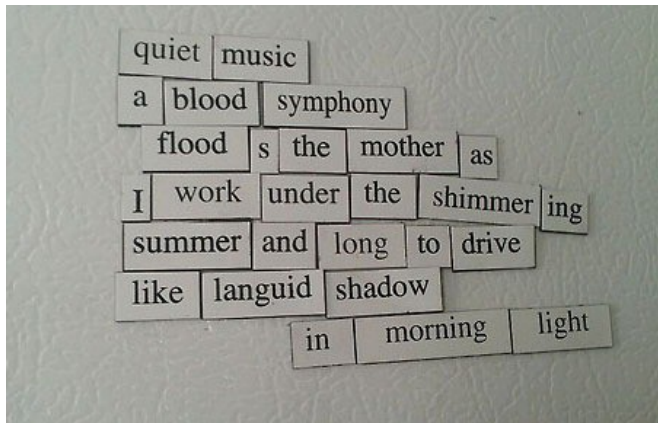


Fridge Poetry 1



Blurbs Overheard



Just a few blurbs overheard

“Alcohol: making you passionate about things you don't care about.”

“You seem depressed, you should hold this crystal.”

“He was just smiling and smiling. He had so many teeth.”

“Bitch, my love goes 16 credits deep.”

“You like adjectives too much.”

“Part of why we have sex is because we're afraid of dying.”

THE SKIDMORE NEWS

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Lockdown on Skidmore College Campus

By Jacob Reiskin, Arts Director and Staff Writer

This is a developing story. Check soon for updates.

Suspect is in custody. Lockdown has been lifted.

4:00 PM: The President's office has invited the campus community to an open forum in Gannett Auditorium at 5 p.m. today for an update on the situation and a review of our emergency procedures. Northwoods is still being searched by a strong police presence. Students have been asked to stay away from the area.

10:12 AM: Staff and faculty may report to classrooms. Campus Safety requests that everyone keep an eye out for suspicious items that may be evidence

9:57 AM: Classes to resume at 11:15 AM. The Dining Hall is open. Campus Safety requests that students, staff and faculty stay out of North Woods.

Skidmore Alert
To: undisclosed-recipients
Reply-To: Skidmore Alert
Classes to Resume at 11:15 Today

October 1, 2014 9:57 AM
[Hide Details](#)

Classes to resume at 11:15 this morning. Dining Hall is open. Please stay out of North Woods.

9:18 AM: The Skidmore News has put in a request for a comment from the President's Office. Awaiting confirmation.

9:16 AM:

Skidmore Alert
To: undisclosed-recipients
Reply-To: Skidmore Alert
Campus remains closed

October 1, 2014 9:13 AM
[Hide Details](#)

2

The campus remains closed as police continue their search for evidence. Classes may resume later today.

9:04 AM: Campus is still in lockdown for evidence search with all classes and activities still called off.

8:58 AM: Campus Safety confirms that the suspect is Shane Harding and that he is in custody.

"Vj g'Uctevqi kcp'j cu'eqphko gf "yj cvJ ctf kpi . 'y cpvgf 'lp"Vtq { 'hqt 'ugz wcn'cuucwn'j cu'dggp'cttguvgf "qp'yj g'Unkf o qtg'Eqnngi g'Eco r wu0J ctf kpi ." 47. 'lu'y cpvgf 'hqt'cmgi gf n' 'xkqr'vki 'r ctqrg'lp'eqppge'vqp'y kj 'cp'cwcenif guetldgf "v'y go 'd { "cp'cmgi gf 'xle'ko 0J ctf kpi "y cu'f genctgf "c" Ngxgn'5'ugz'qhgpf gt'chgt"422: 'eqpxle'vqp'lp'T gpuugr'gt'Eqwpv { 0'Vtqqr gtu'lc { 'j g'o c { 'dg'lp'r quuguukqp'qh'c'handgun.

'Photo of Suspect (Published by The Times Union):



TIMES UNION STAFF PHOTO BY SKIP DICKSTEIN

[Skidmore News reported the last lockdown in 2013](#)

8:20: Fire fighting personnel seen leaving Sussman village. Connection still unknown.

8:14 AM: From Skidmore Alert Email:

Suspect in custody on campus - Campus remains closed until police conduct evidence search.

8:09 AM: Fire truck has been spotted near the Sussman Apartments. Connection to lockdown is unknown.

8:08 AM: Police appear to be dissipating from Wilson Chapel Area. Police patrols still circling campus.

The Times Union has [posted an article](#) on the lockdown with the suspect, Shane Harding, 25 shown.

Police have now converged on the perimeter of North Woods, near Wilson Chapel. No word on any findings.

Saratoga Police and State Troopers are patrolling campus in large numbers, with a report that entrances are being blocked.

As of 8 am this morning, classes have been canceled and email updates continue to stream to students.

At 7:04 an email went out to all students announcing a lockdown on campus, as seen below

Skidmore Alert
To: undisclosed-recipients
Reply-To: Skidmore Alert
Lockdown

October 1, 2014 7:04 AM
[Hide Details](#)

A Skidmore emergency exists lock yourself in a room and keep quiet. Police are looking for a male suspect wanted for rape, suspect is armed. Suspect is a white male 25 years old, 5.9 170 lbs blond hair, wearing blue jeans, green long sleeve shirt. Stay in your rooms and report anything suspicious to Campus Safety. More information to follow. The college is closed until further notice.

Over Sixty Students Participate in Climate Change March

By Jessica Kong, Staff Writer



On Sunday, September 21, over sixty members of the Skidmore Environmental Action Club (EAC) -- an environmental sustainability advocacy group -- journeyed to New York City to participate in one of the largest displays of social support for the environment to date. The trip from Skidmore College was proposed and organized by Amanda Paskavitz '17, Vice President of EAC. The People's Climate March was inspired by a growing awareness of the need to minimize the damaging impact of unchecked fossil fuel usage. The event was timely set before the momentous United Nations Climate Change Conference, which will be held in Paris, France next year.

Connor Crawford '17, member of the EAC and event coordinator for the on-campus Sustainability Representatives (S-Reps), spoke about the mission that nearly a half million global citizens took up when they walked from Midtown to the Far West Side. "We want America and people around the world -- because the People's Climate March didn't just happen in New York City -- to show the United Nations that we very much support CO2 emission restrictions on a large scale."

They marched for a common vision, but everyone had a unique stride. Zia O'Neill '17, another member of the EAC and education and outreach coordinator for the S-Reps, spoke about the diversity of the people she walked with. "It wasn't just radical college students and kids getting together. There were three-generational families." Crawford added, "There were a bunch of grandparents that said 'I'm marching for my grandchildren.'"

O'Neill continued, sharing what she thought was the most powerful moment of the March. "There was a moment of silence for indigenous communities and frontline victims of climate change. At 12:58 p.m. there was a moment of silence and everyone raised their hands. And then you just heard this sound from thirty blocks away and it hit you and you just screamed at the top of your lungs."

And the corporations are listening. In NYC on the following Tuesday, September 23, The United Nations Climate Summit hosted a gathering of political and corporate leaders from around the world and concluded upon a firm, intensive plan of action to cut down global emission levels.

Crawford believes that everyone can and should do their part to make this historic new sustainable vision a reality. He explained, "we don't want it to end with the march. We don't want this march to be this huge event and everybody expect a culmination of changes to occur. We want to bring the ideas that were represented at the People's Climate March back to Skidmore and continue to get the community involved with environmental movements on campus."

Yik Yak: A Story of Anonymity

By Ryan Davis '17, Contributing Writer

The Internet Collides with Our Social Spheres and Our Daily Lives



This fall, a new social networking application has flooded iPhones and androids alike called Yik Yak. Seemingly out of nowhere, this app has gained popularity across all social spheres on college campuses. The reason: Yik Yak promises anonymity to publish whatever you want, and have it be read and remarked upon by your college peers. This at first might not seem so different from the normal Internet, with social sites such as 4Chan promising similar anonymity. However, never before has this sort of anonymous micro blogging been available so easily to anyone with a smartphone and the will to share their thoughts. There's no need for a username or password, just download the app, enter your mobile phone number, and begin publishing 200 character statements about anything you want, and no one can easily tie it back to you. What has made the app take off on college campuses is that it is designed to only show posts that were written in your geographic area. You can even set it to only include posts made on your college campus, although Skidmore has yet to be added to the expanding list of supported colleges and universities.

The system is interactive for both publishers and readers. Users can anonymously respond to posts written by others or simply up or down vote them. A post or comment is deleted after five negative votes, a rudimentary self-policing system. If a user's comments are consistently downvoted, their profile may be suspended. If a comment shares personal information about someone or targets another person, other users can report their comment and its author can be banned from the community. Even so, a lot of damage can be done before a troublesome user is reported.

This whole system might at first seem kind of terrifying. After all, we've seen what troubles anonymity on the Internet has brought before. We all remember cyber-bullying episodes as far back as middle school. Cable news loves to scare parents with mention of the terrible things written on message boards by so-called trolls, or the power that hacktivist group Anonymous wields as a loose conglomerate of nearly untraceable hackers. While Yik Yak isn't completely lawless, some people might argue that its anonymity provision is not enough, and that users must be identifiable to maintain accountability. Yik Yak's local focus increases the potential damage of cyber bullying.

I have found these fears to be completely unfounded at Skidmore. Yik Yak is a breath of fresh air in the often-demonized realm of anonymous Internet publishing. At Skidmore, it is a vibrant and honest community.

The pages of Yik Yaks from the Saratoga area are dominated by the Skidmore College student body. What we say reveals a lot about who we are as people. Reoccurring themes range from loneliness and self-doubt, to stress over schoolwork and idiosyncratic

events in our day-to-day lives. Despite relatively lenient repercussions for offensive posting, Yik Yak is a very calm and non-aggressive place. Posts are almost never negative toward specific students or groups. I've never seen one. Instead, there is a sense of unity from the unrelated nameless posts. Scroll through for five minutes, and I guarantee you'll read about some little thing that you believed no one else did or saw or encounter a question you were afraid to ask. The lack of forks in dining hall or the fact that we are all a little embarrassed by the South Quad dorm bathrooms where your whole floor can hear everything are just a few examples.

There are many posts with a more serious tone. On weekends you'll find many posts about those lonely or bored on Friday nights. Sometimes people question their self-worth and vent self-esteem problems. If you were too scared to acknowledge that you felt lonely at night up here in the great white north, on Yik Yak you'll find that you're not alone. Nameless writers commonly inscribe things we might not even remark to our close friends for fear of embarrassment or seeming needy. The sheer volume of up votes and responses that these posts often garner is a testament to the fact that people are actively reading. For the first time in a long time, I feel that anonymity on the Internet has made me feel closer to those around me. That is an amazing thing.

This is not a perfect community. There are still the occasional negative comments, and there is a negative trend of making fun of the "white girl" stereotype and its associated iPhones and pumpkin spiced lattes. Sometimes people will copy the top comment from another school's Yik Yak pool for up votes and self-satisfaction. Yik Yak is not a paragon of anonymous humanitarianism on the Internet by all means. It is a tool and it reflects those who use it. I can't speak for everyone who uses the application globally; my experience has reflected positively on the Skidmore community.

Yik Yak should not be overlooked as another Internet trend. Twitter, another micro blogging site, was perceived to be a fad when it came out. Now, it is a thriving community and a powerful communication tool with a diverse user base including governments, celebrities, and maybe your roommate. It is frequently cited in news articles as a source for public statements. Yik Yak has the same potential for growth and influence.

Whatever the fate of Yik Yak might be, I think it is a fascinating mirror of the student body here at Skidmore. The posts show us that the people we walk by each day on Case Walkway are more like us than we could have ever imagined. We have the same fears and idiosyncrasies. We have the same desire to talk to someone cute who walks by or to reach out when we are lonely. Yik Yak is a physical representation of those inherently human qualities that we all share, but are so rarely acknowledged. Yik Yak is funny, it is endearing, it is vulgar, and it is untamed and untested, but the people who use it are honest. As its users, we must decide where it goes from here.

Blue Side: Climate Change: A “Hot” Topic



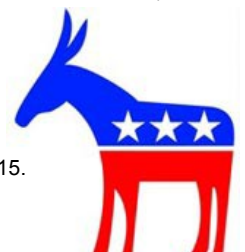
Photo by Zoe Coleman

By Noah Tananbaum, Contributing Writer

Two weeks ago, the largest climate change [rally](#) in history marched through the streets of New York City. The 300,000+ protesters were lobbying against the consistent global inaction on the issue of climate change. The march preceded the [United Nations summit](#) on the topic, which took place over the course of the following week. At the summit, [President Obama asserted](#), “For all the immediate challenges that we gather to address this week—terrorism, instability, inequality, disease—there's one issue that will define the contours of this century more dramatically than any other, and that is the urgent and growing threat of a changing climate.” It is time for us to move past the climate change debate and begin taking serious action to counteract its already alarming effects. Readopting a cap-and-trade policy is one such solution.

The debate on climate change is over, and has been, for quite some time. For the past several hundred thousand years, CO₂ emissions and other [greenhouse gases](#) remained at levels of 280 parts per million (ppm). Since the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, that amount has increased at an exponential rate and, at the current rate, will soon surpass 400 ppm. The correlation between the onset of the Industrial Revolution and higher levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere is clear, and the effects of this increase are deeply troubling. Many members of Congress, primarily Republicans, still discuss whether climate change is a legitimate phenomenon and, more significantly, whether the changes are a result of human behavior. Climate change is a real occurrence, supported by scientific results. We should no longer be expected to give credence and time to those who fail to accept the facts.

A few weeks ago, the [House Committee](#) on Science, Space, and Technology convened to discuss the Obama administration's agenda to combat climate change. During the hearing, Congressman Larry Bucshon (R-IN) argued that the existence of climate change is in scientists' best interest so that they may continue to publish new writing on the subject. As a result, the Congressman stated, we should ignore their evidence. This is a remarkably ignorant argument. Attempting to explain away extensive



research corroborated by thousands of scientists as motivated by greed is insulting to their profession and intentionally obtuse. While it is plausible that a handful of scientists may exploit this issue for money, it is unreasonable to think that the scientific community as a whole would be behind such a conspiracy. Scientists, more than anyone, understand that climate change is in no one's best interest.

Because those in power have yet to come to a full consensus on the scale of the problem, discussions of a solution are delayed. Fossil fuels release pollutants and higher levels of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Pollution is a cost to society that polluters often choose not to factor into their cost-benefit analysis because they are first responsible for their own bottom line. Companies need to be incentivized to decrease their pollution levels. To do so, pollution should be treated by the government as a negative externality.

Despite the fact that it was originally a Republican idea, in recent years the GOP has been dismissive of the policy known as [cap-and-trade](#). In the late 1980s and early '90s, sulfur dioxide from power plants had the dubious side effect of returning as acid rain, destroying vast stretches of the environment. The first Bush administration developed the concept of cap-and-trade, permitting companies to produce a fixed amount of pollution before a cap, a financial sanction, kicks in. If the company does not reach their emissions cap, then they can trade their remaining carbon allowance on the free market. Each year the company's cap decreases, incentivizing these companies to pollute less over time. Given that cap-and-trade worked 25 years ago, there is no reason to believe that it won't work now.

It would be naïve to think that our economy and energy industries can abandon fossil fuels overnight. But to be willfully uninformed of a phenomenon that occurs with increasing frequency and is supported by overwhelming evidence is the height of ignorance. It is time to stop demonizing facts as ideological or partisan points of view. Rapid changes in our climate are taking place and it's our fault. We can either continue arguing over this or we can acknowledge that there is a problem and focus our energies on finding a solution.

Craving Coffee? What's the Best on Campus

By Noa Maltzman '18, Staff Writer



This past Monday was national coffee day. Perhaps if you had time to celebrate you would have indulged by going to a local coffee shop downtown. Unfortunately, since national coffee day fell on a Monday it is likely that most people had class, work, other obligations and were not able to make it downtown and therefore have to settle for on-campus coffee.

You might not think that *all* on-campus coffee is bad but maybe you were wondering, such like the person who posted on Yik Yak asking, “Happy National Coffee day. Which shitty on campus coffee should I have to celebrate?”

On campus, there are three main options for coffee. These options are the Atrium Café, Burgess, and the dining hall. At limited hours you can also get coffee at the Spa and the library café.

For those not on the meal plan, the dining hall probably serves the most expensive cup of coffee you will ever buy unless you also get food with it. To enter the dining hall it costs at least \$7.49. This might be a lot to pay for a cup of coffee but unlike any other place on campus you do get unlimited refills as long as you don't leave.

