate Sam Skott '15, who is second with 2.4 goals per game.

This weekend Skidmore opens the Liberty League play at RPI on Saturday, September 20 at 1 p.m.

Urban Issues: Urban Outfitters' Kent State Controversy

by Mia Merrill '18



The inflammatory blood-spattered sweatshirt Urban Outfitters designed.

If anyone knows scandals, it's the management and publicity team for Urban Outfitters. They've got it down to a science: when the time is right to release a controversial product, when to pull it off the shelves, and when to publish some sort of half-apology aimed more at their costumers' wallets than their hearts. Earlier this week, Urban Outfitters revealed a “vintage” inspired Kent State University sweatshirt in faded red with blood spots and apparent bullet holes. The sweatshirt was one-of-a-kind – there was literally only one made, but one was all it took to spread like wildfire on the web. Blogs, gossip columns, and reputable news sources alike raised their pitchforks and went after the company, which was almost certainly the reaction Urban executives wanted.

In case your high school history class didn't cover counterculture and the Vietnam War, or you've never heard the song “Ohio,” on May 4, 1970, the Ohio National Guard opened fire at a Kent State student protest. The police officers killed four students and caused another to become paralyzed. So Urban producing a red, bloodstained, tattered Kent State sweatshirt, even if it was a limited-time auction item, is unspeakably saddening and pathetic. The shooting may have been almost thirty-five years ago, but not even two years have yet passed since the Sandy Hook shooting. Remembrances of the Virginia Tech and UC Santa Barbara shootings still make our culture quake. When Urban tries to turn these tragedies into profits, they essentially say to all of their consumers who have been affected by mass shootings, “So what?”

Urban Outfitters doesn't care so much that consumers were offended by the Kent State sweatshirt though, or by the yellow T-shirt they released with a patchwork Star of David eerily similar to those that Jews were forced to wear during World War II, or by their greeting card that made use of a discriminatory gendered term known as the “t-slur,” or by their culturally appropriative designs co-opted from Navajo artwork that violated trademarks held by Navajo leaders. Urban cares that consumers are talking about these products at all.

You don't have to be a marketing expert to realize that every offensive move Urban pulls is merely a publicity stunt. It's hard enough to sell to a target group of teenagers obsessed with defining their identity as ‘hipster’ or their culture as ‘ironic,’ but throw in a barely recovering economy, and it makes sense why Urban may need a scandal to stay relevant. Whether we like it or not, and whether we shop there or not, Urban Outfitters has been on our minds this week, inching its way back into the public profile. You also don't have to be an ethical expert to know that what Urban Outfitters repeatedly does is pretty wrong.

So, what are we supposed to do about any of these controversies? The answer is simple, but nobody likes hearing it. Don't shop at Urban Outfitters. Don't shop at Free People or Anthropologie either, because all of these stores are owned and operated by the same company, Urban Outfitters, Inc. Sure, your thirty dollars here and there may not make too much of a difference in the market, but your long-term choices will. Let it be enough that Urban Outfitters always finds a way to make sure that we're thinking about them – don't let them find a way to make sure that we're the ones funding their next big scandal.

Skidmore Rumors

By Billie Kanfer '16, Features Editor

College students have a tendency to start rumors which in turn spread like wildfire. Since the semester began two weeks ago, a few rumors have surfaced. Below are some of the ones heard around campus, and whether or not they're true.

1. Moorebid is cancelled: Sadly, the beloved Moorebid has been cancelled. After speaking to SGA President, Addison Bennett '16, he informed me that the event was cancelled by a “higher” authority and that the SGA found last year's success to be great; however, others did not feel that way thus canceling the annual Halloween event. (Check back in soon for a full report on why.)

2. Fun Day is cancelled: Luckily, Fun Day is still happening! For all you who love celebrating together by the pond on a beautiful day with food and bouncy castles - you're in luck. Bennett '16 confirmed the event will still be up and running this year!

3. Campus Safety has unmarked cars: Despite the murmurs around campus regarding these “sketchy” unmarked vehicles, Dennis Conway has confirmed that there are no unmarked Campus Safety cars. Although when the Campus Safety vehicles are in the shop, they will borrow Facilities' cars.

4. Skidmore can't use CTM anymore: Word has been getting around that SkidKids can no longer use “CTM” because someone bought the acronym. Fortunately, we can all continue to use this phrase because the CTM trademark has been renewed. Andrea Wise of the Office of Communications has confirmed that we can keep on CTM-ing.



Rumors heard at Skidmore travel fast

5. Dhall is installing cameras: For all who love dhall (aka, everyone who has ever stepped foot in Murray Aikins), you will be glad to know that Mark Miller has confirmed that there are no plans to add cameras to dhall at this time.

Yakking to the Top: Interview with the Founders of Yik Yak

By Billie Kanfer '16, Features Editor



Founders, Tyler Droll and Brooks Buffington

Last week I had the pleasure of interviewing the founders of Yik-Yak, Tyler Droll and Brooks Buffington who graduated in 2013 from Furman University in South Carolina. Both Droll and Buffington were fraternity brothers who bounced ideas back and forth about an application that originated from their own college campus experience. They had realized how only a select few on campus were using Twitter and how most parody accounts were coming from a small amount of accounts and wanted to change that, allowing the entire student body to have the power to be witty. October 2013 marked the beginning of what soon became, Yik Yak which was later released in November 2013. In my interview with the founders, I discovered the reason they created Yik Yak and their hopes for the future of the app which has sky rocketed since its 2013 release.

Q: When did Yik Yak begin?

A: After we graduated in May 2013, we began working on the app in October and finally released it in November. It only took a few weeks to make; however, the hard part was making it grow and take over the college scene. At first release the app only reached two colleges, one was our own. When spring rolled around, we upped our efforts and got into the southeast and east coast schools. Spring break was when people began to talk about the app and brought it back to their own colleges. When this year began we noticed a huge explosion with new college campuses picking it up every day since the summer. Yik Yak is currently being used in over 500 colleges in the states.

Q: Who is your target demographic?

A: We definitely perceive the American college student as our target market. We want the users to be 17+, for the reason that they are more mature, and in college. Obviously our demographic lies within the college campus area in America and we believe there will be a natural spread to the Metropolitan areas such as D.C and NYC.

Q: Do you believe the anonymity of the app will promote cyber-bullying?

A: We don't feel that it will promote cyber-bullying on college campuses. It is not being used by high schools or middle schools because they are not psychologically mature enough. College kids can say a variety of things but we hope that they are good at handling their responsibility. Another way we attempted to escape the possibility of cyber-bullying is through making Yik Yak anonymous; therefore, gender, sexuality, etc. does not matter. Everyone is on a level playing field where they are judged on content and content alone.

Q: What is the mission behind Yik Yak?

A: Many people are dubbing Yik Yak to be the new Twitter. We enjoy that; however, we have a much more noble goal in mind. Yik Yak has a huge potential to make a greater impact through the "peek" feature. This aspect provides students with real time updates. When you "peek," the yaks are coming from the ground, they are much more authentic than someone on Twitter who is commenting from wherever they may be. We want to have an authentic and constant stream that is socially powerful.

Q: What makes Yik Yak unique?

A: Yik Yak is unique because of its "peek" feature. On a more campus level, everyone is equal. Yik Yak allows everyone to

participate in this social world, and no one is missing out on something witty being said. Sometimes there is a tendency for people to be shut out of a large portion of people on campus but Yik Yak allows you to connect with everyone.

Q: How will you keep the app thriving?

A: The strongest part of our application is the community it creates. Every college student will have a specific bond with the community on Yik Yak because of the location feature. From small to large campuses, there aren't many places where you can interact with everyone on campus; therefore, Yik Yak bridges that gap and brings everyone together.

	Skidmore College	Vassar	Middlebury	Colgate	Hamilton	Hobart and William Smith	St. Lawrence	Union	
Yak Sent	203	29	NA	377	232	377	492	29	9/10/2014
Yak Votes	956	29	NA	1651	2433	2838	3910	725	9/10/2014
Reply Sent	29	0	NA	58	37	58	87	58	9/10/2014
Reply Votes	261	0	NA	637	956	579	927	203	9/10/2014
Yakactivity	1449	58	NA	2723	3658	3852	5416	1015	9/10/2014
Total Yaks Ever	568	NA	NA	2,841	9,092	3,978	6,819	17,615	
Active Users	869	87	145	1,535	2,273	782	1,216	579	9/10/2014

Comparison of the usage of Yik Yak on college campuses

Q: What are your future hopes for Yik Yak?

A: It would be awesome to be used on every college campus in the states. We would also love to be the #1 app in an area when you arrive in a new location. We want Yik Yak to be used for entertainment but also as a database for people to know where the best place to eat is, etc. It is the best way to connect to everyone that might be a stranger around you. We also hope to generate lots of open discussion, a forum for people to talk and converse constantly.

Club Profile: Fight Club

Today, Co-President Julia Diamond '15 broke the first rule of Fight Club to discuss its work with The Skidmore News

Q) In a nutshell, what is your club?

A) We are a peer mediation group. In our general meetings we teach basic skills that pertain to mediation such as listening and the proper techniques. Anyone is welcome at these meetings. However, we also have a team of trained mediators who are certified by both Skidmore and the state of New York. When people have a conflict with another person or group of people, they may come in and we'll work with them in a productive fashion. Too often people just go back and forth and they get nowhere.