Some might not mind the dining hall coffee but others, such as a person who posted on Yik Yak, do mind it. A particular Yak read, “Dhall coffee doesn't stain clothes because it is essentially water.” This blurb illuminates some students' distaste for what is being served within the infamous dhall.

If \$7.49 is more than you desire to spend, you might want to try getting coffee from another location around campus. Over the summer, Burgess underwent a renovation and now serves Starbucks coffee but the question remains, is it worth the extra money or should one get the cheaper coffee from the Atrium Café? To test this, I decided to purchase a regular iced coffee from both locations.

At Burgess, I bought a 16-ounce iced coffee and the total cost before tax was \$2.30. The wait for the coffee was just a few minutes due to the line of students waiting for their fair share. After the coffee was ready, one can head over to the close-by counter and add milk and sugar to their drink.

A much cheaper (less than \$2) 16-ounce iced coffee was then purchased from the Atrium Café. Here, one is given a cup filled with ice and you are allowed to fill it with coffee yourself. The experience here was much different than Burgess as the wait was non-existent as no one else was in line. Continually, the Atrium Café also has a much greater selection of milk and sweeteners including flavored options that one can add.

After evaluating the coffee, it's been determined that if you want unlimited coffee - go to the dining hall, if you are on a tight budget or short on time go to the Atrium Café, and if you want to have an experience closest to going to a local coffee shop go to Burgess. Hope you all enjoyed national coffee day, I'm sure caffeine will be needed for the upcoming weeks!

Club Profile: FeelGood



FeelGood at Skidmore

By Andrew Shi '15, Editor-in-Chief

The Skidmore News sat down with Nina Orlando '16, Co-President of FeelGood, to discuss what the "grilled cheese club" is all about.

Q: What is FeelGood, and when was Skidmore's chapter founded?

A: We make gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches and give them to students and faculty in exchange for a donation that goes towards the sustainable end of world hunger. We started at Skidmore in Fall 2012, but didn't become an official SGA club until Fall 2013.

Q: Does Skidmore's FeelGood chapter donate to a specific charity, and if so, why that one?

A: FeelGood is a national organization and we are one of 24 chapters on college campuses across the country. FeelGood has 4 partner organizations, but we choose to donate all of our money to The Hunger Project because their goal is to empower local people and organizations to end their own hunger. They believe in partnership, not charity, and so do we.

Q: How often do you sell your grilled cheeses and where?

A: We will be selling our grilled cheeses on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 1-3p.m. on the 2nd floor of Case Center next to the SGA Information desk. We hope to start selling in the beginning of October!

Q: Do you have any future plans to expand your enterprise, perhaps by increasing hours and days in which you sell grilled cheese?

A: We are always thinking about expanding in the long term, but that's easier said than done, so for right now, we are sticking to 2 days a week. Hopefully in the future we can grow!

Q: Do you sell anything besides grilled cheeses, and do you raise money by any other means?

A: We sell t-shirts, FeelGood sunglasses and grilled cheese shaped USB flash drives at our delis. We also have a ton of cool events! We put on a benefit concert, had our Flags for Hunger event, had a movie screening, and co-sponsored a bunch of other club's events. We are always brainstorming ways to raise more money. Keep an eye out for new FeelGood foods we might be selling!

Q: Since the inception of Skidmore's chapter, how much money has FeelGood raised?

A: We have raised about \$5,000 since we started.

Q: How many people do you have working for FeelGood?

A: Our e-board is made up of 7 students and a bunch of dedicated members. Our Deli couldn't operate without all of our amazing members.

Q: Is there anything else you would like the student body to know about FeelGood?

A: If you've even seen someone dressed up as a grilled cheese walking around campus, that was us. Be sure to stop by our deli in Case on Tuesdays and Wednesdays! We have so many cool new recipes!

Editorial: On Cancelling Moorebid



Last year, Moorebid capped at 800 tickets sold, and many ticket-less students made their way into the dance as well. Photo by Skids Scribner

By the Editorial Board

Although opinions vary across campus regarding the cancellation of the popular Halloween dance, Moorebid, the Editorial Board understands and supports the College's decision on this matter. When keeping in mind the welfare of Skidmore's students, the cancellation seems to have been a necessary and inevitable choice. We do not believe that it is the school's role to endorse dangerous behavior, or to provide opportunities for students to put themselves and others at risk.

As Joshua Nelson, Director of Leadership Activities, expressed in his [Letter to the Editor](#), the school has made numerous changes to turn this event into a safer environment. However, year after year, the permeating culture of binge drinking, excessive drug use and reckless behavior surrounding Moorebid has persisted.

It is not as though there was no forewarning of this outcome. The possible threat of cancelling Moorebid has loomed over the student body for years. Each October, we have been given the opportunity to clean up our act--albeit part of the issue was a lack of adequate space. However, the College eventually recognized that their efforts to change the dance's legacy of hospitalizations, assaults and destruction were unsuccessful. The Editorial Board therefore understands the inevitable cancellation of Moorebid.

However, we do take issue with the lack of any earlier forthright information. SGA has known about the decision to cancel Moorebid since last year. The majority of the student body was unaware of the cancellation until The Skidmore News [broke the story](#). The administration finally acknowledged the cancellation with Nelson's letter, which was published the same week as our article.

This lack of transparency is in trend with Skidmore's approach to unpleasant topics, excluding emergencies such as Wednesday's lockdown. Only after three full months of silence and badgering from students did the administration address this summer's incident of a now-former Campus Safety officer's arrest for sexually assaulting a young woman.

Important issues that are relevant to student life should be readily announced to the student body that they impact. Students should not be in the dark on the happenings of our own school, left to make sense of rumors. The recent State of the College Address would

have been an ideal opportunity for the administration to announce that Moorebid was cancelled and explain their reasoning behind it. But the administration is not the only one at fault here; SGA had also known that Moorebid would be cancelled as early as last November, and it was a serious lapse of responsibility on their part to not inform the students.

The Board's final concern with the cancellation of Moorebid is that the College is tackling a symptom rather than acknowledging the main reason for a spike in hospitalizations during Moorebid. It is very possible that the hyper-abuse of drugs and alcohol during Moorebid is not due to the culture surrounding the dance but rather the culture attached to Halloween. By cancelling Moorebid, students will inevitably find alternative ways to party, at locations unstaffed by Campus Safety and the Skidmore College Emergency Medical Service. All things considered, the cancellation of Moorebid may have solved nothing and could possibly have exacerbated the issue at hand. Still, Moorebid could not have carried on as it has in past years, and with no easy fix available, the Board believes cancelling it was the best solution.

Nekisha Quinney: New Assistant Director of Athletics



Nekisha Quinney has been the New Assistant Director of Athletics for the past month. I sat down with her to get to know her and see how her transition into the Skidmore community has been.

As the new Assistant Director of Athletics, Quinney is responsible for a variety of things including managing the sports center, student employees, assisting the Associate Athletic Director with the management and upkeep of the athletic facilities, game day management, and much more.

Her time at Skidmore has been very busy, with no two days ever the same. For Quinney, getting to know the students is the best part about working in higher education. The students, along with the staff and faculty, have created a very welcoming community.

Quinney's main goal for the next couple of months, is getting to know Skidmore, the students, the history, the institutional culture, and assess how she can make a difference. Another goal for Quinney will be finding new ways to showcase the talent of our student-athletes. Skidmore's student-athletes work very hard in the classroom and on the field/court. Quinney believes that our student-athletes deserve a crowd cheering them on in every game and match.

When not at Skidmore, she loves to cook and explore new places. And while she does not watch much television, Quinney loves *Scandal* and *Grey's Anatomy*!

The Red Side: Free Case Walkway of Condoms

By Jacob Reiskin, Staff Writer and Arts Director



Condoms first. Questions later.

Photo by Jacob Reiskin

Last Friday, I was headed to the Post Office when I encountered a Vox club table outside of Case Center, next to Burgess Cafe. They were outside on that beautiful afternoon to hand out condoms, lube and dental dams. And, walking by, students were loudly told about their offerings strewn across the table. It was hard to miss their large and bright signs, the loud calls made sure that my afternoon was interrupted. It was as if everyone, including my professors' children, wanted to hear about sex on their Friday afternoon.

This is a college campus, which comes with certain assumptions. One of those givens is that most students will party on the weekend, or during the week if we count the beloved “Thirsty Thursday.” With that partying and drinking may come sex. Now, given the near certainty of these assumptions, the school should do everything they can to make sure that students have access to information about making good decision and the tools to protect their health, i.e. condoms, lube and dental dams. They should have access to these services, at the Center for Sex and Gender Relations and the Health center anytime.

Shouting at college students is problematic. The uninvited push into students private life can be uncomfortable for them. It can feel as if they are not being respected. But, what really makes an act disrespectful? Respect is to allow others to maintain their personal space while being considerate of our own.

One way I think of this is the idea of being “sexiled.” All students should be familiar with what happens when your roommate comes back with a potential romantic partner. A good roommate will offer the room for the sake of the couple's good time. It's inconvenient, but you aren't subjected to your roommate's personal life. In this sense, not all students want to be subjected to sex as they walk along the Case walkway. There are many reasons why students would feel uncomfortable. But, they may just feel as I do, that it is unwarranted and uncomfortable. The mission of Vox is very important but not all students may agree with the club's approach to providing information about sexual health.

This intrusion may be problematic for the faculty as well. Employees of this school walk the same Case walkway that we students do. They are exposed to the same indecency, whether that is shouts about free condoms or a large picture of a dildo that appeared on a poster a couple years back. What's more, some bring their children to campus for daycare. As professor, Tillman Nechtman, History department chair, asked me, "Should I have to explain to my son what a dildo is when I take him for chocolate milk in the cafe?" In most other workplaces, he wouldn't. No employee would be allowed to post such a poster, not only because of the reasonable stance of most employers, but also because of the Human Resources law on sexual harassment, written in the Skidmore Employee Handbook, that protects employees. The college campus is still a workplace.

Let's honor "creative thought" by allowing a diversity of ways of life. Is shouting and condom distribution on Case walkway necessary for the sexual wellbeing of the student body? We can respect each other and still try to stay safe in the bedroom.

Restaurant Review: The Circus Café

Posted by The Skidmore News | Date: October 03, 2014 | in: Features | (2) Comments



By Janine Kritschgau and Erin Silgado '18, Staff Writers

Our experience at the Circus Café was mixed. Service was exceptionally slow, as we waited roughly 40 minutes for a table (and an additional 40 minutes to be served). Our party sampled a variety of foods offered including; a chicken quesadilla, an order of fajitas, pan seared salmon, and a chicken breast sandwich. The menu boasts a wide variety of options, including Tex Mex, fish, burgers, and pasta dishes. Unfortunately, none of the dishes we tried were exceptional.

The salmon was inconsistent and relatively expensive, priced at \$18.99. The top of the pan-seared fish was burned, while the middle was gooey. In addition to the underwhelming presentation, the waitress was unaware of where the fish was from; therefore, leaving us in the dark about what we were consuming. The accompaniments were tasty, but nothing earth shattering; diced tomatoes to top the fish, jasmine rice, and a small vegetable medley decorated the plate but did not do much for our palates.

The quesadilla seemed to be the most satisfactory of the entrees. The tortillas were somewhat overstuffed, as the ensemble quickly fell apart. This option was one of the most economical, with a cost of \$9.99. The fajitas (\$15.99) were quite pleasant. This dish comes in a sizzling cast iron skillet, although the responsibility of assembling the fajita is left to the diner.

The chicken breast sandwich; however, was not very good. Instead of slices or a smaller piece, the chicken was about an inch and a half thick and sandwiched between two pieces of hard, French bread. There was little of the 'famous' pesto sauce and then there was a side of onion rings, which tasted like they had been taken out of a frozen bag. Normally, the sandwich comes with a side of the Circus Cafe's signature curly fries but on that particular Saturday night at 8pm, they were all out. For the price, it was not bad, costing \$12.99.

The one different and ultimately unique quality about the restaurant is that instead of bread, they serve popcorn. We will admit that was a nice treat.

Janine and Erin's Rating: 2.5/5

Campus Safety Reports Sept. 19-25



Friday, September 19 2014

- COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE: 12:23 AM report of a noise complaint in Cane Crossing. Officers stated unfounded.
- SUSPICIOUS ODOR: 9:06 AM report of an odor of natural gas in the Jonsson Tower Lot. No odor located.
- FIRE ALARM-OTHER: 9:37 AM fire alarm activation received from Sussman Apartments H. Report generated, due to cooking.
- SUSPICIOUS ODOR: 10:55 PM report of a suspicious odor in Wait Hall. Drug law violation referral and alcohol violation referral. Report generated.
- COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE: 11:44 PM report of loud noise coming from North Woods. Officers dispatched, students complied.

Saturday, September 20 2014

- CRIMINAL MISCHIEF: 12:21 AM: Individual discovered a hole in the wall of Starbuck Center by a stairway. Report made.
- FIRE ALARM APPARATUS: 12:16 AM: Report that the cover to the fire alarm in Jonsson Tower was accidentally bumped into and is emitting a small audible alarm. Officers dispatched and rectified the situation.
- NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLAINTS: 1:09 PM: Individual reports that during the previous evening some items were removed from his front lawn on Clinton St. and damage was done to this vehicle. RP advised to contact SSPD for follow-up report.
- COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE: 9:28 PM Officer responded to a noise complaint in Jonsson Tower stating that a student was in the common hallway area playing a guitar. He was advised to lower the volume.
- COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE: 11:41 PM Received a report of loud music in Northwoods Apartment Complex. Dispatched Officers report occupants were advised to lower the volume.

Sunday, September 21 2014

- COLLEGE VIOLATION: 12:09 AM Officers report an authorized party in Moore Way. Crowd dispersed without incident.
- COLLEGE VIOLATION: 2:35 AM Excessive noise complaint in Jonsson Tower. Officers report occupants complied with request to lower volume.
- CAMPUS SAFETY ASSIST: 4:20 AM SSPD informed of a motor vehicle accident property damage only hit and run. Campus Safety Officers canvassed area to SSPD
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY: 8:24 PM Officer reports suspicious activity on the Perimeter road. A male non-student was asked to leave campus and complied without incident.

Monday, September 22 2014

- TRESPASS: 8:15 AM report that a person was in the dumpster. Officer reports person gone on arrival
- ACCIDENT: 5:25 PM Individual filed a property damage auto accident report. Reports generated, photos taken.

Tuesday, September 23 2014

- GRAFFITI: 10:37 AM Officer reports being advised by a student walking to class that there is graffiti on the front of the building in Sussman Apartments. Officer reports locating the graffiti and has taken three photos.
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY: 11:09 AM Individual called stating there is a suspicious male walking around in the North Hall Lot looking at vehicles. Individual states he is acting very suspicious. Dispatched Officer reports finding the subject who stated that he is visiting someone in the Harder Hall. Subject was reunited with the employee.
- FIRE ALARM-OTHER: 2:27pm: Fire alarm sounded in Sussman Apartments. Disp. All Units and contacted SSFD. Burnt food caused the alarm.
- LARCENY FROM BUILDINGS: 09:09 PM: RP reports a found glove went missing in the Dining Hall when the owner attempted to claim it. Report taken.
- SKATEBOARDING ON CAMPUS: 4:20 PM Individual called stating that there are skateboarders near the warehouse of North Hall. Dispatched Officers who report subjects GOA.
- COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE: 9:28 PM RP called to report a noise complaint in Sussman Apartments. Dispatched Officer who spoke with occupants due to loud music and they have agreed to turn it down.

Wednesday, September 24 2014

- BURGLARY: 2:11pm - RP reports headphones taken from her room in Wilmarth Hall about a week and a half ago and wants to report it due to the posted Safety Alerts
- BURGLARY: 2:38pm - In office at this time stating her passport is missing from her room in Howe Hall and believes it was stolen.

Thursday, September 25 2014

- SUSPICIOUS ODOR: 12:22 AM: RP stated that there is a suspicious odor somewhere on the first floor of Wilmarth Hall. C/S Officer dispatched. Results are unfounded.
- COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE: 12:26 AM, complaint of loud noise in McClellan Hall. C/S Officer dispatched. They were advised to lower the level and complied.
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY: 01:15 AM: RP reported suspicious activity in the North Hall Lot. C/S Officer dispatched. Subject was identified as a non-student. C/S Officer advised to leave campus and complied without incident.

Officers dispatched. No property damage noted. Unable to location males.

- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY 10:00am: RP reports someone opened and closed her door in Howe Hall last night. Report taken.

- AGGRAVATED HARASSMENT: 9:25 AM RP reports an inappropriate message on a website. Report taken.

- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY 12:19pm: RP contacted Campus Safety to report two vehicles outside the solar gate with no one inside. Disp. Officer who reports no vehicles in area at this time.

- GRAFFITI: 12:55 PM RP called stating persons unknown have written all over the kitchenette with a black sharpie. Disp. Officer who spoke with RP took photos and report made.

- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY: 4:47 PM RP called to report a student has advised her that someone has entered his room. Dispatched officer to Jonsson Tower.

- FIRE ALARM-ACCIDENTAL 5:11 PM: Fire alarm activation received in Sports Center. Officers and Notified Maintenance. Advised SSFD. Officer reports no smoke or fire. U10 states alarm is due to a pull station in rec gym.

- FIRE ALARM-OTHER 05:22 PM: Fire alarm activation received in McClellan Hall. Officers, Maintenance and advised SSFD. Officer reports alarm is due to burnt food.

THE SKIDMORE NEWS

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Skidmore goes into emergency lock-down

By Andrew Shi, Editor-in-Chief

Additional reporting from Rebecca Shesser, Business Manager and Communications Director



State Police continue the hunt for evidence in North Woods Photo by Meredith Simonds '15

At 7:03 A.M. on Wednesday, Oct. 1, students, faculty and staff received an email and text message declaring the campus was in an emergency lock-down while police searched for an armed suspect. A fourth message at 7:54 A.M informed that all classes and activities would be cancelled until further notice as the police searched for a parolee. At 8:14 another message announced that the suspect, Shane Harding, was in police custody on campus.

Harding, 25, of Schodack, NY is a level 3 sex offender who was released on parole in January after serving four of his six year term for raping a 17-old and menacing a police officer in 2008.

On Tuesday, Sept. 30, Troy police received a call that a man was menacing a woman. Harding allegedly pulled a BB pistol on a woman who was giving him a ride at his request. The woman was able to fend him off and Harding fled. Harding then acquired a second gun and forced a female acquaintance to drive to Hancock, MA, where he raped her and then forced her to drive him back to Rensselaer County. There, he forced a male acquaintance to drive him to Saratoga Springs, where he was dropped off at Skidmore College sometime during the night.

According to Director of Campus Safety Dennis Conway, several students reported seeing a suspicious person, but only after Harding was arrested the following morning. Although unconfirmed, Harding reportedly spent the night in the back of a student's unlocked car in Scribner Village.

The following morning, the College was informed by state police that they suspected Harding was on campus, prompting the lock-down. Police arrived at approximately 7 A.M., although his presence was not confirmed until around 7:30 A.M. By 8:15, police had located Harding behind Wilson Chapel, on the edge of North Woods, and were able to place him into custody after a brief scuffle.

Harding was later charged with News-Online: October 2014. Retrieved from <http://www.skidmorenews.com> on 03/15/2016. and sent to jail

without bail.

While the campus was reopened, the community was asked to avoid North Woods, especially the wooded area around Wilson Chapel, Falstaffs, and North Broadway in an email sent by President Glotzbach. For most of the rest of the day, police could be found around the area, searching for evidence with a canine unit. By Thursday morning North Woods was reopened.

Glotzbach cancelled his Fireside Chat scheduled for Wednesday afternoon to hold an open forum to update the college and review the emergency procedures. While taciturn about details due to the event being an ongoing police investigation, Glotzbach, along with Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun and Conway, assured the community that "we are safe."

Conway informed the group that Harding's presence was a mere coincidence. In a separate interview, he said that, "the State Police confirmed with me last night that the suspect does not have any ties to Skidmore." However, The Saratogian reported that Harding requested he be dropped off at Skidmore College specifically, and that police are still investigating the motive behind that request.

At the forum Glotzbach applauded the work of Campus Safety and the law enforcement officers. "I am pleased that our emergency procedures worked as designed, including our interactions with local law enforcement agencies."

Conway echoed Glotzbach's endorsement, saying, "we're pleased that our emergency procedures worked as planned and that the campus community responded appropriately and so helped us deal with this situation."

Skidmore Students also approved of the College's handling of the situation. "I'm so happy to go to a school where I know I will always be safe no matter what happens on campus," said senior Rachel Comp.

Still, as Glotzbach noted, "these situations are complex and we can always learn." Yet, it does seem the College is well prepared for these unfortunate circumstances. In an update provided Thursday morning by the College and published on its site, Glotzbach said, "the most important statement I can make is that our campus and members of our campus community are safe."

More details will be made available pending the police report.

New student sculpture celebrates the art of dance



The en pointe sculpture, located in front of the Dance Theater.

Anyone who has visited downtown Saratoga Springs over the past year has seen them—the large sculptures of en pointe ballet shoes, each distinctly decorated. Some 30 of the sculptures are sprinkled throughout the city, and now the Skidmore campus has one of its own, located in front of the Dance Theater.

The sculptures are part of a public art project launched by the National Museum of Dance, located on South Broadway in Saratoga Springs. The project is designed not only to raise funds for the museum, but also to increase the museum's profile and to celebrate the city's rich tradition in the arts. Each sculpture was purchased by a sponsor, who worked with individual artists to carry out an agreed-upon design. The artists used a variety of media including paint, mosaic, metal, and collage.

The artwork for the Skidmore-sponsored sculpture was carried out by the college's Pro-Arts student organization. “When I met with the Pro-Arts leaders to discuss the project, they jumped at the opportunity,” said Bob Kimmerle, Skidmore's director of community relations. “Members of the club worked as a well-organized team as they proposed designs, created renderings, consulted with faculty, and then set to work applying the art. They did a great job.”

The sculptures start out as a blank slate—a five-foot-high, 90 lb. white fiberglass rendering of a ballet shoe. The Pro-Arts students, led by Madeleine Burkhart '15, proposed a black and white design with abstract depictions of dancers in motion.

To prepare for the assignment, the student artists worked with Joanne Vella and Deborah Morris of the art faculty. The advance work even included a modeling session with dancers, arranged by the Dance Department, giving the artists an opportunity to study dance movement and make sketches. The artists used the sketches to produce stencils, which they then used to spray-paint the sculpture.

“Everyone in Pro-Arts learned a great deal about the process of making public works of art, and we are so thankful to be entrusted with the project,” said Burkhart. “With the collaboration of the community and administration, the Dance Department, Photo Club—which helped document the modeling session—and Pro-Arts, this work truly represents Skidmore's ethos.”

For original story, go here: <http://www.skidmore.edu/news/2014/images/september/0922-en-pointe-sculpture.php>

Skidmore to Hold Ribbon-Cutting for Large Solar Electric Project



WHAT: Skidmore College will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate completion of its large solar project located in Greenfield Center, N.Y. It is among the largest solar arrays in New York State and is an element of Skidmore's ongoing investment in sustainable energy. This project is part of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's NY-Sun initiative, which is dramatically increasing solar energy in the state and moving the solar industry in New York State toward sustainability and self-sufficiency.

WHEN: Tuesday, October 7, 11:00 a.m.

WHO: --Philip A. Glotzbach, President, Skidmore College

--Congressman Paul Tonko

--Janet Joseph, Vice President for Technology and Strategic Planning, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)

--Additional members of the Skidmore community

WHERE: Solar Field adjacent to Skidmore Castle Baseball Diamond

100 Denton Road

Greenfield Center, N.Y.

Contact: Andrea Wise

Skidmore College

518-587-0741

awise@skidmore.edu

Directions to Solar Field Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

From I-87 south, take exit 15. Turn left off of the exit onto Route 50. Go through 3 lights. At the 4th light, turn right onto East Avenue. Follow East Avenue up the hill. At the stop sign, turn left onto North Broadway. At the second right, turn right onto First Street. Follow this road, which turns into Clement Avenue after 2 blocks. At the 4th stop sign, turn right onto Denton Road. Follow Denton Road under the railroad overpass. Look for the entrance to the solar array after the Skidmore College Castle Baseball Diamond facility.

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From I-87 north, take exit 15. Follow the roadway toward the right off of the exit onto Route 50. At the 3rd light, turn right onto East Avenue. Follow East Avenue up the hill. At the stop sign, turn left onto North Broadway. At the second right, turn right onto First Street. Follow this road, which turns into Clement Avenue after 2 blocks. At the 4th stop sign, turn right onto Denton Road. Follow Denton Road under the railroad overpass. Look for the entrance to the solar array after the Skidmore College Castle Baseball Diamond facility.

Volleyball Team Splits Liberty League Matches

By Skidmore Athletics



Kalle Fox '18 / Photo by Bob Ewell

The Skidmore College volleyball team won 3-1 in its first Liberty League game of the season over Bard College on Saturday, October 4, at St. Lawrence University. The Thoroughbreds lost to the host school 3-0 in the final match.

The Thoroughbreds split the first two sets with Bard (2-21, 0-8), before winning a close third and an easy fourth set for the win. Brittany Osborn '17 had a team high of fifteen kills with eleven digs. Aria Goodman '15 added fourteen kills and had a .361 hitting percentage. Kalle Fox '18 continued her steady play with thirty-five assists and ten digs, while Clara Jones '18 had five aces and eight digs. Marcela Familiar '17 had a team high of twenty-two digs, with four assists and two aces.

Against St. Lawrence, Goodman had thirteen kills, eight digs, an ace, and two blocks. Fox racked up twenty assists and five digs, while Familiar had fourteen digs.

Skidmore will host Middlebury College on Wednesday, October 8, at 7 p.m.

Men's Soccer Hones in on the Liberty League



The Skidmore College men's soccer team hosted Utica College on Tuesday, October 8th in their final non-conference contest of the regular season. Brock Bakewell '15 brought the score up to 2 – 2 with his 5th goal of the season, assisted by Tim Sullivan '16. The score was still tied at the end of the last half. The head coach Jeremiah Kneeland made some after remarks. "It was our last non-conference game so for us it was important to come out with no injuries and build confidence and momentum." Men's soccer displayed a tenacity and strength that will carry on into their 3rd Liberty League match at Clarkson University this Saturday, October 11. They are currently 6-4-2 and have six more matches to go. If they finish in the top four in the Liberty League Tournament, they will go on to play in the NCAA Tournament.

Big Show Interview: Kandace Springs

By Billie Kanfer '16, Features Editor



Kandace Springs on her first album cover

This Saturday Oct. 11, Chance the Rapper is going to take Skidmore's campus by storm as he performs for our Fall Big Show. Not only will the show, part of the Verge Campus Tour, feature this well-known artist, but also the Sweater Beats and Kandace Springs. This week, I had the opportunity to interview with Kandace Springs. Singing since she was 13 years old, a child of Nashville, TN, Springs was inspired by idols such as her father and Billie Holliday to pursue music from such a young age. Springs hit the spotlight when Prince took her under his wing and on stage to perform alongside His Royal Badness, all without having released a song. Since performing with Prince, Springs has gone on to release an album entitled, *Kandace Springs*, and tour with Chance the Rapper. She will continue on to work with Ne-Yo on his upcoming tour dates. Just last week, Springs appeared on The Letterman Show, making her first-ever television debut.

Despite a busy schedule, Springs was kind enough to accept my interview.

Q: You have grown up with music your entire life, but where do you believe your inspiration came from? Is there one particular moment that you felt music just clicked with you?

A: When I was 10 years old, my parents gave me a Norah Jones CD and by the time I turned 13, I was singing. When I was 13, my mom bought me a sheet music book and my first performance was back home in Nashville. I knew that music clicked with me when I was on stage. The reaction I got from the audience was overwhelming and that's when I realized I wanted to be a musician when I grew up. My dad was a singer so he definitely inspired me as well but that Norah Jones CD propelled me even further. The first song I performed was a Jazz song by Norah Jones herself.

Q: What's your favorite part about singing?

A: I think that singing allows people to express themselves through music. I personally enjoy seeing other people's reactions to the music that they are listening to. It's like painting a picture, when you first get out there; it is like a blank canvas and I am about to paint a picture for everyone when I start to sing. I also love when people know the songs and begin to sing along with me. I think that is really cool, I get an adrenaline rush out of it.

Q: Who is your musical inspiration?

A: Lauryn Hill, Aretha Franklin, and Billie Holiday. I love their voices, especially Aretha Franklin—they all have this “gritty soul.”

Q: What has been the most difficult part about getting to where you are today?

A: The music business is not like a 9-5 job, you really never know what to expect. There have been difficult parts, sometimes it feels hopeless because they are so few people that truly make it, make it onto television, the big-time, etc. It's all about meeting people and getting your name out there but at the same time, staying true to who you are.

Q: Could you further define “classic soul meets modern hip-hop”? What sort of style do you aim for? Where did that style originate?

A: My main goal is to keep soul alive. I have been influenced by a lot of Jazz artists including Billie Holiday and the other artists that I mentioned before. I want to bring a modern twist, that way I attract more contemporary people and younger listeners. I want everybody listening! That is what I am for...I want all ages to appreciate my music and sing along with me!

Q: Would you consider yourself a fan of older music rather than more contemporary music? If so, where do you draw your ideas from?

A: Definitely. I really like the older sound; it is more sophisticated, thought through and genuine. Back in the day, music was raw and real, there was no technology. I appreciate the younger, pop music—I want to blend the two together and create the best of both worlds.

Q: Are you excited to tour with Chance the Rapper? How did you begin to tour with him? How was your show at UCLA?

A: Yes! I am super excited. I am blessed to have this opportunity and am extremely appreciative of what is happening for me. The UCLA show was dope, seeing my face on the big screen was amazing and having everyone sing along was even better. I think it has been kind of random to get to work with Chance. The talent booking agency hooked it up and got us together. Chance is still new for me although he is super cool and fresh. In a few weeks I will be working with Ne-Yo as well, I've always loved his stuff, he is really musical and I am looking forward to that as well.

Q: What are you looking forward to while touring?

A: I am looking forward to everything, to getting out there, letting people see who we are.

Q: What makes you nervous?

A: Nothing makes me too nervous. There is always the regular stuff that could go wrong, sound, etc but we have top-notch sound people working with us. I am blessed and thankful that everyone seems to appreciate the music. The band has rocked it out previously so I can't wait to show Skidmore what we have worked so hard to achieve.

Q: How do you see yourself in a few years from now?

A: I really hope to have a household name, I want everyone to have our record and say, "Oh yeah, Kandace Springs, that cool girl...I love her, she's my favorite."

Q: What is one piece of advice that you can give to up and coming artists?

A: I spent time playing jazz and soul in a country town. People kept trying to make me do more pop, they wanted to change me. Don't let people tell you to change. You can be open-minded but don't change who you are for someone else's opinion of who they think you should be. And never give up.

Restaurant Review: Wheatfields



By Jessica Tetu '17, Contributing Writer

Perhaps my taste buds were used to the monotony of the Skidmore Dining Hall food; perhaps it was the palpable excitement about going out to eat; whatever the reason, I experienced a veritable culinary awakening at Wheatfields restaurant last Friday evening. Located on the corner of Broadway and Caroline, across the street from Cantina, Wheatfields is an Italian-American restaurant that serves products from local farms.

If you have family coming in for Celebration Weekend, Wheatfields is a terrific choice and opportunity to impress family. In the evenings -- although Wheatfields is open for lunch as well, -- the restaurant boasts an intimate, warm ambiance that is both comfortable and upscale. Wine bottles and rustic brick decorate the walls as warm lighting illuminates art dedicated to, you guessed it, food. Although my colleagues and I walked right in and got a table, if you're considering Wheatfields for Celebration Weekend, I recommend making a reservation well in advance.

Let's get to the most important part. After a better-than-average crab cake appetizer and a delicious chicken Caesar salad (although I typically prefer my dressing with a bit more bite), I enjoyed a scallop dish with mushroom risotto. Easily one of the best scallop dishes I've had, the melt-in-your-mouth scallops tasted fresh and were cooked to a buttery perfection without being mushy. Additionally, the risotto had a delightful texture and packed a surprising punch of mushroom and garlic. My senses conflicted as I desired to devour the deliciousness but y wanted to savor every divine bite. After the first bite I was intrigued; by the last I was in love; by the time I left I was in a food coma.

Meanwhile, my friends chose two different steak dishes (the Sirloin Steak Frites and the NY Strip), and while both were quite good, the NY strip was undercooked despite my colleague's specifications, and both were a bit chewy for my taste. It should be noted, however, that both of them enjoyed their meals and had they alerted our server to the cooking mistake, I am sure it would have been corrected.

After the main course, we enjoyed hot coffee and chocolate lava cake about which, I am unashamed to admit, I have fantasies about on a fairly regular basis.

Service was top-notch, and the atmosphere was lively as couples, families and students indulged in Friday evening freedom.