Q) Can you elaborate on conflict mediation?

A) Certainly, there are two kinds of mediation, group mediation and one-on-one. Most people seem to be more comfortable with the latter. We'll talk with them and try to root out the seed of the issue. From there, we'll often make a plan for how they can deal with the person they're having an issue with in a productive manner which will hopefully resolve the issue. One person I was working with went off and followed that plan, and he gave me feedback, telling me how much better he felt. We're open to the community and encourage students to come to us when they're fighting with their roommate, their friends, or when their friends are fighting with each other. We're confidential, and people can always choose their mediators. We really want to encourage people to use us as a resource.

Q) I think a lot of students might be uncomfortable coming to students with their problems, despite qualifications. How would you respond to that?

A) Well, as I said, we go through a lot of training to become certified, but a lot of the issues we want people to come to us for are roommate/ housemate problems. As students, I think we are better able to empathize and understand the problems at hand compared to older, more experienced mediators. As students we understand other students' needs. I'd also say that you shouldn't knock it until you try it.

Q) I think the other issue students might have is that the people they'd be sharing intimate details with are people they'd see around campus. Do you see that as a potential problem?

A) We are sworn to secrecy, we don't talk about it to anyone or amongst ourselves. We won't even talk about it to the students involved outside of the office. We have different hats, if you will. If we see the involved students outside of class, we'll smile, but say nothing more. There are a lot of mediators and chances are, there will be many you don't even know. I'm not even too familiar with some of the mediators. If you don't wish to speak to someone you know or might see often, there's definitely someone who will fit that description. We don't want people seeing us and thinking that we're judging them, because we're not. After the meeting or meetings we'll avoid talking about it because it's done, it's over for us. But if people ever want to return we're very open to that, and glad to hear feedback.

Q) What do you normally do at club meetings?

A) We do a lot of basic training on mediation. We hold workshops that teach people how to de-stress. We'll look at film clips such as, *The Breakup* and try to determine the central problem that's causing the conflict. It's a lot of fun but also a great lesson. We may also try to get a speaker, perhaps from the mediation group down-town, Mediation Matters. Speaking of which, we have a great relationship with the group and they produce tons of opportunities and internships for our mediators, who will be able to sit on real court cases and sometimes even mediate between groups along with an experienced mediator.

Q) Do you host campus events?

A) We have a whole week of events in mid-October called, Fight Week. The most notable of these events includes the "giving-thanks" cards. You'll see us set up in the Atrium, where you can fill out these cards for others and have them sent to their mailboxes. We're also going to try to do a pumpkin carving as a stress-release event; there'll hopefully be a capella groups performing and it'll be a great way to relax. There are plans for more events, too, but at the moments it's all tentative.

Make sure to keep an eye out for Fight Week, and if you're interested in joining Fight Club, meetings are Wednesdays from 9-10 p.m. in the ICC. Fight Club holds open-office hours for those interested in mediation from 2-6 p.m. on Sundays in the office of

Campus Life on the third floor of Case Center.



Fight Club set-up in the Atrium

Jamaica Kincaid to present Skidmore's Steloff Lecture Oct. 2



Jamaica Kincaid will present the annual Frances Steloff Lecture/Reading at Skidmore College Thursday, Oct. 2

Jamaica Kincaid will present "The Writer in Her World," the annual Frances Steloff Lecture/Reading at Skidmore College Thursday, Oct. 2, at 8 p.m. in Gannett Auditorium, Palamountain Hall. Admission is free and open to the public.

She will receive an honorary doctorate of letters from Skidmore President Phillip Glotzbach. Following her presentation she will respond to audience questions and participate in a book signing.

Author of a wide range of books, including novels, memoirs and polemical works, Kincaid is perhaps best known for *Annie John*, *Lucy*, *At the Bottom of the River*, *Autobiography of My Mother*, *Mr. Potter* and *A Small Place*. Her most recent book, *See Now Then*, has stirred considerable controversy, turning as it does on a disastrous marital break-up, which is said to resemble very closely the demise of Kincaid's own long-time marriage to the son of New Yorker editor William Shawn.

A native of Antigua in the West Indies, she was discovered by the *New Yorker* magazine as a very young woman and rapidly came to fame as the author of "Talk of the Town" pieces published in that magazine.

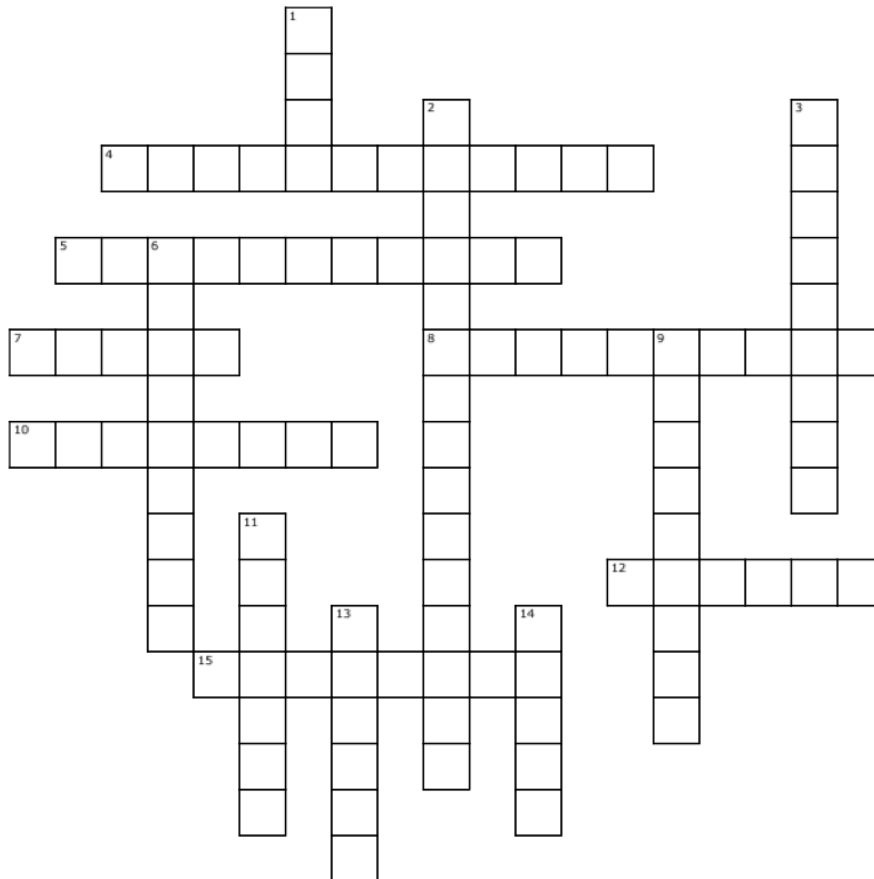
Kincaid has written on several occasions that she feels it to be her "duty to make everyone a little less happy," and there is no doubt that she has been true to her self-assigned vocation in books and in her public appearances across the country. *See Now Then*, for example, was said by the reviewer for *The New York Times Book Review* to "endow common experience with a mythic ferocity" and a "scouringly vivid" prose. The reviewer for *The Chicago Tribune* described it as "Chaucer's Wife of Bath meets Virginia Woolf," while *Ms. Magazine* described it as "a hurricane of a book, a novel of psychic bewilderment" which bears upon "the permanent legacy of slavery and colonialism" reflected upon with "frequent savage humor" and "unabashed rage."

Kincaid is a professor at Harvard University and a long-time visiting writer each July at Skidmore's New York State Summer Writers Institute.

The annual Steloff Lecture is named for the legendary founder of New York City's Gotham Book Mart. Steloff was a Saratoga native who endowed the lecture series nearly 50 years ago, and is therefore responsible for Skidmore's bringing to campus many of the world's greatest writers, from Nadine Gordimer, Saul Bellow, and Seamus Heaney to Susan Sontag, Arthur Miller, and Zadie Smith.

Crossword: Time

Time



Across

4. A theory of knowledge; the investigation of what distinguishes justified belief from opinion
5. Entering in the midst of things
7. "the beginning of a distinctive period in the history of someone or something"
8. Stems from the Greek hupostasis, meaning "understanding"
10. Theory regarding the cause and effect nature of time developed by Einstein, also occurs in eyes
12. Greek Titan
15. The 1999 Michael Crichton book

Down

1. 18th century German philosopher
2. Where time is located
3. The demarcation of a fourteen day timespan
6. Quantum
9. An 8-cell or regular octachoron or cubic prism
11. The Gregorian calendar is based around this solar alignment
13. The international measure of time
14. Greek word for "purpose" or "goal"

New Smoking Policy



Waiting for a participant by Jacob Reiskin

By Noa Maltzman

This year Skidmore welcomed a new smoking policy. The policy restricts smokers to certain designated areas on campus. Specifically, the interior of the main campus—including the tables outside the Burgess Café—has been declared “smoke free.”

Listed on the Skidmore College website, the smoking policy explains that the purpose behind this new development is “to limit the potential exposure of students, faculty, staff and visitors to the effects of second-hand smoke, reduce the risk of fires on campus and provide the community with a healthy, respectful working and learning environment.”