Wheatfields also offers gluten-free, vegetarian, and vegan menus for patrons with dietary restrictions. The price is surprisingly doable for such high quality food, although if you are a poor college student like me with limited disposable income, it's a once-in-awhile treat.

Club Profile: African Heritage Awareness (AHA)



AHA Club

By Andrew Shi '15, Editor-in-Chief

The Skidmore News had the opportunity to interview, Nikhita Winkler, President of the African Heritage Awareness Club.

Q) What is the African Heritage Awareness club and why was it founded?

A) The African Heritage Awareness club (AHA) was founded for students who are of African heritage to have a place where they can build discussion and share their culture in a space with students who are interested in learning about African cultures. It was also founded with the purpose to bring more culture and cultural awareness to the Skidmore and Saratoga community, and to fill the gap in the education departments where there are not many courses representing Africa.

Q) What is a typical meeting like?

A) A typical AHA meeting starts off with everyone in the room doing a dance (roll call) to get the energy going. Then there will be updates from events that have taken place during the weekends (we share pictures and videos), as well as E-board updates. We then spend some time discussing future events and ideas. The second half of the meeting is all about discussion topics and presentations of countries/documentaries.

Q) Africa is a large continent. Is there a specific region that your club focuses on, or do you try to cover it all?

A) You are right. Africa is very large and then there are the other countries which are of African heritage/decent, making it even larger. We try to cover as many countries as we can, but it often depends on our members and which countries they represent or have sufficient knowledge about.

Q) When you raise awareness, are you focusing on a specific aspect of African heritage (e.g. cultural, political)?

A) We focus on raising cultural awareness and then we tune into specific issues about which to raise awareness, such as media advertising of Africa in America. We tackle issues and concerns as they come or as the topics arise during conversations in our general meetings. In addition, we hope to start collaborating with certain departments, such as the Anthropology department, to give students a more integrated experience of our native cultures which they learn about in class.

Q) What kind of events do you host, and what events can we look forward to seeing in the future?

A) We just performed during Peace Week in the Gannet Auditorium Lobby as an introduction to the screening of "Sweet Dreams," which is a documentary film about Rwandan women and their uprising after the Rwandan genocide. We played drums and did some cultural dancing as well as a presentation on Rwandan History. We also hosted a Game Night on Case Green, where we played traditional games with free pizza and African music. For the rest of the semester we plan to have two movie nights, our main event (AHA Festival), a themed Falstaff party, and an Africa in Focus Week. For the spring semester we will have similar events, but instead of a main event we will have a Charity month.

We also plan to have African food served in D-hall, give African Drum and Dance workshops and bring in some speakers. In addition to our own events, we hope to collaborate with other clubs.

6) Is there anything else you would like to the student body to know about the African Heritage Awareness club?

A) We are a new club, and we are not only a cultural and performing club, but also a club that aims to raise money through our activities for a charity we will donate to. We welcome everyone to join in on one of our meetings and enjoy the warm energy we share and hopefully learn something new about the largest and richest continent on earth.

AHA meetings are held every Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the ICC (second floor of Case).

The Significance of Sleep



By Brittany Dingler '15, Peer Health Educator

In his June, 2013 Ted Talk “Why Do We Sleep,” Russel Foster—a circadian neuroscientist (think Bernie Possidente)—passionately fights for the importance of sleep not only as a resource for refreshing ourselves between action-packed days but also as preserving and enhancing our overall health and well-being. More specifically, Foster digs in deep to the necessary effects of dozing-off, such as the stimulation of certain genes related to restoration and others that aim to conserve energy. Foster also discusses how crucial cognitive processes tied to productivity require sleep, such as enhanced creativity and problem-solving ability. This idea addresses the paradox of sleep for college students who spend their nights in Case Center (after being thrown out of the library) studying and writing papers that take away precious hours of sleep, when in fact sleep that is extremely essential to encoding the names and structures of amino acids or writing the sequel to *The Fountainhead*.

Doing your best to maintain a consistent sleep schedule by getting up at the same time every morning (even on the weekends, if possible) and starting to wind down around the same time in the evenings, can help to maximize energy levels during the day and improve your quality of sleep at night. Additionally, creating an enjoyable and calming bedtime routine is an effective way of distancing yourself from the stressors of the day and preparing for a restorative slumber. Lastly, to improve sleep quality at night, the Peer Health Educators recommend exercising early in the day, cutting off caffeine before dinner, and swapping out your electronics for a book so as to not disrupt the pineal gland's normal, bedtime secretion of melatonin (essentially, the sleep hormone). Although incorporating all of these changes at once may seem overwhelming, you're likely to feel better after a few days with even just setting one or two goals for your sleep schedule. Until then, get some rest and put down your iPhone.

Issues of Safety at Skidmore College and the World Beyond: A Discussion of Youthful Idealism & Harsh Realities



Police barricaded Skidmore's entrances during the frightening lockdown on October 1. Photo by the Times Union

By Ryan Davis '17

There's been no shortage of discussion regarding this year's safety concerns at Skidmore. We've been getting a steady volley of emails from Campus Safety informing us of various dangers and crimes committed both on and off campus. Last week's lockdown was probably the most dramatic of these cases.

In general, discussions that have taken place among students fall into one of two categories: Are there more safety reports this year at Skidmore due to an increase transparency? Or is the increase in reports a sign of the outside world changing for the worse? I wish to respond to the latter. What is the nature of this often-pessimistic world, and how are we to respond as a community? The question of what kind of world we live in is one that varies widely depending on who you ask. I don't have concrete answers, only thoughts on the problems of our generation, and how we can respond to them.

I know I'm not alone in admitting that recent local acts of violence have left me a bit spooked. The recent assault just off campus that hospitalized two students has me checking my back a bit more often than I would have last year. The fact that one of the assailants involved was a Skidmore student troubles me even more. The string of burglaries on campus has me locking my door even when I'm just walking down the hall, and the lockdown has me valuing the quiet mornings we typically spend tired, groggy, and without fear. Having had such a quiet freshman year last year, these occurrences seem so uncharacteristic of our community. For the first-years, who have no prior experience at Skidmore to base their opinions off of, each new safety report must be more worrisome than the last.

The idealist in me wants to focus on how these are isolated incidents, and that by-and-large, Skidmore is a safe campus. Last week's lockdown was an incredibly rare occurrence, and it was handled very well by Campus Safety and state law enforcement. Therefore, I believe that we cannot lose faith in Skidmore's community due to fear. That ever-darkening world outside Perimeter Road can only taint our experiences here if we allow it to. Fear is toxic. Panic leads us to mistrust and be wary of strangers. A little caution is a good thing, but I worry that students will become terrified of meeting new people around campus, and our community will turn bitter.

I believe that Skidmore students are some of the kindest people I've ever had the good fortune to meet. If we remember that we are a community, we can better maintain the safe and welcoming atmosphere that makes our campus so special. There will always be danger in the world. If we stand together, though, we can ensure that the campus itself is a safer place, simply by being aware and being there for one another.

However, it's not quite that simple. What I have just said is a manifestation of youthful idealism. I grew up in a small town roughly the same size as Saratoga Springs, and I've always seen these kinds of communities as safe havens. I feel as though writer Matthew Arnold described this feeling best in his poem "Dover Beach": "We are here as on a darkening plain / Swept with confused alarms of struggle and flight / Where ignorant armies clash by night." Published in 1867, the poem represents the world as it was 150 years ago. The present is very different, and yet still very much the same. There are global terrors to fear, such as Ebola, Russia's recent military campaigns in Ukraine and Crimea, and the Islamic State. As college students growing up in this world, I fear idealism might not be enough. It is hard to stay positive about the state of our community when the outside world seems to be falling apart.

Maybe, as I've heard some people suggest, we do need armed guards at educational institutions. Maybe we do need road checkpoints, thicker doors, and a campus that is harder to access. Maybe such measures are the only ways to keep students safe. But I hope that it never comes to that, that we are stronger than the struggles we may face, and that with that strength, recent safety incidents may remain isolated, and stop occurring. If anything, I hope that discussions of how we as a community will respond to recent safety concerns will help bring us together, and make us stronger.

Reel Talk: *Gone Girl* is very dark but immersive and incredibly well done



By Sean van der Heijden, Staff Writer

David Fincher's latest film adaptation, *Gone Girl*, is based on the wildly successful novel of the same name by Gillian Flynn. After his wife's disappearance leaves many people believing he is the culprit, a man must piece together various clues in order to figure out what happened, and while the whole case quickly becomes the attention of the media. Intense, disturbing, and full of twists, *Gone Girl* starts off slowly, but becomes impossible to look away from by the end.

A lot of credit must be given to the two leads—Ben Affleck and Rosamund Pike—who play Nick and Amy Dunne, a couple whose marriage slowly unravels until, on the day of their fifth wedding anniversary, Amy goes missing. Affleck plays his character very smugly the whole time, but—in contrast to a lot of anger at his initial casting—he is the perfect fit for the role: ambiguous, confident, and on edge, he leaves you wondering about his character's motivations.

The movie, however, belongs to Pike, whose character becomes stronger as the movie progresses. She goes through an impressive range of emotions in the film, acting sweet, angry, seductive, tough, devastated, and disturbing—frequently all in the same scene. She's shockingly good and incredibly engrossing throughout.

The supporting characters, too, are all great. Neil Patrick Harris especially stands out as the creepy ex-boyfriend of Pike's character, and Tyler Perry can actually act as the know-it-all lawyer of Nick's. Carrie Coon provides some dark comic relief as Nick's sister, Margo, and Kim Dickens and Patrick Fugit are very convincing as detectives of the case.

As I walked out of the movie, the only thing I knew for sure was that it was very well done. Fincher directs with precision and confidence, the cinematography is dim and moody, the editing between past and present perfectly timed and intense, and the score by Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross pulsates brilliantly throughout, bringing out the dark undertones of Flynn's sharp screenplay.

This is a film that warrants so much discussion—not only in trying to figure out what the truth is, but also considering the critiques on marriage, the media, and police investigations. It may leave you feeling a little empty, a little gross, and a little confused, but *Gone Girl* is thought-provoking and definitely worth seeing. It's also totally crazy and insane.

Overall: 9 out of 10.

The Skidmore Community Garden



By Jessica Kong '16, Staff Writer

The newest addition to Skidmore's architectural and natural collection, the Skidmore Community Garden, sits cheerfully at the entrance of our campus. Rows of lush, healthy vegetation have been sprouting from the ground just steps outside of the student residence halls since last semester. Curiosity leads one to ask: where do the products of the garden go?

Eliza Hollister '15, an Environmental Studies major and current manager of the community garden on campus revealed it all goes to the dining hall. "All the vegetables that we produce, we sell to the dining hall. All the produce that is being grown here will end up in the dining hall in something that they cook, so the students and whoever else is eating there will be consuming the vegetables that are grown in the garden."

Hollister began her work as the manager last November, breaking ground in front of Wiecking Hall by getting the soil ready for sowing. In the spring of 2014, she and a cohort of "green" volunteers did some preliminary planting. Hollister elaborated on the first steps taken to create this lovely garden: "We couldn't plant immediately because it was all new and we had to build the garden before we could plant in it. We started in little plant cells and we transplanted [them] to the garden. Some of the peppers were transplanted; we had some cucumber transplants."

Look for spinach, squash, and carrots the next time you go to the Dining Hall. You may find that nearly every station incorporates some of this produce in the food offered.

Luckily, anyone with a passion for locally grown food can help out, indirectly or more hands-on. The Skidmore Community Garden club maintains an active website (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/skidmorecommunitygarden/>) and meets every Sunday from 1 to 3 p.m., and help is always welcomed. "Now, it's mostly harvesting and planting a few things for next year and maintaining what we've already got planted, but as the season goes on, our meetings will turn into planning for following years. Thus, if people are interested, there's a huge amount of stuff that needs to get done. People can come and help out, and people have been coming which is wonderful." Make sure to check out the Skidmore Community Garden and even help by reaching out to Eliza Hollister and the "green-team."

Editorial: The Benefits of Big Show

By the Editorial Board



Fall Big Show Poster

Skidmore's Student Entertainment Committee (SEC) funds, organizes, and hosts a musical act every year to perform for the student body at our annual Big Show. There is always a significant amount of debate surrounding the event and choice of performer. In past years, SEC has brought us the Dirty Projectors, Danny Brown, Action Bronson, Dead Prez, and Mayer Hawthorne. Since the announcement of Chance the Rapper as this year's Big Show performer, the student community has voiced strong opinions, both positive and negative, about the choice of the prominent rap artist. The Editorial Board would like to take a step back from the heated debate and recognize the positive community aspect of the Big Show.

Big Show enjoys one of the highest turnout rates of the year, regardless of the performer. This year, SEC planned to sell just under 2000 tickets. As a point of comparison: Gannett Auditorium, frequently half-filled when we host distinguished lecturers, seats 271. At a school where sports games, lectures, and student performances frequently struggle to draw a big crowd, it is nice to have an event that students will turn out for. When all of your friends and classmates are purchasing tickets, it is hard to resist the urge to plan to attend. Even those people who complain about the choice of performer will likely show up. Rarely does Skidmore host an event attended by the majority of the student body. There is an energy and excitement to standing in a crowd with your classmates, and to be able to discuss it with everyone in the following week.

Like any event, there are components that could be improved. Maybe it would be advantageous to have a widely-publicized vote within the campus community to select the top choices for Big Show performers. But with such a diverse community represented at Skidmore, settling on a single artist that appeals to everyone is nearly impossible. The budget for Big Show is enormous, disproportionately larger than what it costs to bring other big name speakers or performers. We could question whether we want to spend this huge sum on one event or break it up to bring several different performers who may appeal to a wider variety of musical tastes.

There are several other aspects of the Big Show that could be improved, too. SGA has planned an excellent Oktoberfest weekend, including a Big Show after-party at Harvey's, but there is no post-show event for those under 21. Furthermore, the event was not widely publicized-- it was primarily word-of-mouth. Getting the word out about this great event, with more flyers and posters, would help build hype on campus before Saturday.

At the end of the day, there will never be a consensus about the performer and no event is flawless. Chance is a huge name and should put on a great show. Big Show is a chance to see your community assembled in one place and party with your peers. We're looking forward to it.

The Blue Side: The Inevitability of Marriage Equality

By Jeremy Ritter-Wiseman '15, Columnist



Since the demise of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) in 2013, marriage equality has been on a meteoric rise to become the national standard. DOMA, which prohibited the federal government from recognizing same-sex marriages, was ruled unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court. Since then, bans on gay marriage have been ruled unconstitutional in district and state courts across the country. Additionally, U.S. Appeal Courts in four circuits have concomitantly affirmed the unconstitutionality of the states' bans. Opponents of gay marriage have retained hope, appealing to the Supreme Court to overrule the circuit courts' rulings. They had retained this hope at least until this past Monday.

By refusing to hear appeals from the Fourth, Seventh, and Tenth Circuit Courts, the Supreme Court might have tacitly legalized gay marriage in America. With the ruling on Monday, gay marriage bills are now able to move forward in the five states of Indiana, Oklahoma, Utah, Virginia, and Wisconsin. With these states added, the tally is 24 states and the District of Columbia which now recognize same sex marriage. Furthermore, the ripple effect of the ruling may lead to the more states recognizing same sex marriage and could well expand to 30 states within weeks, covering a majority of Americans.

The public is growing weary of arguments against gay marriage. While there was little reaction to Monday's ruling, challengers decried judicial activism, which would delegitimize the ruling. Perhaps most vocal, Texas Senator and presidential hopeful Ted Cruz was quick to [admonish](#) the court, calling the ruling “judicial activism at its worst.” While Cruz is not wrong to remain alert to the consequences of judicial activism, he should tread carefully when it comes to rulings on civil liberties.

Many arguments against the “redefinition” of marriage and the Supreme Court's ruling echo arguments heard during the civil rights movement. Those who opposed the ruling on *Brown v. Board of Education*, which ended segregation in public schools, also lamented judicial activism as playing an irresponsible role.

Current arguments against same-sex marriage are as baseless as the ones made in response to the civil rights movement. In a recent example, Judge Richard Posner of the Seventh Circuit Court [addressed](#) the only “rationale that the states put forth with any conviction” as being “so full of holes that it cannot be taken seriously.” This seems to be the consensus on most claims that decry gay marriage as a detriment to society.

Many also cite religious beliefs in defense of upholding “traditional marriage.” During his campaign for the Republican nomination in 2011, temporary frontrunner Senator Rick Santorum defended his opposition to same-sex marriage by placing himself as the victim. He [stated](#), “So now I'm a bigot because I believe what the Bible teaches.” He's right—Santorum is not a bigot because he believes in what the Bible teaches him. He does, however, represent the epitome of bigotry when he imposes his intolerant beliefs on others by advocating for anti-gay marriage laws as a politician. The United States was founded on a fundamental separation between church and state and should thus discount any and every religious argument against gay marriage. These arguments nevertheless persist, necessitating the need to further devalue them in court.