This year's academic handbook gets into thick details regarding the smoking policy, unlike in the 2013-2014 handbook, which merely stated, “in compliance with New York State law, smoking is prohibited in all indoor areas of the College, including dining halls and the Spa. In addition, all residence halls and apartments are smoke-free buildings. Cigarettes are not sold on the College campus.”

No one is allowed to smoke indoors on campus, including residence halls and the dining hall. Nor is smoking permitted in college-owned vehicles, within 25 feet of a campus facility or in the designated smoke free areas. The interior of the college along the quad is one of the major smoke free areas. All college events are non-smoking and no smoking areas are provided.

Overall, the student reactions have been varied. The Skidmore News posed an online survey to the Skidmore community asking, “this semester, the College rolled out a new smoking policy that prohibits smoking in certain areas around campus. Do you support the new smoking policy?” The results showed in favor of the new policy. However it's important to point out that the poll contained a mere 20 participants (16 in favor of new restrictions with only 4 counts against).

A few students— who asked to remain anonymous—were smoking outside the library on Tuesday, the 16th. Students have been spotted smoking in other smoke-free areas as well.

Dean of Students and Vice President for Student Affairs, Rochelle Calhoun, said simply, “we expect our students to follow the

Rules” (in regards to the new smoking policy). For those not sharing Calhoun's enthusiasm for policy respect, the new smoking policy details the consequences for those who choose not to comply. Consequences vary depending on your connection to the campus. For example, a faculty or staff employee of the college should know that, “violations of this policy will be addressed through educational and corrective measures as outlined in Human Resources policies and procedures.” As a student, you'll be sent to the integrity board. Lastly, visitors refusing to comply with the policy may be removed from the building, the event they are attending, or from the campus and may not be readmitted.

Smokers who wish to quit smoking should seek the assistance the college has made available. “We have additional services in place to help people stop smoking,” said President Glotzbach. On the Skidmore College website under the listed smoking policy, you'll find resources from the NYS Smoker's Quitline, Glen's Falls Hospital, Employee Assistance Program, and Community Health Centers for those seeking to quit. On campus, Health Services can provide counseling, and even prescription medicine for more drastic cases.

The College plans to reevaluate the smoking policy in spring of 2017, and hope that by the fall of 2017 the campus will be completely smoke free.

Blurbs Overheard



Just a few blurbs overheard

“I’m just being gender normative. You should try it sometime.” - Overheard in Palamountain

“Books are the superior form of technology.” -Overheard in the English Department

“I believe we write for the dead.” - Overheard in Palamountain

“Mom...that’s not punk rock.” -Overheard off campus

“I’ll release the bees, bitch.” -Overheard on perimeter road

The Blue Side: A Congressional Capitulation Sets a Dangerous Precedent

This week, The Skidmore News introduces a new opinion column: Politimore. We've recruited four writers, two liberal and two conservative, to take turns writing on some of the big political issues of the week. The liberal column, The Blue Side, begins with our columnist's thoughts on Obama's approach to ISIS.

By Jeremy Ritter-Wiseman, Columnist



When both houses of Congress [passed](#) a spending bill last week that approved the training and arming of Syrian opposition forces, it potentially set a dangerous precedent for the war powers of the executive. In his speech to the nation last week, President Obama asserted that he has the [authority](#) to address the ISIS (Islamic State, ISIL, pick your poison) threat without congressional approval, but asked for support as he feels “we are strongest as a nation when the president and Congress work together.” The bills were expeditiously passed with bipartisan support, granting Obama's wish. The legislation, however, only approved the training and arming of Syrian opposition forces; failing to address the President's claim that he could act independently.

Obama's legal recourse for extra-congressional action is grounded in 2001 and 2002 [congressional approval](#) authorizing force to pursue Al Qaeda and to invade Iraq following 9/11. To many experts, this is an extraordinary assertion as the President is justifying potential military ventures with legislation passed over a decade ago in different circumstances. In preparation for the congressional vote, the administration has characterized ISIS as tantamount to Al Qaeda, as if to assure that the prior authorizations are still relevant. In the administration's eyes, the threat posed by ISIS rivals that of Al Qaeda and Iraq in the early 2000s. Thus, authorizations from the beginning of the Iraq War should extend to cover the current military intervention.

Without congressional authorization, war powers of the president are largely limited to the ability to repel sudden attacks or direct threats to the nation (shout out to Ronald Seyb). Without a clear threat to national security, the president cannot act without congressional approval. Although Obama has received authorization to train and arm Syrian rebels, congressional silence on his claim to be able to act without new authorization could be interpreted as [tacit approval](#); congressional inaction has been used as legal justification for presidential action in the past. This opens the constitutional floodgates for future executive military action and leaves the door open for Obama to escalate at will.

Congress's silence on the issue could have consequences in the near future as the U.S. readies itself for yet another military operation poised for escalation. First, Obama has conveyed his readiness to [conduct airstrikes](#) against ISIS in Syria, which would represent a direct military intervention into a sovereign nation's civil war—a daunting realization. Second, military “advisers” have already [been sent](#) to Iraq and are advising the Iraqi military in different capacities. However, the line between being an “adviser” and “combat troop” is becoming increasingly muddled. Finally, and perhaps most resonant, is the recent testimony from Obama's top military adviser, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Martin Dempsey. Testifying in front of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Dempsey noted that if the current strategy failed in eliminating ISIS, he would recommend [combat troops](#) by deployed to address the situation. Following weeks of a broken-record Obama constantly reassuring the American public that no U.S. combat troops would be committed to another engagement in Iraq, this recent revelation by the country's

senior-most military adviser is disconcerting. Although Obama wasted no time in once again reaffirming his promise to not send U.S. troops, the apparent convulsion within the administration exhibits neither confidence nor coherence in the struggle to eliminate ISIS. Despite Obama's assurances, such testimony from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs carries great weight.

There is clearly a need to address the crisis plaguing the Levant, and there is currently no reason to believe the President plans on breaking his promise of no "boots on the ground." However, there is undoubtedly a long road ahead in confronting ISIS, and the possibility for some window of escalation seems likely. Therefore it is imperative that before acting without congressional approval, the administration reports that ISIS presents a direct national security threat and cites updated justifications that do not rely on twelve-year-old legislation as evidence. If this is not realized and Obama exploits the recent congressional capitulation of war powers, it could set a dangerous precedent for future administrations.

The authorization to train and arm Syrian opposition forces runs out in December, opening up room for further deliberation. Upon that date, Congress must take up the issue of the early 2000s authorizations being used as legal justification for independent executive action. In its place, a new authorization must be developed that outlines the scope of the Commander-In-Chief's options in addressing ISIS, and closes the door on ambiguously justified unilateral war powers.

Update: The U.S. [announced on Tuesday](#) that airstrikes were carried out against Sunni militants in Syria in conjunction with several other nations.

The sound of race, gender, and authenticity to ring out Oct. 2 at Skidmore's Zankel Music Center

By Shelley Curran, managing director; Andrea Wise, director of media relations



Maureen Mahon will deliver a lecture titled “And the Colored Girls Go: African American Women Vocalists and the Sound of Race, Gender, and Authenticity in Rock and Roll” at 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2, in the Arthur Zankel Music Center on the Skidmore College campus. The talk is the latest in Skidmore's Tsou Music Scholar Series.

Mahon, a professor at New York University, is a cultural anthropologist who studies African American music and culture; the construction and performance of race and gender in music; and the relationship between race, class, generation, and culture. She is the author of a book called *Right to Rock: The Black Rock Coalition and the Cultural Politics of Race* (Duke University Press, 2004), and has published articles in *American Ethnologist*; *Journal of Popular Music Studies*; *Women and Music: A Journal of Gender and Culture*; and *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture, and Society*. Mahon's many fellowships include a 2013-14 National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship.

The lecture will focus on the experiences and musical style of African American women including P.P. Arnold, Ava Cherry, Merry Clayton, Venetta Fields, Gloria Jones, Clydie King, Claudia Lennear, and Doris Troy. In the late 1960s and 1970s these artists collaborated with such musicians as David Bowie, Bob Dylan, Elton John, and the Rolling Stones. Mahon will demonstrate how the African American women helped create the “authentic” sound sought by the white artists with whom they worked. She hopes to highlight the intersection of race, gender, and authenticity in the music of the classic rock era and draw attention to “an under acknowledged aspect of black women's cultural production.”

Judy Tsou, a member of Skidmore's Class of 1975, established the Tsou Music Scholar Series to provide both formal and informal interaction of music students with prominent music scholars. The series is designed to extend Skidmore students' musical education and to provide an introduction to prominent scholars and their work.

Admission for the Thursday, Oct. 2, event is free and open to the public, but tickets are required. For advance reservations or more information, visit www.skidmore.edu/zankel or call the Zankel Box Office at (518)-580-5321. The Zankel Music Center is wheelchair accessible and offers listening devices for the hearing impaired.

Flutist Amy Porter to perform Oct. 11 at Skidmore's Arthur Zankel Music Center



By Shelley Curran, managing director; Andrea Wise, director of media relations

American flutist Amy Porter will perform with pianist Katie Leung at 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, at the Arthur Zankel Music Center on the Skidmore College campus.

A professor at the University of Michigan, Porter received the Henry Russel Award for “distinguished scholarship and conspicuous ability as a teacher.” She is a graduate of the Juilliard School, where she worked closely with Samuel Baron and Jeanne Baxtresser. She also studied with Alain Marion and Peter-Lukas Graf in Austria.

She has educated many musicians with her series of publications, as a master teacher for the MPULSE Summer Institute for advanced high school students at the University of Michigan, and as the past president of the non-profit Southeast Michigan Flute Association. In addition, Porter has taught numerous master classes around the world including Sweden, France, Slovenia, Brazil, Luxembourg, Japan, and Taiwan.

Porter's concerts have earned acclaim. The New York Times has called her “technically robust and musically forceful.” She has recorded with CBS Masterworks, Boston Records, Equilibrium, and ACA Digital labels, and has won more international competitions than any American flute soloist.

Katie Leung, a two-time winner of the Lillian Fuchs Chamber Music Competition, will accompany Porter in this performance. With a B.A. from the University of Michigan and a master's degree from the Manhattan School of Music, Leung has performed in the Akademiekonzert at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria, and at the Hot Springs Music Festival in Arkansas. She has performed many times in both a solo and accompanist roles.

Admission for the Thursday, Oct. 11, event is \$8 adults, \$5 seniors, retirees, faculty, and staff, and free for students. For advance reservations or more information, visit www.skidmore.edu/zankel or call the Zankel Box Office at (518)-580-5321. The Zankel Music Center is wheelchair accessible and offers listening devices for the hearing impaired.

President Glotzbach and SGA President Addison Bennett address issues at Skidmore College

By Jessica Kong '16, Staff Writer



President Philip A. Glotzbach and SGA President Addison Bennett '16 spoke to the most pressing issues on campus, including sexual assault, discrimination and student wages, on Friday Sept. 19 at the Arthur Zankel Music Center, in the first annual State of the College Address. Anticipation from student and faculty alike was palpable as Dean of Students and Vice President for Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun introduced Glotzbach and Bennett to begin the State of the College Address.

Bennett acknowledged he is empowered to speak on behalf of the student body, but asked us all to become more involved in the community decision-making process. "All of us, not just student representatives, have a role. Without the participation of the student body, representatives cannot effectively do their jobs and Skidmore will not be able to make meaningful change to move towards the ideals our community holds."

One of the most important points brought up by Bennett was the issue of alienation and exclusion, which has been a recent movement in our community, taking form in projects like I, Too Am Skidmore and last semester's theatre production entitled On The Record.

The consequential and newly minted SGA Inclusion Task Force is working hard to reach out to those who feel like they cannot actively participate in the community. Two new methods have been set to promote inclusion: the Student Activity Financial Aid Fund, which covers extra club event costs of individuals that may be excluded by financial shortcomings. The second is the Student Opinion Polling, which would allow students to express popular opinion in a concrete and influential manner.

Bennett next began on sexual assault, a disturbing matter for this community and an ongoing national issue. Particularly, this issue resonates after the exposed sexual assault incident involving a Campus Safety officer over the summer. "I know I speak for many students when I say I am disappointed by the months-long delay in notifying the community of the recent arrest on sexual assault charges of a Skidmore employee. I appreciate the delicacy of the personnel-side of the situation, and I am glad that swift, proactive action was taken against this person; however, the fact that many students learned about this breach of trust through rumors, social media, or the news is disturbing. We had every right to be scared and disappointed this summer. In this case, communication clearly fell short."

However, according to Bennett, the problem goes far beyond one previous Campus Safety Officer. President Obama's "It's On Us" campaign has been brought to Skidmore, and the message promulgates raising awareness for effective consent and fostering an attitude of zero tolerance toward sexual assault. In regards to the movement, Bennett said, "for SGA's part, we have committed ourselves this year to fighting the causes of sexual assault and standing up for survivors."

Bennett also addressed the matter of on-campus student wages, which are under the New York minimum but legal due to the College's not-for-profit status. He requested for the school to respect the quality of work put in by student workers, as well as their financial needs. "I was disappointed last year by the lack of progress in raising the minimum wage for student workers on campus, despite the New York State law that raised the minimum wage to \$8 per hour. I join many students in feeling that the school should pay us a wage commensurate to our work and the legally established cost of living in this state, even if it is not required due to Skidmore's non-profit status."

As a final point, Bennett emphasized the need for unity and active participation in the community: "One Skidmore," an embrative byword that recognizes differences in opinion directed in an overarching sentiment of community betterment. He signed off with a tip-of-the-hat to social responsibility: "any student can become a leader." Though "taking action" was a commonly phrased, no clear actions were outlined.

Glotzbach converged with Bennett's agenda. "It is important that we pull in the same direction if we're going to get anything serious done. We are making a concerted effort this year to enhance communication in all kinds of ways across campus." As part of this effort Glotzbach announced that the number of community meetings was increased to once a month, and he established office hours during which anyone can meet with him.

Glotzbach revealed the fiscal year of 2014 concluded with a balanced budget. The current endowment is \$340 million, which externally validates the stability of the institution. Moody's issued a stable outlook for Skidmore College this year, an exception to the often negative outlook of higher education in general.

Glotzbach next talked about the robust student body. The class of 2018 was picked from a pool of 8,700 applicants. Of those accepted and attending, 22% are domestic students of color and 10% are international students. The financial aid budget has been increased to \$42 million. 42% of students receive financial aid; of those that do, 90% is need based. 100 Thoroughbred athletes were recognized for maintaining a GPA of 3.67 or higher this past spring.

The President happily announced that 32% of our electricity now comes from renewable resources. 40% of campus is powered by geothermal energy. This past August, Skidmore hosted the NY EXCEL Cleantech boot camp (<http://www.skidmore.edu/nyexcel/about.php>), during which environmentally-friendly entrepreneurs learned about the most up-to-date business models and strategies that integrate people, profit and planet. Glotzbach spoke highly of the new program. "We saw the introduction of...NY Excel, which is a program to train executives in new business opportunities in renewable energy and energy efficiency."

Answering Bennett's concern for student wages, Glotzbach stated that the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee will begin to review the student minimum wage. "We are looking very seriously at the question of minimum wage. The IPPC will pick that up and I expect to see some movement on that this year."

Academic affairs are prosperous and growing rapidly. The plans (<http://www.payette.com/project/2331088-center-for-integrated-sciences>.) for the Center of Integrated Sciences have been completed. This 100,000 square foot building will stand behind the Dana Science Center, and construction should begin in the near future.

Although the college campus is alive and well, Glotzbach reminded us that there is always room for improvement. "In student affairs, the focus is creating a community of care and responsibility," he added. "We are all adults. Who decides what we believe? Who decides what we think? Who decides the nature of our social reality? We do." President Glotzbach assured that "we are in this together."

Editorial: Enforcing the Smoking Ban

By the Editorial Board



Time to put it out

This semester, Skidmore instituted [a new smoking policy](#) on campus. The new policy bans smoking in the campus interior, within Perimeter Road. The Editorial Board appreciates this new policy and its implementation method, and urges the student body to honor the new rule.

Students agree that the ban has made a tangible difference on campus. The air looks and feels cleaner. Parts of the campus, especially Case patio and outside of Bolton are no longer palls of smoke. Students voice appreciation for being able to exit buildings without encountering a cloud of cigarette smoke. The Editorial Board appreciates the steps the administration has taken towards creating a cleaner campus environment.

Perhaps the most questionable aspect of the new policy is the community [self-policing](#) that will be the only method of enforcement for the foreseeable future. Rather than employing Campus Safety to patrol campus, looking to stop students from smoking and writing up offenders, the policymakers opted to trust the student body to enforce the ban.

This is a bold and potentially risky move and, most importantly, it allows the student body to dictate the rate and nature of our uptake of the ban. The Editorial Board supports this approach to policy enforcing and is confident that it will be effective, although probably won't completely stop smoking in prohibited areas. Had Campus Safety come out in force within the first few weeks of school, yanking cigarettes out of students' mouths on Case patio and stopping smoking students on their way to class, there no doubt would have been a strong backlash against the ban. Students do not take well to being told what to do, regardless of whether they agree with the direction or not. By allowing the student body to acclimate to the policy on our own time, the administration ensures a far more positive end result.

What does self-policing entail? It can be walking up to someone to tell them to stop smoking, but we believe that self-policing is more effective in smaller, day-to-day actions. It is a student turning down the offer to smoke from their friend, on Case or walking to class. It is students opting, night by night, to not take a cigarette break outside the library, instead waiting until they cross Perimeter Road as they walk back to their apartments. The decision to sincerely adopt this new policy comes from a place of respect, especially for upperclassman who have spent the past two or three years smoking wherever they please. We choose to live, study and play in this community, and the rules of the community have changed. And it is not as if this new policy was foisted upon us against our will. The policy, which originated in the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee, was proposed by a group of students,

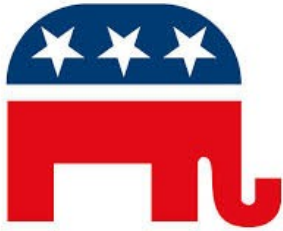
although the administration was simultaneously, but independently looking into the same manner. However, to truly legitimize the policy, it may have been in the interest of the administration, though SGA, to hold a referendum on the matter, although it was thoughtful to also send out surveys to garner student opinion.