The near future bodes well for marriage equality. Soon same-sex couples in two-thirds of the country will likely be able to marry freely. Despite small hiccups since Monday's ruling, like Justice Anthony Kennedy's decision to block an appeals court ruling that struck down a gay marriage restriction in Idaho, marriage equality's inevitability was proven further in the lack of outcry from the Republican Party. Although Congress is currently out of session, a landmark ruling like Monday's would be expected to invoke fervent attacks, such as those offered by Senator Cruz. However, the GOP was uncharacteristically quiet, potentially suggesting a conscious decision to capitulate in the fight against marriage equality. Republicans are undoubtedly aware of their disparate views on social issues and the negative affects they may have on national elections prospects.

With an unspoken surrender by the Republicans, and with a majority of states soon likely to recognize same-sex marriages, it will prove unlikely that the Supreme Court would overturn a lift on marriage restrictions in the states. However, instead of simply refusing to hear appeals on lifting the ban to marriage equality, the Supreme Court should affirm a constitutional right to same-sex marriage, as there are many states, primarily in the Deep South and Midwest, where lifting of restrictions seems distant. Nevertheless, the momentum of the national gay rights movement does not appear to be ceasing. Now tacitly backed by the highest court in the country, the movement will inexorably result in marriage equality becoming the law of the land.

Glens Falls Community Fighting Back for Reproductive Rights



Presenting an evening of political theatre that flips the “pro-life” movement on its head

GLENS FALLS, NY (Sept. 15, 2014): MOM BABY GOD, Madeline Burrows' one-woman show based on her two years undercover at anti-choice conferences taps into the smoldering political conflict in the US surrounding reproductive rights is leaving audiences around the country inspired and galvanized to action. MOM BABY GOD is pleased to present a one night only performance in Glens Falls, NY on Saturday, October 11 at 7:30 pm at the Charles R. Wood Theater, 207 Glen St., Glens Falls, NY. Tickets are \$20 for general admission and \$10 for students. To purchase tickets call 518-480-4878 or visit mombabygod.com.

Glens Falls has become a microcosm of our nation's reproductive rights debate. Life-sized statues of Jesus and Mary loom over the sidewalk opposite the city's Planned Parenthood, which is seeing a growing presence of anti-choice protesters. This ostentatious showing of anti-choice sentiment hasn't gone unanswered. Resident Enid Mastrianni saw the “tremendous amount of passion and anger aroused amongst the women of Glens Falls who have relied on Planned Parenthood for over forty years” and acted, joining Get Your Girl On, a local organization founded by Joy Kaczmarek that supports women's access to health care. Get Your Girl On is bringing the nationally acclaimed performance, MOM BABY GOD to Glens Falls to unite the area's pro-choice community. All proceeds from the performance will go directly to the Planned Parenthood Glens Falls Health Center, providing financial support for women seeking reproductive health care as well as improving security and privacy for their patients and staff.

MOM BABY GOD has quickly moved from the campus of Hampshire College, located in quaint Amherst, Massachusetts, to a national platform. The play's stand-alone quality as a piece of art fills seats with theatre critics and activists alike, while its provocative content and immersive portrayal of American girl culture at the mercy of the War on Women engages new audiences from all walks of life. Jaclyn Friedman, editor of Yes Means Yes and founder of Women, Action & the Media describes MOM BABY GOD as “a tour-de-force performance” that is “life altering and silly at the same time.” Gwen Tulin, a Chicago theater artist and audience member says, “I haven't seen anything that made me feel such a strong call to action since the original Laramie Project.” It's clear that MOM BABY GOD is on to something: reestablishing theatre as a tool for political change. MOM BABY GOD has seen its share of conflict: At the show's New York premiere last October, Students for Life of America Executive Director Kristan Hawkins sent a member of her organization to the performance equipped with spy-glasses to illegally videotape the event. In her exposé of MOM BABY GOD in the National Review, Hawkins called the footage “...too vulgar to release to the general public” and other right-wing media outlets have published reviews condemning the play - despite having never seen it or read the script. “We suspect that Hawkins quickly realized she would be in gross copyright infringement should she release the footage,” says Burrows. “That, and people would actually see what the play is about.”

Now on the heels of a successful national tour, Burrows and her team are emboldened by the positive receptions they've received with each successive performance and are excited to lend their voices to grassroots movements for reproductive rights and Glens Falls is no exception. Get Your Girl On will lead a peaceful Pro-Choice Voices rally on Saturday, October 11 at noon. The demonstration will begin at the Civil War Monument at the intersection of Glen and South Streets after which the participants will walk to Planned Parenthood. Burrows is ready: “It's about time the pro-choice movement pushed back; we've been stumbling and failed to notice just how close we are to losing the rights to control our own bodies. I couldn't be prouder to stand at the helm. Bring it on.”

MOM BABY GOD is written and performed by Madeline Burrows and features lighting, projection and sound design by Allison Smartt. Emma Weinstein is the director. To schedule a review, or for more information and other press inquiries, contact Allison Smartt at mombabygod@gmail.com.

Skidmore Rolls Past Bard for Liberty League Win

By Skidmore Athletics

The Skidmore College women's soccer team broke into the Liberty League win column, with a 1-0 win at Bard College the night of Tuesday, October 7.



Emily Saliterman '17 / Photo by Bob Ewell

The Thoroughbreds improve to 4-4-2 overall and 1-0-2 in Liberty League play. The Bard Raptors are 4-8-1 and 0-4.

After a scoreless first half, Emily Saliterman '17 scored her sixth goal of the season at 59:10, when she forced a turnover at the top of the box and caught the inside top right corner.

Skidmore outshot Bard 25-11 and had a 4-2 edge in corners.

Goalie Deirdre Walsh '17 had five saves for her third shutout of the season.

Skidmore will host Clarkson University on Saturday, October 11, at 3 p.m.

Campus Safety Reports Sept. 26-Oct.2



INCIDENTS OF NOTE:

Wednesday, October 1 2014: INFORMATION RECEIVED ON KIDNAPPING: 5:30 AM received information concerning a suspect wanted by the NYPD that may be in the Saratoga Springs area. Advised all Officers and On-Call supervisor. Lockdown put in place. Investigation by outside Police Agencies ensued. Suspect captured on campus. Evidentiary investigation ensued.

Friday, September 26 2014

SUSPICIOUS ODOR 2:40pm - RP reports a suspicious odor in Wait Hall. Disp. Officer who confiscated items. Report made.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TESTING 3:59pm - Campus Safety in conjunction with the Communications Office conducted a semi-annual test of the Emergency Management Systems and found all to be operational at this time.

FIRE ALARM-ACCIDENTAL 9:03pm - Received a fire alarm for the Sports Center. Officers, Maintenance and advised SSFD.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY 10:46pm - RP states there is a suspicious person at the Spa in Case Center who is making students feel uncomfortable. Officers who located subject and will be escorting him from the area.

LIQUOR LAW VIOLATION 10:47pm - Officer reports an alcohol violation. In Jonsson Tower Report made.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF 10:53pm - RP reports damage to the sheetrock at the base of the wall of Kimball Hall. Photos taken. Report made.

COLLEGE VIOLATION — NOISE 11:05 PM Noise complaint in Sussman Apartments Officers who report area is quiet at this time.

Saturday, September 27 2014

COLLEGE VIOLATION —NOISE 1:15 AM: RP reports loud noise in Wilmarth Hall. Dispatched Officers who report no noise at this time.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF- 2:07 AM RP reports a male hitting something with a baseball bat in Cane Crossing. Dispatched Officers who confiscated the bat. Report made.

COLLEGE VIOLATION — NOISE 2:59 AM: RP reports loud noise coming from first floor of Wait Hall. Dispatched Officer who reports GOA.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF 3:24 AM: Officer reports graffiti on north elevator walls of Jonsson Tower. Photos taken. Report made.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY 3:20 AM: RP reports that when he came back to his room he found a male sleeping in his bed in Jonsson Tower. Dispatched Officers. Officers unable to locate individual. Subject GOA.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY 6:45am: RP reported finding a male sleeping on the floor in classroom in Ladd Hall. Disp. Officers who identified the male and escorted him from the building.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY 08:58 am - RP reports a suspicious vehicle outside Harder Hall. Officer dispatched. Vehicle found to be unoccupied. Officer checked the area for owner but were not able to locate subject. Officer cleared. Officer rechecked the area at

10:05 am and the vehicle was gone.

FIRE ALARM-OTHER 7:22pm - Fire alarm received from Sussman Apartments. Officer, Maintenance and advised SSFD. Alarm was due to a burning candle. SSFD advised and continued response. Alarm reset.

FIRE ALARM-OTHER 8:07pm - Fire alarm received from Sussman Apartments. Officer, Maintenance and SSFD. Due to cooking. Alarm reset.

GRAFFITI 8:55pm - Officer noted graffiti in the stairwell of Jonsson Tower. Photos taken. Report made.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF 9:14pm - RP reports a hole punched in the wall of Wiecking Hall. Photos taken. Report made.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY 9:54pm - RP states there are three males that appear to be sitting on the apartment roof at Dayton Drive. Officer who reports subjects GOA.

COLLEGE VIOLATION — NOISE 10:44pm - RP states there is a large gathering of students congregating on Tower Greens who may have alcohol. Officers who report no problems at this time. Group is playing a game with no alcohol present.

Sunday, September 28 2014

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY- 12:18am - RP states there is a person dressed all in black with a hood on just standing on the hill overlooking the parking lot in Northwoods. Officers searched both Northwoods and Sussman Village to no avail ~ subject GOA.

CAMPUS SAFETY ASSIST 4:50 PM: RP states the Woodlawn street sign is missing and requests Campus Safety keep a look out for it in case it appears on campus.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY 9:20 PM: RP reports there are two older males rummaging through recycle bins in Northwoods Apartments. Officers dispatched. 9:44 PM: Officer reports several students picking through trash dumpsters for a lost item. Students were asked to stop and clear out and complied.

SUSPICIOUS ODOR 10:53 PM: RP reports a suspicious odor in the basement of Wait Hall. Officer dispatched. Unfounded.

Monday, September 29 2014

CAMPUS SAFETY ASSIST- 12:09 AM: Received 911 call from Kimball North Entry. Dispatched Officers who report no one in the area and no emergency exists in the area at this time.

FIRE ALARM-OTHER 12:42PM: Fire alarm activation received. Disp. Officers, Maintenance and advised SSFD. Due to cooking in Sussman Apartments, report generated.

AGGRAVATED HARASSMENT 2:45 p.m.: RP reports receiving harassing/annoying messages from an acquaintance. Report made.

COLLEGE VIOLATION — OTHER 5:30PM: RP reports students on balcony of Jonsson Tower. Report made. Balcony closed.

COLLEGE VIOLATION — OTHER 05:07 PM: RP observed a couple of people who may be smoking marijuana outside Wilson Chapel. Officer who reports subjects are rolling their own cigarettes with regular tobacco.

BURGLARY - NO FORCE 05:30 PM: RP in office to file a report of a missing camera in Kimball Hall. Report made.

CAMPUS SAFETY ASSIST 08:38 PM: RP called stating that she could hear yelling coming from a bathroom while she was in the 2nd floor hallway of Ladd Hall. Officers who report no one in either bathroom. Unable to locate any problem.

SUSPICIOUS ODOR 10:43 PM: RP reports a suspicious odor near Scribner Library. Officer who report the odor has dissipated and no one is in the area currently.

Tuesday, September 30 2014

- **WELFARE CHECKS-** 1:31 PM 1:31pm: RP request a check be made for daughter living in Sussman Apartments as she has

been feeling ill and cannot be reached. Disp. Officer who reports Student is fine and is calling her mom.

- TRESPASS ENTERS WITHOUT PERMISSION- 4:05 PM RP called stating there is a person going through the recyclables in Northwoods. Officers who identified and warned subject off campus and told not to return.
- WELFARE CHECKS- 10:12 PM RP called requesting a welfare check for her son in Rounds Hall. Officers who located student in his room. He states that his phone is dead but will return the call when phone is charged. Called parent and advised her.

Wednesday, October 1, 2014

- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY- 8:01 AM RP States the door to room in Rounds Hall is wide open and neither occupant is there. A call placed to both occupants went right to voicemail. Dispatched Officer who reports locating once occupant asleep in bed and the other occupant was reached successfully by cell phone at this time
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY- 2:58 PM RP called stating there is a couple walking down Clinton St carrying something like a sleeping bag. Officers checked the area to no avail. Subjects GOA.
- SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY- 1:00 PM RP advised of an incident which occurred last week in the Northwoods and Falstaff's lot making her feel very uncomfortable regarding a strange male existing the Northwood trails at Falstaff's Lot and thought she should report it due to today's incident. Report made.

Thursday, October 2, 2014

- SUSPICIOUS ODOR- at 11:20 AM RP called stating there is an odor of gas in the area of Case Center and the Library. Dispatched Officer and Maintenance who report they are unable to detect any gas odor at this time. RP was advised to contact Facilities or Campus Safety immediately if the odor returns.
- FIRE ALARM-OTHER - at 11:43 AM Fire alarm sounded. Dispatched officers who report alarm caused by cooking. SSFD advised. Report made.
- AGGRAVATED HARASSMENT- at 2:10 PM RP received an e-mail from an unknown person that was critical of a coach
- FIRE ALARM-OTHER- at 4:26 PM Fire alarm received from Sussman Apartments. Officers dispatched, maintenances and advised SSFD. Due to cooking.
- NOISE- 8:04 PM Officer dispatched to noise complaint in Sussman apartments and reports call was unfounded. No excessive noise found.
- NOISE- 10:37 PM RP reported loud music and excessive noise from Sussman Apartments. Officer responded and residents of apartment complied in turning down noise.
- SUSPICIOUS ODOR- 10:38 PM, RP reported a suspicious odor. Officer checked and was unable to determine the source.
- COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE- 11:34 PM Officer dispatched to loud noise disturbance call relating to an encounter from earlier in the evening of same nature near Sussman Apartments. Officer reports unregistered party. Report made.

Pianist Baytelman to present the work of Jewish composers in Oct. 26 recital

Pola Baytelman, distinguished artist-in-residence in the Skidmore College Music Department, will celebrate the music of Jewish composers with a piano recital on Sunday, Oct. 26, the latest in Skidmore's Jacob Perlow series of events.

Free and open to the public, the recital will begin at 3 p.m. in the Arthur Zankel Music Center on the Skidmore campus. The audience-friendly program features selections by Mendelssohn, Schoenberg, Schoenfield, Milhaud, and Schulhoff.



Baytelman has earned acclaim for her performances and recordings of Latin American and American composers—which represent her native Chile and her adopted home. The upcoming concert provided her a chance to explore her roots, said the pianist, who is Jewish. “I have been considering this project for quite a while now. It represents the culmination of an exploration of my roots. I have a recording of works by Latin-American composers, and my new CD, released in April, consists of music by American (US) composers, the US being my adopted country. Working on a project that would include Jewish music seems to be a natural path to follow,” Baytelman said.

She made her debut with the Chilean Symphony Orchestra at the age of 17 and has since performed with numerous orchestras, in the US and abroad. After graduating from the University of Chile's National Conservatory, Baytelman earned a master's degree and an artist diploma from the New England Conservatory in Boston as a pupil of Russell Sherman under a Fulbright grant. She earned a doctorate in piano performance from the University of Texas, Austin, where she studied with Nancy Garrett. She has also worked with Claude Frank and Menahem Pressler.

An active recitalist with a broad repertory that ranges from the 18th to the 21st century, Baytelman has toured extensively in China, Europe, Hong Kong, South America, and across the United States. She is well known for her performances of music by Spanish and Latin American composers, particularly the music of composer Isaac Albéniz. Baytelman has performed Albéniz's Monumental *Iberia* throughout the U.S., and recorded a groundbreaking CD of Albéniz's work in 1998 (Elan). She is also the author of a book on Albéniz's piano music published by Harmonie Park Press in Michigan.

Highly respected as an artist and educator, Baytelman has taught master classes in mainland China, England, Hong Kong, and throughout the US. She is a sought-after judge for international competitions in both Europe and the U.S., as well as a presenter-

telectronic conferences in the U.S. and abroad. Her Skidmore faculty colleagues chose Baytelman to present the Edwin M. Moseley Faculty Research Lecture-Recital in 2006, the highest honor Skidmore faculty confers on a colleague. Her latest compact disc, *Celebration of the New – American Composers* was just released by Albany Records. Baytelman's recording of Robert Schumann's Humoreske (2002 Centaur) was listed by American Record Guide as one of the top three performances of the classic work.