The transition may be bumpy at first, but as the older classes graduate, smoking will cease to be an integral part of the Skidmore scene. Incoming freshmen classes will see less smoking around campus and, thus, fewer new students will pick up or increase the habit. In 2017, when the College revisits the policy, and likely rolls out a more comprehensive ban, the hope is that the student body will be prepared for such measures. To get to that point, though, everyone: upperclassmen, new students, staff and faculty must commit to considering others and the lasting effect on the health of future students that they can have. It is up to the current upperclassmen to choose respect for our community over immediate comfort and habit, time after time.

The Red Side: Reap What You Sow: The Return to Iraq on the Back of Obama's Failed Foreign Policy

This week, The Skidmore News introduces a new opinion column: Politimore. We've recruited four writers, two liberal and two conservative, to take turns writing on some of the big political issues of the week. The conservative column, The Red Side, begins with our columnist's thoughts on Obama's foreign policy and American's return to Iraq to battle ISIS.

By Billy Kristol, Columnist



I have an eerie sense of déjà vu. Now, in the year 2014, America finds itself threatened again by an Islamic terrorist group that seems to grow stronger and more menacing by the day. The general American population is urging our leaders to use force to quell this Middle-Eastern threat by any means necessary. The threat is borderless, powerful, and if we do nothing, we risk the possibility of this threat coming into our backyards.

President Obama landed himself in the White House on the promise that he would withdraw our troops from foreign conflicts that the American people were tired of hearing about and tired of supporting. The cause had been forgotten, and eight long years of war in Iraq, more in the Middle East as a whole, had drained us of our idealism. A timeline was proposed for total withdrawal from Iraq, and although the mission in Afghanistan was accelerated, it too would have a definite end date. We dug up and destabilized the region, and now it was time to see ourselves out.

I would like to turn the reader's attention to a little-recognized speech made by President Bush in 2007 which has been making the rounds on conservative news agencies in the past month. In it he says, "Withdrawal [from Iraq] would have emboldened these radicals and extremists. It would have confirmed their belief that our nations were weak. It would help them gain new recruits, new resources....Withdrawal would have increased the probability that coalition forces would be forced to return to Iraq one day, and confront an enemy that is even more dangerous."

But by 2007, Americans had stopped listening to President Bush. They were exhausted with war, and this young, uncorrupted politician by the name of Barack Obama promised them change. He promised them an end to conflict without understanding the consequences of that premature declaration. Our enemies grew headstrong with the idea that we would leave them to fester in the hot desert sands and allow them to become something more powerful, more dangerous, and more evil.

By withdrawing from Iraq, President Obama created a vacuum of power in the Middle East, and ISIS was there to fill that vacuum. He has been lying to the American people about the true strength of ISIS. Just in January, only seven months before ISIS demanded America's attention by beheading two of its citizens, Obama called ISIS "jayvee" terrorists. But a little research shows that ISIS now has more man power, more money, and more control over Iraq and Syria than Al-Qaida ever dreamed of having.

ISIS is the natural reaction to Obama's weak foreign policy regarding the Middle East. Retired military officials, including ex-Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, have criticized Obama's lack of follow-through when it comes to Iraq. Regardless of how

Americans felt about the war, it did not change the fact that we started it. One nation cannot declare war on another, completely destabilize it, and then leave without having accomplished anything of value. We needed more time in Iraq to ensure that a group like ISIS could not take advantage of the mess we created. We did not have that extra, time, and here we are.

This writer fears that we are witnessing the beginning of a new war which will require the use of American soldiers who want nothing less than to be shipped overseas again. Our early withdrawal from Iraq and Afghanistan only gave us a small dose of calm, but the deaths of James Foley and Steven Sotloff have signaled the end of that calm. I hope that our limited airstrikes can destroy ISIS, but it took a full-scale ground invasion to push back Al-Qaeda. We now face a much greater threat, and we are not doing enough to stop it.

Your Brain on Meditation



Meditating on the green

By Brittany Dingler, '15, Peer Health Educator

Generally, meditation is a mindfulness-based practice in which an individual sits quietly, focuses on breathing, and tries to clear their mind of any distracting thoughts or worries. Some meditators even choose to supplement their meditation practice with repeated mantras (think “ohmmm...”) or visualization (“imagine you're a stick, floating down the river of zen”). Though often viewed as a wacky, spiritual practice reserved only for yogis, hippies, and monks, meditation is a critical tool that has recently gained more support as a source of daily restoration for CEOs and doctors as well as an effective, supplemental treatment for chronic mental and physical diseases. For now, however, let's just take a moment to focus on meditation as a tool for combating the everyday stress and anxiety of college life.

When in a situation known to induce cortisol-driving symptoms, such as sitting down to start your homework in the evening or preparing for a big presentation, taking a few minutes to meditate allows you to tackle stress *mindfully*. This mindful approach involves taking a minute to sit, close your eyes, and focus on your breathing rather than how many Organic Chemistry problems you have. As you focus on your breathing, your respiratory rate and pulse rate should start to decrease, thereby allowing you to override many of the cortisol-driven symptoms of stress experienced just minutes before. Additionally, you are more likely to have an increased level of attention and concentration – helpful, right?

The long-term effects of meditation are also worth noting. For example, in *Health Psychology* (2012), Shelley E. Taylor argues that meditation has been shown to outcompete other, unhealthy stress behaviors we might typically resort to, such as over-eating, self-medicating with marijuana or alcohol, or general avoidance of the stress-inducing situations. Furthermore, Grant and Rainville (2009) found that meditation and other mindfulness strategies can help with pain and may even offer some analgesic effects.

So how does this work? How do a few minutes of sitting quietly and breathing create such profound physiological and psychological changes? For these answers, we must turn to neuroscience – specifically, the principles of neuroplasticity. Neuroplasticity is the phenomenon in which our brain anatomy moves around gray matter and synaptic connections in order to facilitate certain, repeated habits (such as juggling and playing the ukulele) or to regain lost functions from a traumatic brain injury. Meditation also shows neuroplasticity. For example, in 2011, Hölzel, Lazar, et al. found that an eight-week meditation program, in which participants meditated for only 30 minutes each day, lead to increased gray matter in the left hippocampus (the center for learning and memory), the temporo-parietal junction (activated during arguing, empathy, and compassion), and a decrease in gray matter in the amygdala (a small region responsible for perceiving threats and stress). In other words, the pre-frontal areas targeted during meditation overlap with those that provide the functions necessary to being productive, happy college students.

Restaurant Review: Char Koon



Sample dish at Char Koon restaurant

By Janine Kritschgau '18 and Erin Silgado '18, Contributing Writers

If offbeat is your style, you have to pay a visit to Char Koon. Sandwiched in between ‘The Circus Café’ and another shop sits a little Thai and Chinese combo restaurant that most would miss if they were not looking for it. Eating at Char Koon is somewhat of a bizarre experience. Upon entering, the first thing you'll notice is the offbeat décor—scratched floors, teal and pink booths, horse posters, and some sort of sparkly candy cane hanging on the back wall.

Although the atmosphere is nothing short of unique, the menu looks familiar. Variations of lo mein, fried rices, wonton soups, and dumplings are offered: the essentials in any American Chinese restaurant. There is a bit of something for everyone here, including extensive vegetarian options and a few spicy dishes for the adventurous eaters out there. In the interest of appealing to the masses, we tested popular items.

The vegetable lo mein is satisfactory. Not too salty, with a good noodle to veggie ratio. Served piping hot, this dish won't disappoint. But maybe it would take more than a good heap of noodles to make you a believer. Enter the steamed dumplings, which are exceptional. These pockets of perfection are accompanied with a kick of something a little different—a soy sauce infused with some mysterious herbs and spices. What makes this appetizer even better is the large serving (eight dumplings for \$5.50). The total damage for this enormous serving of Chinese food? A mere \$15.05.

As for the Thai menu, the shrimp in the Pad Thai was pink and tasted like it had just been caught while the noodles were mixed with the peanuts and coriander which gave an unusual but fresh taste to the food. The spring rolls were crispy, although a tad oily. Still, the array of vegetables and thin, clear noodles mixed in together made the rolls worthwhile. In the end, the Pad Thai and spring roll combo was just under \$20.

If you are intrigued by the delicacies of this establishment but are not interested in the funky atmosphere, or simply aren't up for the walk, Char Koon even delivers!

Club Profile: J Street U



J Street U's Logo

By Billie Kanfer '16, Features Editor

Noam Yossefy was kind enough to talk to The Skidmore News about being the President of J Street U's Skidmore chapter.

J Street U at Skidmore is a student-led advocacy club that organizes school-wide educational discussions, leadership workshops and supports a two-state solution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Nearly two years ago, a handful of (predominantly Jewish) students realized that there was not a proper forum for discussing the ongoing conflict and addressing its emotional impact on Skidmore students.