A generous grant from the estate of Jacob Perlow—an immigrant to the United States in the 1920, a successful businessman deeply interested in religion and philosophy, and a man who was committed to furthering Jewish education—supports annual lectures and presentations to the Skidmore and Capital District communities on issues broadly related to Jews and Judaism.

Women's basketball hosts Supplemental Day Hab



On Wednesday, Oct. 8th the Skidmore College women's basketball team worked on passing, dribbling and shooting with 13 people in Supplemental Day Hab. Several teams host clinics throughout the school year to teach Saratoga Bridges Supplemental Day Hab participants about their sport. Students and participants create friendships established through clinics and are reinforced when they see each other on campus for games and other clinics. This gives a deeper sense of community for both groups. Additionally, students develop an understanding of how to teach their sport to others who might not have any prior understanding of the game, and learn to adapt the sport to be accessible to people of varying abilities. "We look forward to seeing the ladies on the court and on campus this season," said Winnie Pino, a Saratoga Bridges Supplemental Day Hab instructor. "Thank you and good luck!"

Field Hockey Edges Williams, 3-1

By Skidmore Athletics

The Skidmore College field hockey team battled to a 3-1 non-conference win against Williams College on Tuesday, Oct. 14, at Wagner Park.



Jenn Hanks '16 scored for the third straight game / Photo by Bob Ewell

The Thoroughbreds (10-3), who beat the Ephs (7-5) for the eighth consecutive time, secured their tenth straight 10-win season and their 18th straight winning season. Skidmore has won ten games in 17 of the last 18 seasons.

Williams jumped out to a 1-0 lead 25 seconds into the contest, as Alex Bennett picked out Caitlin Conlon alone in front of goal, and she slotted home a shot from ten yards.

Dani DeGregory '16 provided Skidmore's response just over a minute later with her 21st goal, collecting a loose ball at midfield and dribbling past the lone Ephs defender, before converting on the breakaway.

Sam Skott '15 doubled the Thoroughbreds lead in the eighth minute, lifting a close range shot over Williams goalkeeper Margaret Draper into the back of the cage. Jenn Hanks '16 netted her third in goal in as many games in the 19th minute, scoring on a penalty stroke.

Skidmore nearly extended its lead from a penalty corner in the 26th minute, but Draper made back-to-back saves to keep her team within two at the break.

The Ephs mounted the pressure late in the second half, but Skidmore goalkeeper Amy Beck '15 came up big, making three of her four saves in the final 15 minutes to seal the win.

The Thoroughbreds outshot the Ephs 14-6 and had an 11-6 edge in corners. Draper finished with six saves in goal for Williams.

Skidmore closes out its non-conference schedule on Saturday, Oct. 18 at 1 p.m. at SUNY Oneonta.

Walsh named Defensive Performer of the Week



Skidmore College women's soccer sophomore goalkeeper Deirdre Walsh was named the Liberty League Defensive Player of the Week after registering back-to-back shutouts against conference opponents.

Walsh made five saves in the Thoroughbreds (5-4-2, 2-0-2 Liberty League) 1-0 win at Bard and turned away four shots in Saturday's 1-0 win over Clarkson, improving to 5-1-2 on the season. She has conceded just one goal in four conference games this season, posting a .975 save percentage and a 0.33 goals against average in those contests. Walsh ranks fourth in the conference in save percentage (.860) and goals against average (0.76).

Skidmore hosts league-leading #11 William Smith at 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17.

The Literal Rise and Fall of the Artistic Gymnastics World Championships

By Mia Merrill, Sports Editor

The 45th artistic gymnastics world championships was held from October 3rd to 12th in Nanning, China. I don't know of anyone else who was excited as I was. It is safe to say that gymnastics is not a widely viewed sport, and so to those who understood my alternate cheering and moping this week, I thank you.



Simone Biles wins her fifth gold of the 2014 world championships / Photo by teamusa.org

Gymnastics competitions can go one of two ways: the consistent gymnasts from the countries with the most well-funded programs hit their routines and win, and specialists—gymnasts who concentrate on only one apparatus—help boost the team score. Or, because gymnastics is a sport about balancing on thin objects, holding yourself up with your core muscles for long amounts of time, and defying the laws of physics, the top qualifiers slip and fall and someone else gets the medal. It's a brutal sport to do and see.

This would be an extremely long article if I went through all the details of each all-around and event final, but there is a cheat sheet at the bottom of this article that lists winners and medal counts by nation.

The main events of the competition were the men's and women's team finals. This was the first international team competition since the 2012 Olympics. China and Japan were very close throughout the men's final, and the gold ultimately went to the home team of China, the reigning Olympic champions. Japan, who also won the silver in 2012, was awarded silver again, and the US won bronze. The US bronze is a major accomplishment after their fifth place Olympic finish.

The US women's team won the gold, adding to their 2012 Olympic win and 2011 world championships win. The US won by 6.693 points, which is a huge margin for gymnastics. Most competitions are won by one or two points, and some are won by just a few tenths of a point. As for the other competitors, China won silver, and Russia bronze. China's silver is huge for the women's team, who did not make the podium at the last Olympics.

Kohei Uchimura of Japan won the men's individual all-around for the fifth consecutive time. Uchimura was the 2008 Olympic all-around silver medalist, the world all-around champion in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013, and 2014, and the 2012 Olympic all-around champion. Uchimura, the 2011 world floor exercise champion and the 2013 world parallel bars champion, is one of the most talented and successful male gymnasts of all time. Max Whitlock of Great Britain, the current European pommel horse champion, won the silver in the all-around, and Yusuke Tanaka of Japan won the bronze.

The major upsets of this world championships came in the women's individual all-around and balance beam finals. This all-around marked the first in which Olympic champion and three-time world and European champion Aliya Mustafina of Russia has participated in and not made the podium in four years. Fans and critics expected Mustafina, the 2010 world all-around champion, to defend her 2013 bronze medal.

Simone Biles of the US defended her gold medal to no surprise. After becoming the first African-American to win the women's title in 2013, Biles is now the first woman in twenty years to win the title for two consecutive years. Biles is a four-time US national champion and a six-time world champion—and she's only seventeen, in case you wanted to feel inadequate.

Larisa Iordache of Romania won the silver in the all-around, an incredible accomplishment after struggling in international all-arounds for many years. Iordache is the current European floor exercise champion. Kyla Ross, a member of the gold-winning US women's "Fierce Five" 2012 Olympic team and the 2013 world all-around silver medalist, won the bronze.

In the balance beam final, frontrunners Yao Jinnan of China and Iordache both fell off the balance beam, and finished in eighth and fifth place, respectively. Ross, the 2013 beam silver medalist, finished in sixth. Biles won her fourth gold of the championships on the beam, after winning the bronze in 2013. Mustafina, the 2013 world balance beam champion, won the bronze medal. Some critics have expressed annoyance at Mustafina's bronze, claiming that her performance was not worthy of the podium and that she only succeeded because others failed.

But that is the nature of gymnastics: one person's success depends heavily on another's failure. Some say that Ross would not have won the bronze in the all-around if some of the top eight qualifiers, like Mustafina and Jinnan, had not fallen in their last event. In the 2012 Olympics, McKayla Maroney of the US won the silver on vault after falling, because almost all the other competitors also fell. That's what makes gymnastics such an exciting sport to watch. And it is sure to be just as exciting at next year's world championships in Glasgow, Scotland.

Medal Count:

Women's:

United States: 7

People's Republic of China: 4

Russian Federation: 4

Romania: 2

People's Democratic Republic of Korea: 1

Men's:

Japan: 6

People's Republic of China: 3

United States: 3

Brazil: 2

Croatia: 2

Russian Federation: 2

Ukraine: 2

France: 1

Hungary: 1

People's Democratic Republic of Korea: 1

The Netherlands: 1

United Kingdom: 1

Results – Men's:

Team: China, Japan, USA

Individual all-around: Kohei Uchimura (Japan), Max Whitlock (Great Britain), Yusuke Tanaka (Japan)

Floor exercise: Denis Ablyazin (Russia), Kenzo Shirai (Japan), Diego Hypolito (Brazil)

Pommel horse: Krisztian Berki (Hungary), Filip Ude (Croatia), Cyril Tommasone (France)

Still rings: Liu Yang (China), Arthur Zanetti (Brazil), You Hao (China)

Vault: Ri Se-gwang (North Korea), Ihor Radivilov (Ukraine), Jacob Dalton (USA)

Parallel bars: Oleh Vernyayev (Ukraine), Danell Leyva (USA), Ryohei Kato (Japan)

Horizontal bar: Epke Zonderland (The Netherlands), Kohei Uchimura (Japan), Marijo Moznik (Croatia)

Results – Women's: Team:

USA, China, Russia

Individual all-around: Simone Biles (USA), Larisa Iordache (Romania), Kyla Ross (USA)

Vault: Hong Un-jong (North Korea), Simone Biles (USA), Mykayla Skinner (USA)

Uneven bars: Yao Jinnan (China), Huang Huidan (China), Daria Spiridonova (Russia)

Balance beam: Simone Biles (USA), Bai Yawen (China), Aliya Mustafina (Russia)

Floor exercise: Simone Biles (USA), Larisa Iordache (Romania), Aliya Mustafina (Russia)

THE SKIDMORE NEWS

HOME ABOUT US NEWS FEATURES OPINION ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SPORTS PULP ARCHIVES ADVERTISING STAFF

Editorial: Following-up on Safety Alerts

Lori Parks !! 10/6/14

SAFETY ALERT

The following incident was reported to Campus Safety: A student was walking with...

Skidmore Alert 10/1/14

Lockdown

A Skidmore emergency exists lock yourself in a room and be quiet. More info to follo...

Lori Parks !! 9/24/14

** SAFETY ALERT ** Burglaries 9/18/2014...

Skidmore Community, Attached and below is a Safety Alert regarding burglaries that occur...

Skidmore Alert 9/14/14

Assault Reported

Assault reported on campus. 2 male suspects a white tall male wearing plaid...

In just the past month, the Skidmore community has received four urgent safety notifications. Chloe Kimberlin '17 / The Skidmore News

by The Editorial Board

Skidmore College vigilantly addresses safety concerns on this campus. Students are often promptly alerted when a harmful incident has occurred, and we are usually aware of when our safety is in jeopardy. According to Skidmore's annual [Safety Report](#), every time an incident is “considered a threat to the students or employees” the college issues out a “timely warning.” However, after students receive that initial notification, the Editorial Board finds that the updates tend to end there. We believe that there is a lack of follow-up from the administration to students regarding issues of safety in the aftermath.

For example, what happened to the armed criminal on campus two weeks ago? Why did he come to Skidmore in the first place? Considering the amount of rumors that spread at the time of the lockdown, the silence from the administration after the fact has fallen heavily.

In another recent instance, two students were assaulted on campus about a month ago. Campus Safety alerted students of the attack in a curt email, but we have heard nothing since that initial email. What happened to the assailants?

Sometimes, after a sexual assault has been reported, fliers are posted throughout campus, alerting the student body to the date and location of said incident. What happens to those perpetrators though? And what about those thefts of laptops from dorm rooms? Were those thieves ever caught?

How are we to know that any of these concerns are being addressed, and consequently, how can we as a student body feel safe in our own community?

These are the kinds of questions that the school leaves us in the dark to speculate. To remedy this, the Board asks that at regular intervals after the incident that prompted the initial alert, the student body receives an update with information on the kinds of safety concerns listed above; perhaps two weeks after the event, then a month and so forth until the problem has been resolved.

We recognize that in many situations, the College cannot legally release details, or in some cases, they just don't have details at all. Furthermore, there can be a need to respect privacy, particularly in cases of sexual assault. We do not necessarily ask that all explicit details be released. We would just appreciate knowing if, when, and how any progress has been made to ensure that our campus is a safer community. Even a note stating that the College is still looking into the matter would be appreciated.

Beyond assuring students of their safety, knowing that safety concerns on campus are taken seriously and handled effectively would encourage more victims to feel comfortable reporting incidents, thus ensuring a safer environment. Currently, the amount of sexual assaults reported is far below its actual occurrence rate, with about 60% going unreported, according to the [national average](#). If Skidmore proved that coming forth with an assault would ensure justice, or at least demonstrated that they will actively handle the issue, students would perhaps feel safer in reporting crimes.

The board is not asking that students be alerted to every crime, but if a matter is serious enough to elicit a text, email or poster on every door, students ought to also be reassured that the party responsible is being held accountable. Keeping us in the dark will only generate harmful rumors, fear and a sense of vulnerability. Even a short email could help alleviate some of those concerns.

Kashmir's Devastating Flood

By Janine Kritschgau '18, Staff Writer



Photo Credit: Samir Uni

Kashmir and neighboring areas are currently experiencing their most devastating flooding in recent history. Victims are struggling to find safety from the water, which has taken the lives of 460 people to date. Although the exact number of people displaced by the flooding is unknown, estimates near a million.

A group of students from Skidmore has responded to the crisis by forming The Kashmir Flood Volunteers Action Committee (KJVAC). The group, led by Ben Hinks '15 and supervised by Professor Biberman-Ocakli of the Government department, gathered for the first time Thursday, Oct. 9 to discuss fundraising strategies.

KJVAC has decided that all proceeds will be sent directly to Samir Ahmad—a former colleague of Professor Biberman-Ocakli—who is currently teaching in Kashmir. Ahmad will distribute the funds throughout the community to help victims buy necessary items. KJVAC hopes to wire the donation within the next two weeks.

The Committee has generated a plethora of fundraising ideas, but decided to focus on a few—namely, collecting money online. Donations are being collected through a webpage hosted by GoFundMe, which has already raised \$1400, just \$600 short of the goal amount. Other students can participate in the fundraising by buying grilled cheese sandwiches made by the FeelGood Club (date TBD). KJVAC is also in talks with Esperanto's, a local global foods restaurant, who would donate a portion of its profits on a specific day to the cause, but as of yet the effort has been unsuccessful. Instead, the group is trying to set up a table at Celebration Weekend to collect donations and spread awareness about the issue.

Stay updated on the cause by watching and reading the news and keep an eye out for KJVAC and their fundraising efforts as they strive to help out people who are in need.



Photo Credit: Samir Uni

Trick-Or-Treat for a Cause

By Francesca Green '17, Contributing Writer



Skidmore's UNICEF Chapter

Trick-Or-Treat for The United Nation's Children's Fund (UNICEF) started in 1950 when a group of children in Philadelphia went trick-or-treating with their pastor, not only for candy but also donations to send to UNICEF.

That first year they collected \$17. Since that point, Trick-Or-Treat for UNICEF's popularity has grown exponentially and the program has raised more than \$170 million to date. Trick-Or-Treat for UNICEF has sent the UNICEF campus initiative at Skidmore supplies so students can participate in this nationwide effort. (Although Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF is also in Canada and Hong Kong, the majority of its participants are found in the United States.)

This year will be the 64th anniversary of Trick-Or-Treat for UNICEF and millions will participate: from NGOs and community-based groups to religious groups, elementary schools and college groups (like Skidmore's own UNICEF campus initiative!).

Here is an idea of what the money raised can buy: Only \$1 is needed to provide potable water for a child for 40 days. \$5 can feed a malnourished child for 5 days. *280 children can be vaccinated* with only \$10! And 100 children can be protected from malaria for \$100.

Our club will be going trick-or-treating on the 31st with children from local schools, churches, and we've even extended an invitation to faculty, staff and their families. Not everyone has to go trick-or-treating to participate or help out. We also have a website where people can donate whatever they can and every penny goes towards Trick-Or-Treat for UNICEF and its cause. The website is: <https://www.crowdrise.com/skidmorehalloween> though people can of course also donate directly on UNICEF's page online! Happy trick-or-treating!

Skidmore Goes Apple Picking

By Noa Maltzman, Staff Writer



You might think that Photo club, Hillel, Women in Business and SkidEats have nothing in common due to their varying activities and goals; however they all had or are having an event that involves apple picking.

Both Hillel and Women in Business went apple picking on Sunday, Sept. 28. After apple picking, Hillel posted on their Facebook page: "Apple picking was so much fun." The fun didn't stop there because following their return to campus, they went to the test kitchen where they baked apple crisp using the freshly picked apples. Not only did Hillel post on their Facebook page after apple picking but also Women in Business went to social media to discuss their success. WIB posted a picture of the group in front of the Saratoga Apple sign with a caption that read, "We had an awesome time apple picking today! #SkidmoreWIB."