I am the co-founder and president of J Street U at Skidmore this year, but the club is always looking for new board members interested in advocating for a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

J Street U is still a new club at Skidmore, but our ultimate goal is to serve the campus as a reliable source of information regarding the conflict. We've collaborated with several clubs, including Hillel, Hayat, Interfaith Council, and International Student Union, and have been sponsored by the Government and International Affairs departments and the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life. Although the organization is mainly directed towards American Jews, it is our goal that the club will attract a more diverse pool of students who want to discuss current events or conduct informal debates and discussions.

Although we are a young club, we've helped bring speakers and expert panels from the region to the Skidmore campus and have held student and professor-led educational programs about the logistical aspects of the two-state solution and Secretary Kerry's 9-month plan. This semester, we are presenting the Skidmore community with excellent resources, including a debrief of this summer's unfortunate events and first-hand accounts from activists on both sides.

To hear more about our upcoming events or get involved, check out J Street at Skidmore on Facebook or e-mail nyossefy@skidmore.edu.

You're Majoring in WHAT?!



Skidmore offers 48 different majors. Is any one of them really more valuable than another? Meredith Simonds / The Skidmore News

By Tara Lerman

“It’s an interesting major, but I don’t know what you’re going to do with it,” is the response I received from my doctor when I told him that I am an English major.

Had I been on top of my game that day, I would have informed him that I am actually interested in going into journalism, and that many English majors go into the fields of publishing, education, and even politics. Instead, I just smiled and laughed awkwardly at his ignorant remark.

This doctor’s reaction to my choice of study is one that I have heard many times before. We at Skidmore attend a college that has established a widespread acceptance for a variety of different majors. For example, English—a major often shunned by college-aged students—is one of the most popular areas of study at Skidmore.

When I tell other students at Skidmore what I am majoring in, most of them are interested to learn more about the classes I’m taking and what I want to do with my degree after I graduate. But, when I step off campus, this reaction tends to change drastically. I don’t mean to say that everyone outside of Skidmore is unsupportive of the English major. There are many people who do appreciate the value of a liberal arts education, in all of its embodiments. However, I have also encountered many people like my doctor who have made me feel inferior because I did not choose to go into the sciences.

Some people seem to think that if you are not on a mathematics or science-based track, you are wasting your tuition money. But each major at Skidmore—be it art history, sociology, government, psychology, or anthropology, for example—provides its students with a unique set of ideas, as well as a lens through which to view our environment, both critically and analytically.

And the truth is, what we choose to study in college is actually becoming less relevant in terms of what we decide to do as a career. Nowadays, employers seem to be more impressed with the fact that a student graduated from college and succeeded in their studies, rather than what he or she specifically studied there.

Skidmore students of all majors go on to do a wide variety of things after graduation. Some go on to law school or medical school, while others participate in gap year programs such as Teach for America or City Year. Some decide to travel abroad, while others find jobs in their field of interest and begin working.

I’d like to dispense with the term “useless major.” All majors carry value. Any future prosperity or societal contribution is dependent on our own hard work and ambition, happiness notwithstanding.

Men's Lacrosse take part in Wounded Warrior Project



By Skidmore Athletics

The Men's Lacrosse team will take part in the Wounded Warrior Project, "Faceoff for a Cause", hosted by Siena College. This is the second annual "Faceoff for a Cause" to help raise money and awareness for the [Wounded Warrior Project](#). The Wounded Warrior Project's mission is to honor and empower Wounded Warriors. The WWP's purpose is to raise awareness for the injured service members, along with helping them with unique programs and services to meet their needs. The event, being held on Oct. 12, will include six team scrimmages between Siena College, Colgate University, Pace University, Western New England University, Union College and Skidmore College. Last year, the men's lacrosse teams raised more than \$8,000 for the Wounded Warrior Project, and this year, the participants are looking to reach to \$15,000. Additionally, anyone can donate to the cause by making an online donation. The Thoroughbreds will face Western New England at 10 a.m., and Pace at 2:45 p.m.

To make an online contribution, [click here](#).

Men's Soccer to Open Liberty League Play



By Skidmore Athletics

Skidmore College Men's Soccer team will host Vassar this Saturday, Sept. 27, at 2 p.m.; this will be the Liberty League opener for both teams. Currently, the Skidmore Thoroughbreds are 5-3-1 and the Vassar Brewers are 6-2-1.

This season, Skidmore is averaging 2.1 goals per game and 5.67 points per game, landing them third place in the conference.

Senior forward Adam Beek is leading the conference with five 15 points (5 G, 5 A). Junior goalkeeper Eli Kisselbach is third in the conference with 36 saves and 5.14 saves per game. Kisselbach has also tied a season-high with eight saves.

Skidmore last played Vassar in September of 2013, and the game was tied.

Link to game live stats:

[Live Stats](#)

Link to game video:

[Video](#)

Letter to the Editor: Joshua Nelson on the Cancellation of Moorebid



Joshua Nelson, Director of Leadership Activities

By Joshua Nelson, Director of Leadership Activities

Many students have noticed a lack of the Moorebid on the Student Events Calendar, and I wish to respond.

Over the past several years the Office of Leadership Activities has worked very closely with the Student Life Committee of the SGA to address some of the major concerns related to Moorebid. Capacity issues, space-limitation, student alcohol abuse, alcohol-related transportations to the hospital, student mis-conduct cases, etc. all centered around the weekend of the Moorebid event. We tried various venues around campus (entire Case Center, Williamson Sports Gym, Recreation Gym, SPA). We tried to increase capacity; we tried limiting capacity. We increased on campus safety officers and hired outside security to help staff the event. We partnered with the Office of Health Promotions in awareness campaigns and even offered discounted tickets if you attend an alcohol awareness event prior to Moorebid. Nothing seemed to curb the riotous behavior of students. There truly was a culture of excess around the entire weekend – something that is a stain on a student culture and Skidmore as a whole.

Reports of students being violated, feeling threatened and generally not feeling welcomed at an event that so blatantly has a culture of excess, where students demanded free tickets, and stormed the doors to enter, is not something I can support. I spoke up. I explained to the Student Life Committee of the SGA that I was not going to approve the registration of the event in the future, and advised them not to allocate funding for such an event this year. They discussed my concerns and agreed to pull the funding and focus their efforts on other community-minded events. Specifically, this year they chose to fund the Founder's Day event that occurred on Sept 3rd and was open to the entire Skidmore Community. We agreed that events they sponsor should be open to all students, and should not carry a culture so counter the mission of the SGA and Skidmore as whole.

Truly last year was one of the best, if not THE best, planned Moorebid in the history of the event. Nonetheless, the meaning behind the tradition was lost amongst the students using drugs and alcohol to fuel a night of no-rules and destructive actions. The concern was not the event itself, but the pattern of high-risk, sometimes life-threatening behavior that accompanied Moorebid. It's clear to me that tradition of Moorebid had been corrupted into one of excessive drinking and a disregard for the community standards and college policies. Unfortunately, Moorebid is not the social event of the year. That novelty has been lost.

The Office of Leadership Activities continues to rely on a positive and mutually beneficial relationship with the SGA, and will support them and their 130 registered student clubs. I personally look forward to the many upcoming events already scheduled for this year.

Moorebid Cancelled



Oh, the horror.

By Andrew Shi '15, Editor-in-Chief

After years of unyielding issues, Moorebid, the popular dance held to celebrate Halloween, and named after Moore Hall, an off-campus residential hall that closed in 2006, has been cancelled for this year and the foreseeable future. The decision to cancel Moorebid—a perennial consideration but never coming to fruition until now—was advocated after last year's event by Joshua Nelson, Director of Leadership Activities, and supported by Director of Campus Life David Karp and Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun.

The cancellation of Moorebid comes as a surprise to many, as last year's dance is considered one of the more successful in years. Nelson acknowledged as much in a private interview and in a [letter to the editor](#). "Truly last year was one of the best, if not the best, planned Moorebid in the history of the event. Nonetheless, the meaning behind the tradition was lost amongst the students using drugs and alcohol to fuel a night of no-rules and destructive actions. The concern was not the event itself, but the pattern of high-risk, sometimes life-threatening behavior that accompanied Moorebid."

According to SGA President Addison Bennett '16, "The cancellation was a result of a trend of Moorebids that the administration felt were unsafe and disrespected. The Office of Leadership Activities articulated to us that due to the cultural expectations of the event, they do not feel there is any way to hold the event in a safe way."

Nelson estimates that eleven people were sent to the hospital at last year's event, and Bennett also noted that the number of people treated by the Skidmore College Emergency Medical Service during the dance was a cause for concern. "We believe Moorebid was generally a success last year. To be clear, there were obvious safety concerns, including the sheer number of people in the event at once or the number of SCEMS dispatches for alcohol-related calls," Bennett said.

Moorebid has a history of being hazardous and has been shut down multiple times before due to overcrowding. In 2010, the event made national news when 11 students were treated for alcohol poisoning at Saratoga Hospital. After that year, the venue for Moorebid was switched from Case Center to the Recreational and Dance gyms to mitigate overcrowding, however, after approximately 1,400 students tried to squeeze through the halls of the Williamson Sports Center to reach the dance floors, the dance was shut down early. In 2012 the event ran its full course when it was hosted in the big gym of the Sports Center and student

participation was capped at 800. Seven students were hospitalized that year for alcohol poisoning, but only four from Moorebid. The others were from the residential halls.