In addition to apple picking, the co-president of Women in Business and founder of the club Lyssa Jackson '16 said, "We [WIB] also ate cider donuts, bought fresh produce, and grabbed goodies like maple syrup, honey sticks, and other products like jam and maple candies." Jackson also commented saying that WIB is, "incredibly supportive of one another and apple picking was a great bonding experience for a fall Sunday afternoon."

Of these four clubs, Photo Club was the next to go apple picking. Due to the rainy weather the date had to be switched from Saturday, Oct. 4 to Sunday, Oct. 5. This change caused them to have a very small turnout of only four people. Co-president Lauren Reilly '15 said "because the group was so small, it ended up being a great bonding experience for the few members who were there." Not only did Photo club pick apples, they took advantage of the setting and photographed their surroundings. "The orchards made for great landscape shots and backdrops for portraits," said Reilly.

The last of these four clubs to go apple picking was SkidEats. They went apple picking on Saturday, Oct. 11. Just like Hillel, as they returned from their trip, SkidEats gathered to bake and eat apple pies and apple crisps.

If you missed the chance to go apple picking with these few but still want to go, keep your eyes open for notices about other clubs going apple picking or get a group of your friends together and go yourselves. Saratoga Apple, the local apple orchard, is only 16 minutes away and makes for a lasting memory and surplus of food to fulfill your fall apple-fix.

Club Profile: The Skidmore Accents

By Billie Kanfer '16, Features Editor



The Lovely Ladies of the Skidmore Accents

The Skidmore News had the chance to talk to Emily Kortright '15, the co-President of the Skidmore Accents about their lively and active all-female a cappella group.

Q: Who are the Skidmore Accents?

A: We are an all-female a cappella group who pride ourselves on our eclectic set lists that include a mix of folk, rock, pop, rap, gospel, hip hop, and soul. More than anything, we are just a bunch of ladies who really love to sing and love each other just as much.

Q: When did the group begin?

A: The Accents have been around since 1980.

Q: What makes it such a unique group on campus?

A: In my opinion, what makes the Accents so unique are our quirks. We are such a diverse and wonderfully weird group of people who each add something special to the group. Plus, it helps that we genuinely love performing with each other and for other people. When you're doing what you love with the people that you love, it really shows.

Q: What are the benefits from it being an all-female a cappella group?

A: Being in an all-female a cappella group is pretty much like being constantly surrounded by your sisters. Honestly, it's a blessing and a curse in that there is no bullshit. We all care about each other and know way too much about each other's lives, so you can't hide when there are things going on; we work through things together. It's really an amazing dynamic because it just makes us closer and the music we sing together even more meaningful. I can't speak for other groups because the Accents are all I've ever known, but in my experience, being in all-female a cappella means that you have a constant support group of people who will be there for you no matter what and also cry tears of joy pretty much every time you sing.

Q: What has been your favorite song performed to date?

A: That's hard, but probably my favorite song was the Salt-N-Pepa Medley we sang in my freshman and sophomore years. It was a
Skidmore News Online: October 2014. Retrieved from <http://www.skidmorenews.com> on 3/15/2015.

combination of “Shoop,” “Push It,” “Let's Talk About Sex,” and “Whatta Man.” It was absolutely ridiculous and I don't think we ever sang the entire thing through without completely falling apart, but somehow it always managed to sound great and was always a hit.

Q: Along with that, how do you choose what song to perform?

A: At the end of the semester we have Song Selection, which is where we decide what songs to bring back from the previous semester's set list, and then we choose usually 4 or 5 songs from a pool that is made up of 2 songs from each girl in the group. We listen to every suggested song and have about a million votes and really intense discussions before we finally get down to the winning songs. It's really a grueling process that is impossible to get through without some sort of food being delivered and someone shedding at least a single tear. I'm only partially joking.

Q: How can one get involved with the Accents? Is there a tryout process?

A: We hold open auditions every semester for any ladies who just want to sing, so if you didn't get a chance to tryout this fall, come on out in the spring. We love meeting new people.

Q: When is your next performance?

A: Our next performance is our Halloween Mini-Jam with Pulse in Gannet at around 9 on Friday the 31st, but you can also hear us sing at Big Top this Saturday! Be on the lookout for posters and Facebook Events.

The Blue Side: The Importance of Immigration Reform



By Noah Tananbaum, Staff Writer

America has always been a country comprised of immigrants. Initially, Western European colonizers washed up on our shores. They have been followed by Irish families, German and Dutch settlers, Eastern European Jews and Chinese immigrants at the turn of the 20th century and, more recently, a large cohort of Hispanic immigrants. Our government and citizenry must realize that one of America's great strengths is that we are made up of a diverse group of people with far-reaching cultures and backgrounds. This bolsters our country rather than hinders it.

The [patterns](#) of immigration illustrate that by the end of the century, the United States will more than likely become a “majority-minority” country. And yet, despite all of this, there are those in our country who feel threatened by the arrival of new immigrant families. While there is no doubt that there is a border crisis occurring in our country and that there are many undocumented workers living in here, these are issues that can be addressed. While it is eminently reasonable for Americans to be concerned with the effects that a fast-growing population has on job availability and government spending within the country, many Americans simply do not want more immigrants because they view them as an existential threat to their way of life.

Political scientists have studied this theme of a symbolic threat that immigrants represent and dubbed it the “[acculturation threat hypothesis](#).” This hypothesis presents the idea that native-born citizens undergo a culture shock of sorts when their environment encounters a massive ethnic change, wherein they are exposed to different cultures and sets of values that ultimately create a wedge between the natives and the immigrants. To find evidence of this, look no further than the Super Bowl earlier this year. Coca-Cola ran a [commercial](#) which portrayed numerous different ethnicities living in America, all singing “America the Beautiful” in different languages. Sadly, this ad stirred up [controversy](#) with conservative members of the media, many of whom were outraged that anyone would have the nerve to sing “America the Beautiful” in any language other than English. This is a remarkably intolerant outlook on other cultures. If America is to succeed in the future then we must embrace multiculturalism rather than shun it. If the United States continues to reject multiculturalism, it will be to our own detriment. Immigrants enrich our country. Accepting them makes smart economic sense. There are brilliant people all over the world, many of whom come here with temporary visas, take what they learned here and bring it back to their country where they compete against us because they were not allowed to stay here on a permanent basis. When seeking a path to citizenship, immigrants are required to take a test that many Americans would fail. Having some form of a citizenship test is important but America must either modify the test or establish a broader, more sophisticated plan of educating those preparing to take the test, ensuring that they are on a more even playing field.

[For years now](#), Democrats have attempted to push through comprehensive immigration reform and the Republicans have blocked their attempts. The immigration trends for the remainder of the 21st century are clear and if Republicans do not modify their stance on this particular issue, their constituency will become a minority. The issues that immigration creates are very real, but we have no hopes of solving them if we continue to express xenophobic tendencies and oppose the acceptance of those who would bring new ideas and cultures to our country.

Campus Safety Reports Oct.3-9



Friday October 3, 2014

COLLEGE VIOLATION - NOISE: 03 AM: RP reports loud music in Sussman Apartments. Dispatched Officers who requested music be turned down. Complied without further incident.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY 12:27 AM: RP reports loud screaming and the sound of breaking glass in Jonsson Tower. Dispatched Officers who report area is quiet at this time and no broken glass could be located.

SUSPICIOUS ODOR 12:29 AM: RP reports suspicious odor. Dispatched Officer. Officer reports subjects GOA and no odor present at this time.

LARCENY FROM MOTOR VEHICLE RP reports items taken from car. Report made.

AUTO ACCIDENT 2:17pm: RP in Office at this time stating his vehicle was scratch while parked in Palamountain Lot. Disp. Officer. Report made.

SUSPICIOUS ODOR 9:14pm: RP states there is a group of people outside the front door and there is an odor of marijuana as well. Disp. Officers who report group is gone and the odor has dissipated.

COLLEGE VIOLATION - NOISE 11:32pm - RP states there is loud noise. Disp. Officers who determined the source of the noise. Dispatched to another call.

EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED PERSON 11:33pm - RP states a friend just left her apartment in an emotional state threatening harm to self. Officers with a photo of student and a description of clothing. While gathering information from RP she stated the friend just called and is at home at this time. Updated Officers. Interviews conducted. Report made.

DRUG LAW VIOLATION 11:54pm - Officer reports finding a drug law violation. Items confiscated. Report made.

Saturday October 4, 2014

COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE 12:18 AM RP reports excessive noise. Officer dispatched and report resident complied with request to be quiet

COLLEGE VIOLATION - NOISE 1:50 am - RP reports excessive noise. Officer dispatched and reports all parties GOA.

COLLEGE VIOLATION - NOISE 1:00 am - RP reports excessive noise. Officer dispatched and report no noise at this time. All appears to be quiet.

COLLEGE VIOLATION - NOISE 1:05 am - RP reports excessive noise. Officers dispatched and report students complied with request to be quiet.

COLLEGE VIOLATION - NOISE 3:28 am - RP reports excessive noise. Officer dispatched and reports no noise at this time.

SUSPICIOUS ODOR 1:36pm: RP reported a suspicious odor. Officer dispatched and reports no odor present upon his arrival. No problems observed at this time.

TRESPASS 6:00 pm R.P. reports a trespassing incident. Report made.

COLLEGE VIOLATION - NOISE 1158pm: RP reports loud noise. Officer dispatched. Occupants advised to turn down music.

Sunday October 5, 2014

COLLEGE VIOLATION - NOISE 12:51 AM RP reports loud music. Officers dispatched and checked the area, could not hear any noise. 1:50 AM RP called saying noise is still going on. Officers spoke to residents and advised them to keep the volume down.

COLLEGE VIOLATION - NOISE 2:04am: RP reports loud noise. Officers who report area is quiet upon their arrival.

COLLEGE VIOLATION - NOISE 4:22 am: RP reports loud noise. Officers dispatched and report resident complied with request to quiet.

DISCHARGE OF A FIRE EXTINGUISHER 10:06am: RP reports that a fire extinguisher has been discharged. Notified Maintenance and Housekeeping. Report taken.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY 12:50pm: RP reported being approached by a strange male while off campus. Report made. SSPD notified.

FIRE ALARM-OTHER 3:53pm: Fire Alarm received. Disp. Officers, Maintenance, and advised SSFD. Due to cooking.

LARCENY 5:18 PM: RP reports bike lock on the ground and bicycle was missing from the railing. Report taken.

Monday October 6, 2014

LARCENY 10:35am: RP reports missing "Skidmore Thoroughbreds" banner. Report generated.

FIRE ALARM-ACCIDENTAL 12:41PM: Fire alarm received. Disp. Officers, Maintenance and advised SSFD. Unable to determine cause of alarm.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY 1:14pm: RP reports suspicious male. SSPD also contacted. Individual identified and warned not to return to campus.

FIRE ALARM-OTHER 1:23PM: Fire alarm activation. Disp. Officers, Maintenance and advised SSFD. Alarm due to cooking. Report generated.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY 5:22 pm. Officer reports seeing a suspicious looking male walking along Perimeter Road. Individual stopped, identified, and warned not to return to campus.

GRAFFITI 05:34 PM: RP called to report graffiti on the water tower. Officer who took photos and issued report. Unknown at this time who may have done it.

SUSPICIOUS ODOR 10:53 PM: RP called to report a suspicious odor. Officer who reports resident admitted to smoking marijuana. Report made.

Tuesday October 7, 2014

COLLEGE VIOLATION - NOISE 01:54AM: RP reports loud stereo. Officers dispatched report volume lowered upon request.

AUTO ACCIDENT 2:00pm: RP reports someone has hit her car while it was parked in the lot. Officer reports finding the offending vehicle. Report made. SSPD not contacted at this time.

SUSPICIOUS ODOR 07:50 PM: Officer reports a suspicious odor in Sussman Apartments but could not locate source. Odor dissipated. All appears to be okay at this time.

Wednesday October 8, 2014

SUSPICIOUS ODOR - 1:10 AM: RP called to report a suspicious odor in Jonsson Tower. Dispatched Officers who report locating a room of students smoking marijuana. Report made.

LARCENY/ CRIMINAL MISCHIEF- 8:30am: RP states the card reader has been torn off the wall and is missing in Wiecking Hall. Carpenters have replaced this card reader, but have not located the original. Report made.

AUTO ACCIDENT 10:20am: RP states that the stair railing in Jonsson Tower Lot was damaged while attempting to park. Disp. Officer and contacted SSPD at owner's request. Report made.

FIRE ALARM-OTHER 11:03am: Fire alarm sounded in Sussman Apartments. Disp. Officers, Maintenance and advised SSFD. Alarm due to cooking.

CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF STOLEN PROPERTY 11:11am: Officer reports finding stolen city street signs in the Sussman apartment. Officer confiscated the signs and contacted SSPD to pick up. Report made.

Thursday, October 9 2014

SUSPICIOUS ODOR 09:12 PM: RP reports a suspicious odor. Disp. officer who could not locate source. No odor at this time.

SUSPICIOUS ODOR 09:22 PM: RP called to report a suspicious odor. Disp. Officers who report the group was smoking cigarettes unaware of the new policy and will move on.

COLLEGE VIOLATION - NOISE 11:26 PM: RP called to report loud noise and suspicious odor. officers.

Deathwatch on the Southside

In a blue room, I sit in facing an
ashless brick fireplace, devoid
of cardinal movement.
Ulysses hangs in the entrance
to the light blue house on Davis Avenue-

It is spring, a few birds
flit and perch on the branches of
empty trees, easily seen as the bearings I
feel I lost somewhere along the line I was taught
to walk by those supposedly wiser than myself.

I'm not alone in this room, though,
there are three of us:
two others sit beside me,
every person contemplating survival
in some future
as we bootleg our way to salvation
with each knife to the cutting board and
scratch and cut and gasp of a needle
taken from the record's grasp and grooves
too hastily.

I am among friends
and feel alone
but it a warm loneliness,
a deep melancholy highlighted
by a thin strip of sunshine,
when I arrive at the conclusion that
it is not so terrible to feel alone
because it cannot not last forever.

I only have to look to my right
to find comfort in two parallel minds
or swing my eyes around the room,
suddenly energized to spend an hour
organizing the stacks of books that
litter the living room

but then I will inevitably begin to read.

which is not bad, I don't condemn it
I just have a very active imagination
and get attached to characters pretty quickly.
Their world becomes mine for as long
as I can remain there because sometimes
its just easier to hide for while
in a nearby galaxy

but the problem is books end too,
just like loneliness before it.

I delight in the words I find but
know they cannot last forever.
They are given brief life, small
brilliance in the animation of my neurons,
but inevitably perish as my

eyes leave their inky forms.



Legal Scholar to Discuss Racial Justice and Incarceration



Michelle Alexander

Michelle Alexander, a noted civil rights litigator and legal scholar, will give a talk titled “The New Jim Crow” on Wednesday, Oct. 22, at 7 p.m. in the Arthur Zankel Music Center at Skidmore College. The talk is open to the public free of charge.

Alexander is the author of *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* (The New Press, 2010). The book, a *New York Times* best-seller, has been featured by national radio and television media outlets including NPR, *Bill Moyers Journal*, the *Tavis Smiley Show*, and C-Span *Washington Journal*.

“The fate of millions of people—indeed the future of the black community itself—may depend on the willingness of those who care about racial justice to re-examine their basic assumptions about the role of the criminal justice system in our society,” states Alexander in *The New Jim Crow*.

Alexander currently holds a joint appointment at the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity and the Moritz College of Law at Ohio State University. She was previously an associate professor of law at Stanford Law School, where she directed civil rights clinics.

For several years, Alexander served as the director of the Racial Justice Project for the ACLU of Northern California, where she helped to lead a national campaign against racial profiling by law enforcement. While an associate at Saperstein, Goldstein,

Demchak & Baller, she specialized in plaintiff-side class-action lawsuits alleging race and gender discrimination. Alexander is a graduate of Stanford Law School and Vanderbilt University. Following law school, she clerked for Justice Harry A. Blackmun on the United States Supreme Court and for Chief Judge Abner Mikva on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

Organized by Skidmore's Committee on Intercultural and Global Understanding, the event is co-sponsored by the Student Government Association Speakers Bureau; Office of Student Diversity Programs; Office of Intercultural Studies; Black Faculty and Staff Group; Student Academic Services; and Ujima, the college's African/Caribbean cultural awareness club.

The Tang Teaching Museum presents the Quiet Music Festival



The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery proudly announces the East Coast premiere of the Quiet Music Festival at 5 pm Thursday, Oct. 23. Admission is free, and festivalgoers are welcome to come and go throughout the evening.