The circumstances that make Moorebid so problematic are multifold. One is the culture of excessive-drinking that surrounds the dance, and perhaps Halloween in general, as Nelson iterated. Some also believe that because this is the first large community dance, first-years may overzealously drink for the event. The Big Show hosted earlier in October is supposed to steal some of this enthusiasm, and the introduction of Fall Fun Day in 2012 was to serve a similar purpose in part.

The second issue is overcrowding. One of the most popular events on campus, the venues for Moorebid—Case and the Sports Center—are incapable of accommodating. Even after students had to buy tickets, overcrowding remained problematic and reports of student trampling continued.

"We tried various venues around campus (entire Case Center, Williamson Sports Gym, Recreation Gym, SPA). We tried to increase capacity; we tried limiting capacity. We increased on campus safety officers and hired outside security to help staff the event. We partnered with the Office of Health Promotions in awareness campaigns and even offered discounted tickets if you attend an alcohol awareness event prior to Moorebid. Nothing seemed to curb the riotous behavior of students," Nelson wrote in his letter.

A third issue, often overlooked, is the aggressive behavior of students during the event. Nelson recounts having beer bottles and other detritus thrown at him last year when they wouldn't let students enter; students shoving other students; disrespect toward Campus Safety officers; and a massive bill from facilities for having to work overtime to clean up vomit across the building and campus.

Still, Bennett thought the event went pretty well overall. "I think Moorebid went about as well as it could have last year. The SGA event planners thought of every detail, the safety concerns were generally well managed, and most importantly, students obviously enjoyed it."

In lieu of Moorebid, SGA will look to fund other events, one being the Founder's Day barbecue that occurred in early September. Nelson also mentioned that other clubs plan to fill the void with their own events, including a haunted house and slew of film screenings. SGA will also continue the discussion on Moorebid and the possibility of reviving it in the future. "We will keep the conversations going for sure," Bennett said. "I've already spoken to many administrators about the future of Halloween events at Skidmore, and I'm hopeful for good solutions in the future. One of our many jobs is to put on enjoyable student events, and we won't forget that mission."

Campus Safety Reports Sept. 12-18



INCIDENTS OF NOTE:

* Sunday, September 14 -ASSAULT AGGRAVATED 3:12 am. RP in office reporting a male is being assaulted in Sussman Apartments. Dispatched Officers. 3:13 AM- RP reports hearing screams for help. Advised Officers and dispatched SCEMS, 911 and SSPD. Two arrests made.

* Wednesday, September 17 – SEX OFFENSE- FORCIBLE 1:46 PM. RP called to report a sexual assault on campus.

Friday, September 12, 2014

* COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE noise complaint made at 1:38 AM. Officers dispatched to Cane Crossing, students complied with request to quiet down.

* FIRE ALARM-OTHER- fire alarm activated at 1:54 AM from Sussman Apartments. Units dispatched, due to shower steam. Report generated.

* FIRE ALARM-OTHER – Fire alarm received at 8:19 AM from Sussman Apartments. Units dispatched, due to cooking. Report generated

* COMPLAINT – report of 11:06 AM of problem between two employees. Report generated.

* FIRE ALARM-OTHER- fire alarm activation received at 12:22 PM from Sussman Apartments. Units dispatched, due to cooking. Report generated.

* ACCIDENT- report at 4:32 PM of car damaged in sports center parking lot.

* WELFARE CHECK- 9:46 PM welfare check requested to Howe Hall. Officer dispatched. Spoke with roommate, report generated.

Saturday, September 13, 2014

- * SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY – at 12:24 report of a female acting suspicious in Wait Hall. Officers checked, appeared to be dumping water in sink with residue.
- * COLLEGE VIOLATION- NOISE 1:44 AM, noise complaint made on Dayton Drive. Officer reports no disturbance noted.
- * COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE report of loud noise on Moore Way at 1:56 AM. Officers report loud music lowered and group dispersed.
- * COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE report of loud music coming from a parked car near Sussman Apartments at 3:02 AM. Officer states care is leaving.
- * CAMPUS SAFETY ASSIST- 3:00 PM RP provided assistance with fire extinguisher training for 48 students who work in chemistry labs
- * SUSPICIOUS ODOR- 3:50 PM report of possible gas smell in Jonsson Tower. Maintenance reports odor unfounded.
- * COLLEGE VIOLATION- 10:34 PM report of a game of mass consumption in Wait Hall. Report generated.
- * FIRE ALARM- OTHER - 11:14 PM Fire alarm activation receive. Units dispatched, due to cooking. Report issued.
- * LIQUOR LAW VIOLATION- 11:01 PM RP reports loud noise in Howe Hall. Students found with alcohol, report generated.

Sunday, September 14, 2014

- * COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE 12:34 AM report of noise complaint in Sussman Apartments. Officers spoke to students who remedied problem
- * CRIMINAL MISCHIEF at 10:42 AM Officer discovered hole in stairwell in Wilmarth Hall, report generated
- * CRIMINAL MISCHIEF at 11:18 AM RP reports street sign on the roof of Starbuck Center. Grounds assisted to removed, returned to DPW.

Monday, September 14, 2014

- * COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE at 1:00 AM Excessive noise complaint in Sussman Apartments. Responding officers report residents lowered volume upon request.
- * COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE 12:32 AM Noise complaint received. Responding officers report residents lowered volume upon request
- * COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE 1:30 AM Noise complaint received in Wilmarth Hall. Responding officer reports three people in common area asked to lower the volume of their voices. Subjects complied with request.
- * DRUG LAW VIOLATION- 8:30 AM Officer observed a drug law violation. Items confiscated. Report made.
- * FIRE ALARM 3:09 PM Fire alarm received in Sussman Apartments. Dispatched all units. Advised SSFD. Due to cooking. Report made.

Tuesday, September 16, 2014

- * FIRE ALARM-OTHER - 10:30 AM, Fire alarm received. Dispatched officers, maintenance and advised SSFD. Due to burnt food.
- * FIRE/SAFETY ORIENTATION- 6:30 PM Fire and Safety Orientations were conducted at 6:30 PM, 7:30 PM and 8:30 PM in Skidmore News Online: September 2014. Retrieved from <http://www.skidmorenews.com> on 2/9/2015.

Filene Music Hall.

* FIRE DRILLS- 8:31 PM in Sussman Apartments Unannounced fire drill was held in one of the buildings.

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

* LARCENY FROM BUILDINGS 11:00 AM report of items missing in a room in Jonsson Tower. Officer responded to the report. SSPD contacted.

* FIRE/SAFETY ORIENTATION at 6:30 PM a Fire and Safety Orientation was conducted in Filene Music Hall.

* COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE at 11:44 PM, RP reports a noise complaint outside the dorm. Officers dispatched and found students playing string instruments. Instructed to stop and counseled about noise at this hour.

Thursday, September 18 2014

* FIRE ALARM-OTHER - 8:45 AM Fire alarm activation received in Jonsson Tower. All units dispatched. SSFD advised. Alarm due to burnt popcorn.

* BURGLARY-NO FORCE 6:05 pm report of computer missing from room in Wilmarth Hall. Report made. SSPD contacted.

* FIRE DRILLS - Officers conducted fire drills at various times in Wilmarth Hall and Northwoods Apartments.

SGA Fall 2014 election results

By Noa Maltzman, Staff Writer



Is a 25% turnout rocking the vote?

This past week, students had opportunities on both Thursday, Sept 18 and Friday, Sept. 19 to vote online or at Case Desk, the Dining Hall or Thursday night's Rock the Vote Student Band Showcase at Falstaff's. Even with these opportunities to vote, the turnout in this election was small with only 605 students participating. While this is significantly less than half the student body, it surpasses both turnouts from last year. Last year's fall election had a voter turnout of 507 students and the spring election had 560 voters.

The low voter turnout was foreshadowed by the prior night's election speech, which also had a small turnout despite the event's enticing announcement that Plum Dandy Cookies&Milk was to be served.

During the election speech, the candidates were questioned about their running. These questions included more practical issues regarding their qualifications and goals for the future, as well as some less serious questions like, "if you had one dollar to spend on something for your class what would it be?"

The student candidates sought eight different positions. However, there were many more open positions available. "Not all of the positions were filled because we have a lot of positions, and we very intentionally allow people to get involved throughout the year," SGA President Addison Bennett '16 said.

Only three positions were contested: junior class treasurer, freshman class president, and vice president for Diversity Affairs—a position on the executive SGA committee.

From the class of 2018, Maddie Hoffman and Themba Shongwe ran for freshman class president, with Shongwe eventually winning.

Posted on SGA's Facebook page were the candidate platforms and campaign videos. Here, students could learn about and compare the candidates running for contested positions. Shongwe included three primary points on his platform posters, the first of which was "making SGA relevant to freshman." His competitor, Hoffman, had different goals in mind. Among her goals was "to unify the campus as a whole."

"We don't want to shut the door on people joining SGA in September," Bennett said. For those of who missed the boat on elections and want to get involved, there is ample time and space.

The student government would “love for more people to join Senate, a committee, or their class council, and luckily we have the open seats for people to join through willingness to serve,” Bennett said. To apply for a position through willingness to serve, students should go to the [SGA site](#).

Below is a complete list of the Fall 2014 elected SGA officials:

First Year Class President: Themba Shongwe

First Year Class Secretary: Rachael Thomeer

First Year Class Treasurer: Alyssa Bueno

First Year Class Vice-President: Tayler Salvatore

First Year Senator: Kalika Likhi and Olivia Golden

Junior Class Treasurer: Ramsey Daniels

Sustainability Senator: Lauren Scauzzo '15

Vice President for Diversity Affairs: Sibio Gama '15

Dopapod Band Breaking Boundaries: Tomorrow's Performance at Putnam Den



By Blair Warren, Arts and Entertainment Editor

It's hard to categorize the band Dopapod, as it seems to be of many genres. A combination of electronic, funk, and soul, the musicians see no stylistic margins. They do not hold back, disregarding norms and exploring their own groove. They have toured nationally with more than 150 shows per year, collecting listeners along the way.

Dopapod consists of Eli Winderman (keyboards), Rob Compa (guitar), Chuck Jones (bass) and Scotty Zwang (drums). When asked what inspired this type of music group, Rob Compa said that the inspiration was found in just being genuine to their own personalities.

“It took a lot of experimenting and a lot of shows before it became what it is now. And if we're lucky, it will keep changing over the years. I can't speak for every musician, but I don't really have much of a vision behind what I want our music to sound like. I just feel like if we're having a great time and being ourselves, then the music will be honest and real.”

Compa explains that as a musician, the purpose is not to ensure that everybody likes the music, but rather that he likes it. “I'm not really in control of how people feel while we're playing. In the past I've spent a long time worrying about people's opinions and trying to make everybody happy, but you can't play one thing that one person will like without at least one other person having the opposite opinion about it. So at this point, we just play what we think is good and what we like. That is something we have control of. Life's too short to not play the kind of music you like!”

He also explains that inspiration can be found in anything. For Compa, he recently felt motivated to write about his concern that his next-door neighbor may be a serial killer. Whatever gets the creativity flowing! Below is a little description of each band member, from Compa's understanding and for your entertainment:

“Eli Winderman is our keyboardist and our primary songwriter. He loves Pad Thai, Breaking Bad, vintage keyboards and is a big LeBron James fan. He can also fit his entire fist in his mouth.”

“Chuck Jones is our bassist. Chuck loves staying in shape, goats, and pedals. He can name all 50 states in either alphabetical order or in chronological order based on when it was admitted into the Union.”

“Scotty Zwang is our drummer and newest member. He loves the scent of lilacs, enjoys a good scotch now and again, and is a part time tattoo artist.”

“My name is Rob Compa, and I play guitar. I enjoy playing guitar, looking up guitar equipment that I can't possibly afford, playing with my cat and dog, and making up completely falsified facts about the other members of the band.”

Come see Dopapod perform this weekend, Sept. 27 at Putnam Den, in advance of their upcoming new album!

Time: 7:00pm. Admission: \$15 ADV/\$18 DOS. Age restrictions: 18+. Address: 63 A Putnam Street Saratoga Springs, NY. Venue phone: 518 584 8066. w/ Consider The Source

Students Resolving Conflict in a Constructive Way at Schenectady High

By Sarah Rudgers-Tysz, Executive Director of Mediation Matters



Schenectady and Albany, NY – For over 12 years the Schenectady High School Peer Mediation Program has been training students as mediators and empowering them to resolve conflict between fellow students without violence or bullying. Mediation Matters, a local non-profit dispute resolution center, coordinates the program with a full-time staff person at the high school.

In recognition of the program's success, Mediation Matters is honoring the dedication and commitment demonstrated by the program's key contributors and the school's administration at its Second Annual Fundraising Dinner. The individuals being honored at the event are the program's student leadership, program coordinator Kashiff Thompson, Schenectady High School Principal Diane Wilkinson, and Schenectady School District Superintendent Laurence T. Spring. The event will take place on Tuesday, October 7th, 2014 from 6:00-9:00 PM at the Albany Yacht Club, 75 Broadway, Rensselaer, NY.

Through the program the peer mediators learn how to approach conflict constructively, practice active listening skills, and model this behavior for their peers. Along with the valuable life skills the students learn and the conflicts resolved through mediation, the program also reduces the need for disciplinary action, with 174 cases mediated last school year.

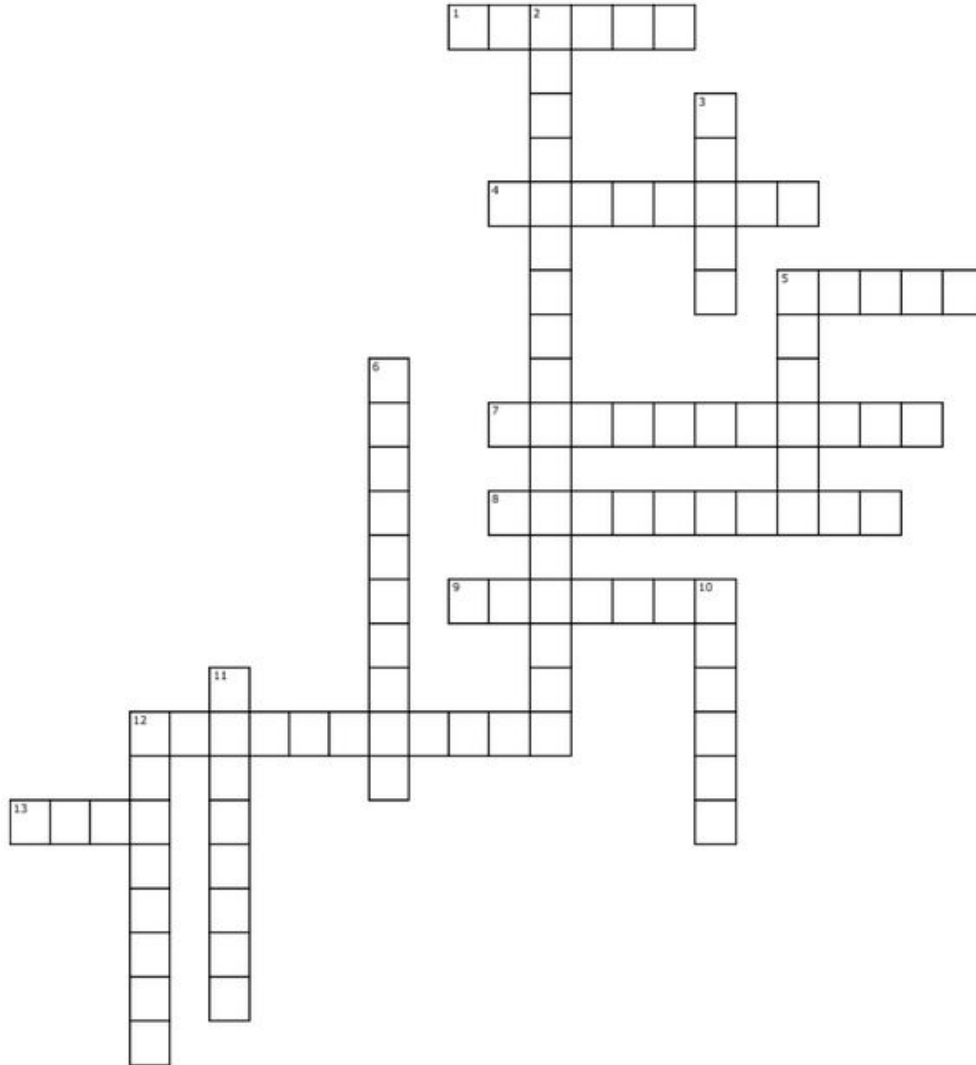
The Peer Mediation Program is one of the many ways Mediation Matters is making a difference in the community. The organization provides a place for families, businesses, educators, students, and other community members to resolve their conflicts through mediation. Mediation is a voluntary, neutral, and confidential process where people involved with a conflict have the opportunity to be heard and work to develop their own solutions to their own problems, outside of court. Between April 2013 and April 2014, 795 cases were mediated at the center. The organization also facilitates conflict resolution trainings and workshops, group discussions, and restorative justice circles in a variety of settings.

With excellent staff and invaluable volunteers, Mediation Matters' services are available at little to no cost in each of the counties it serves: Albany, Schenectady, Saratoga, Rensselaer, Warren, and Washington Counties. In recognition of the value of a peaceful community, Mediation Matters has been providing the skills and processes that help people handle conflict in a constructive way since 1979.

To learn more about Mediation Matters, visit their website at www.mediationmatters.org, message them through their contact form on the website, follow them on Facebook and Twitter, or give them a call at 518-446-0356.

Crossword: Patron Saints

Patron Saints



Across

1. Patron Saint of Sculptors
4. Tatiana of Rome
5. Patron Saint of Shepards and Coffee Houses
7. St. Quentin
8. Patron Saint of Motorcyclists
9. Patron Saint of Tanners
12. Pope Celestine V
13. Patron Saint of Lost Causes

Down

2. Rene Groupil
3. Edward the Confessor
5. Patron Saint of Pharmacists
6. St. Valentine
10. St. Margaret of Antioch
11. Joan of Arc
12. Patron Saint of Philosophy