Chris Johanson, festival founder and organizer, describes the event as a communal listening experience that celebrates emotional, vibrant, and low-volume music honoring the quiet act of listening.

Johanson is also an artist whose work is included in the Tang's current exhibition *I was a double*. He has presented -- and played with his band Sun Foot -- in the Quiet Music Festival for the past four summers in Portland, Oregon. At the Tang, Sun Foot will be joined by, Rosary Beard, Melissa Chilinski and special guests, Lizzi Bougatsos, Hush Arbors, Dragging an Ox Through Water, David Greenberger, and Trinie Dalton.

Chris Johanson and his wife, Johanna Jackson, commonly collaborate on projects, such as custom-designed furniture installations, drawings, ceramics, skateboard designs, and a book project. The furnishings, each created specifically for designated spaces, including *I was a double*, feature found wood, used materials, and colorfully patterned textiles. Johanson dumpster dives for the wood and constructs the furniture frames, while Jackson weaves and sews the textiles.



Chris Johanson established the Quiet Music Festival of Portland in 2011. Recent exhibitions include the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Malmo Museum, Sweden; Vancouver Art Gallery, B.C.; Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego; SITE Santa Fe; SFMOMA, San Francisco; and UCLA Hammer Museum, Los Angeles.

Rosary Beard is upstate New York duo Hunter Sagehorn and Matthew Loiacono, whose music is intricately intertwined acoustic guitar parts. Sagehorn is known for his angular, rhythmically-cryptic guitar work in the rock band *Alta Mira*; Loiacono, for his solo experimental mandolin and voice music as *Matthew Carefully*. As a duo, they found new synergy in composing quiet, thoughtful music, performing in churches and art galleries, and creating videos of them playing in off-beat, outdoor environments. Their debut album, *Halfmoon Fever*, was recorded live in December 2011 in a historic ballroom in Troy, NY.

Melissa Chilinski, a Skidmore senior, is perhaps best known as the songwriter for the band Liling Forward. With Lyndsay Stone and Sasha Letovsky, Liling Forward played its spirited lo-fi alt-folk sound casually around the Saratoga Springs region. Lizzi Bougatsos, the lead singer for the band Gang Gang Dance, is a New York City- based artist and musician. Considered one of the "enfants terribles" in New York's downtown art scene, Bougatsos has performed with her band at the Whitney Biennial, been interviewed by publications such as The Village Voice and Paper Magazine, and in 2010 was commissioned by the Guggenheim Museum Young Collectors Council.

Hush Arbors began as an acid country/drifter folk solo project for singer- songwriter-guitarist Keith Wood in 2001. A rotating member of many bands, Wood adopted this approach for the lineup of Hush Arbors, enlisting players from the experimental scene like drummer Ryan Sawyer, Wooden Wand main man James Toth and other musicians to back him up in a live setting. After releasing discs on various labels, Hush Arbors in 2008 released a self-titled LP with Thurston Moore's Ecstatic Peace!, and in 2009 released Yankee Reality.

Brian Mumford's Dragging an Ox through Water perform songs rooted in folk and country traditions, though ruptured, complicated, and complimented with broken textures of feedback, drones, tape hiss, and homemade oscillators. Chance elements and candlelight sensitive instruments destabilize customary electro-amplified- tightness & introduce improvisation to the recitation of these songs. Brian has collaborated with TJO, Sally Timms, Chris Johanson, John Wiese, John Gruntfest, Makino Takashi, John Butcher, Gino Robair, Fred Lonberg-Holm, Weasel Walter, Vic Chesnutt, Jackie-O Motherfucker, Pete Swanson, and many others.



Greenwich, New York artist David Greenberger explores the individuality, integrity and humanity of the elderly. For over thirty years Greenberger has combined fragments of their conversations with music created in collaboration with professional musicians, to transform the "rich language of personal poetics" into short sound pieces that give listeners a window into the minds of older people. Instead of focusing on who they were, Greenberger's conversations, and the resultant compositions, tease out who his subjects are now. Earlier this year, he performed over five nights in a one-seat theater at the Tang Teaching Museum.

Trinie Dalton is Faculty Director of the MFA in Writing and Publishing program at Vermont College of Fine Arts, and has taught fiction and art critical writing at VCFA, SVA, Columbia, Bard, USC, Art Center, NYU, and Pratt. She is also Core Faculty in Fiction at VCFA in the low-residency MFA in Writing program. She has published six books, most recently Baby Geisha (Two Dollar Radio). Other fiction titles include Wide Eyed (Akashic), a story collection, and Sweet Tomb (Madras Press), a fairytale novella. Dear New Girl or Whatever Your Name Is (McSweeney's) is a transformation of her archive of confiscated high school notes into a collaboration between fifty artists. Mythtym (Picturebox) is an art/fiction anthology based on mythological monsters and horror. Dalton also reviews art, books, and music, for artists' book projects and magazines.

Sun Foot is a Portland, Oregon, and Los Angeles-based trio of Ron Burns (drums, guitar, vocals, drum machine, keyboard), Chris Johanson (bass, guitar, drum machine, keyboard, vocals), and Brian Mumford (guitar, bass, drum machine, vocals, clarinet). They play low volume tunes through small amps and a drum set that consists of a hand drum, cymbal, pan lids, and electronic drum pad, all three singing, playing random cheap electronic keyboards maybe, and switching of instruments probably. Good to listen to if you are interested in the sun and tired of negativity.



The exhibit, *I was a Double*, began when a composer and a curator had a conversation about how composers work. Western classical music traditionally splits music making into two distinctly separate jobs: the composer and the performer. The composer invents the ideas behind the music and the performer realizes them. Sometimes the composer and performer are the same person; sometimes they are separated by hundreds of years. Yet even across great distances of time and space, the composer and performer can communicate with each other through a series of written instructions: the score. Like a rulebook, a score is a description of actions the composer proposes to the performer. We value composers by noticing what qualities of rules they invent; we value performers by noticing what they add to, change, emphasize, or ignore in the following of those rules.

Visual art can be made this way as well. It is not always as easy to see, because so many artists are both the composer and the performer, both the rule maker and the rule fulfiller. The artists in *I was a double* invent rules and then follow them; whether written or not, the artist made a proposal to herself or himself that becomes realized in the physical artwork. As in Western classical music, each artist has separated the invention of the idea behind the thing from the creation of the thing itself.

Curators David Lang and Ian Berry asked the artists for a sentence describing their rule making. David Lang composed music for each artwork based on the artists' statements, making his score out of theirs. *I was a double* comes from one of the artist's statements, with the word "double" resonating on multiple levels: pair, duplicate, shadow, doppelganger; the musical term that indicates two instruments playing the same part together; the artists' double roles in inventing and realizing their own rules.



The multilayered exhibition *I was a double* opened July 5 and runs through January 4, 2015, at the Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College. David Lang's collaboration with the Tang's Dayton Director Ian Berry marks the acclaimed composer's first curated museum exhibition.

I was a double features the work of artists Suzanne Bocanegra, Regina Bogat, Céleste Boursier-Mougenot, André Cadere, Sarah Cain, Karin Davie, Taylor Davis, David Dupuis, Tony Feher, Alfred Jensen, Chris Johanson and Johanna Jackson, Chris Martin, Gabriel Orozco, Bruce Pearson, Ciara Phillips, Kay Rosen, Wolfgang Tillmans, Fred Tomaselli, Johannes VanDerBeek, Ruth Vollmer, Stanley Whitney, and Christopher Wool.

Campus Safety Reports Oct. 10th - 16th



Friday, October 10 2014

DRUG LAW VIOLATION 1:09AM: RP reports students smoking marijuana in Wiecking Hall. Drug law violation referral created.

SUSPICIOUS ODOR 12:22PM: RP reports a gas odor in the laundry room area of Sussman Apartments. SSFD contacted, laundry company fixed problem.

FIRE ALARM-OTHER 5:41PM: Fire Alarm activation received. Officers, maintenance and SSFD advised. Alarm due to cooking, report generated.

FIRE ALARM-OTHER 7:05PM: Fire alarm activation received. Officers, Maintenance and SSFD dispatched. Alarm from shower steam, report generated.

COLLEGE VIOLATION 10:47PM: Officer reports a college alcohol violation in Wiecking Hall. Report generated.

COLLEGE VIOLATION 11:30PM: Noise complaint reported. Officers requested some of the guests leave due to being over allowed limit. Students complied.

Saturday, October 11 2014

COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE 12:00AM: RP reports noise complaint in Sussman Apartments. Officer dispatched, loud TV.

COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE 12:32AM: RP reports people talking loudly on Dayton Drive. Officer dispatched, people walking by talking.

COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE 1:52AM: RP reported loud talking in McClellan Hall. Officers reports a group of students talking loudly.

COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE 1:57AM: RP reports loud noise in Sussman Apartments. Officer reports loud music, students complied with request to turn volume down.

COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE 2:35AM: RP reports a noise complaint on Dayton Drive. Officers dispatched, students complied.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF 12:30PM: RP reports damage to ceiling in Wiecking Hall, exit sign. Officer dispatched, report taken. Maintenance advised.

SUSPICIOUS ODOR 4:19PM: RP reports a suspicious odor in Jonsson Tower. Officer dispatched, report taken.

FIRE ALARM-OTHER 7:47PM: Fire alarm received in Penfield Hall. Officers, Maintenance and SSFD dispatched. Alarm due to cooking, report generated.

CAMPUS SAFETY ASSIST 9:20PM: RP requested a welfare check in Sussman Apartments. Officers dispatched, student is okay.

CAMPUS SAFETY ASSIST 10:58PM: RP reports an older male walking in Sussman Apartments. Officers report conducted a

check of area, subject gone on arrival.

COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE 11:32PM: RP reports a noise complaint on Whitman Way. Officers spoke with residents who would comply with turning music down.

Sunday, October 12 2014

DRUG LAW VIOLATION 12:52AM: Drug law violation referral. Items confiscated from McClellan Hall. Report made.

COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE 1:27AM: RP reports loud music on Whitman Way. Officers report people outside apartment, dispersed upon request.

SUSPICIOUS ODOR 9:17PM: RP reports a suspicious odor in Wait Hall. Officers dispatched, source not located.

SUSPICIOUS ODOR 9:24PM: RP reports a suspicious odor in Howe Hall. Officers dispatched, unfounded.

Monday, October 13 2014

NEIGHBOR COMPLAINT 2:57PM: RP called advising damage done to her residence in past weeks. Report generated.

COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE 10:59 PM: RP states loud noise on Whitman Way. Dispatched officers who report area quiet upon their arrival.

Tuesday, October 14 2014

MISAPPLICATION OF PROPERTY 10/14/14 @ 1:15 p.m.: RP reports a laptop computer missing from his inventory in Harder Hall. 10/15/15 at 10:44 a.m.: Laptop recovered. Investigation continued.

WELFARE CHECKS 06:24 PM: RP request a welfare check of student. Disp. officer.

FIRE ALARM-OTHER 09:16 PM: Fire alarm received on Dayton Drive. Disp. Officers, Maintenance and advised SSFD. Alarm due to shower steam.

COLLEGE VIOLATION-NOISE/SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY- 10:13 PM: RP called to report someone is screaming in Kimball Hall. Disp. officers. Officers report that someone was being tickled and was screaming.

Wednesday, October 15 2014

HARRASSMENT / SIMPLE 2:42am: RP reports just being assaulted by another student in Northwoods Apartment Complex. Officers dispatched. Report taken.

SUSPICIOUS ODOR: 12:13 pm - RP reports a smell of gasoline in the air at the Art Center. Officer dispatched but could not detect smell. Unfounded.

FIRE NON RESIDENTIAL 02:24 pm - RP notified Campus Safety that the Greenfield Fire District is on an active working brush fire on the Mountain Bike trail system near the Stable area. Officers notified and dispatched to the scene.

COLLEGE VIOLATION / NOISE 11:47 PM: RP called to report that subjects are being too loud in the first floor common room of Wait Hall. Disp. Officers who report no problems found. Six subjects watching a movie and it was not too loud.

Thursday, October 16, 2014

COLLEGE VIOLATION: 01:24AM: RP reports excessive noise in Wait Hall. Dispatched Officer reports three students watching TV who agreed to lower volume.

PARKING: 01:30PM: Officer reports finding vehicle parked behind building on Cane Crossing. Officer issued ticket and booted the vehicle for excessive tickets.

CAMPUS SAFETY ASSIST 11:36PM: Noise complaint received in Kimball Hall. Officers report residents agreed to lower volume upon request.

A False or Unusual Sense of Being



There was a period of my life during which I was so happy that I could not sleep. The second night, sleep was already such a mysterious object of desire that I worried it would elude me for the rest of the week. I woke up before dawn broke and wondered to the red lines on my alarm clock, is this okay? I was so happy that I listened to piano covers of pop songs with the sound turned up loud, through my earphones.

I ate dried peas and thought, I should write this in my journal, in one of the recent empty pages. But it's hard to write about your day when you can't find the right pen. I wrote about feeling guilty that I drain the lightbulb in my salt lamp a lot on the nights when I don't want to even attempt the sprint from the lightswitch to my bed. I listened to "Hometown Glory" and wondered if I had now become both a morning and a night person, that is, a person who is wide awake and willing to jerk her body around at both times. I had spent the previous weekend reading and reading and reading after an anxious realization that if I wanted to go home for a long weekend, I had to do some reading ahead of time. I did a week's worth in those two days: If you switch from reading to studying every half hour, you can read this entire book long before it's due. But I forced myself to do much more than was necessary, because it feels great to cross tasks out in Sharpie until you cannot see what the original task was. A long dash across the entire day is also useful.

Because I had spent the weekend thinking about the near future (which was a little more than a week away), I was focused on meeting the future and nothing could get in my way before I was on the future's doorstep. I mean the garage door, because there's a spider's nest strung across our side doorway and I'm willing to bet it has made it through September, just as I have. Sleep, then, was useless to my reading eyes (although not during the weekend, apparently). I spent one bad night feeling the air duct in my room and sighing loudly. The next night, after blurred words and "a false or unusual sense of well-being," I was much more cautious and made a point to not step on sleep's toes.

-Taylor Ray

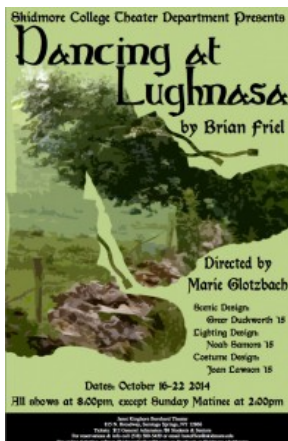
Image Source: <http://hypemuch.com/2013/04/03/paintings-surreal-sleep-drunk-vademecum-by-tania-blanco/>

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Ireland Dances Its Way to Skidmore in ‘Dancing in Lughnasa’

By Mia Merrill, Sports Editor



The Skidmore College Theater Department's black box production of ‘Dancing at Lughnasa’ opened Thursday, October 16. Brian Friel's play explores the multifaceted relationships between five sisters and the secrets they keep in their rural Irish home. The production, directed by Marie Glotzbach, will run through Wednesday, Oct. 22.

Classified as a memory play, ‘Lughnasa’ is narrated by an adult Michael Evans as he reflects on his childhood in 1936 Ireland. Waves of social change crash onto Ireland and flood the Mundy household, where Michael lives with his mother, Chris, and his four aunts: Kate, Agnes, Maggie, and Rose. The older Michael observes his aunts and mother arguing about everything from folk dancing and harvest festivals to the whimsical but witless Gerry Evans, Michael's oft-absent father. Meanwhile, the Mundy sisters observe a seven-year-old Michael, who spends the play decorating kites with pagan symbols.

Kate, played by Hallie Christine '15, is the most pious of the sisters. She feels it is her responsibility to restore her Uncle Jack to his prior condition. David Bunce's Jack, a priest who has spent much of life in a Ugandan leper colony, shocks Kate with his new pagan tendencies. Christine encapsulates the Irish-Catholic struggle that lives within Kate as she tries to keep her sisters on level ground.

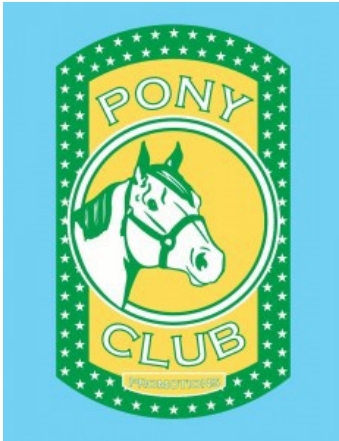
All the actors in the production have worked to perfect their County Donegal accents, their Irish dancing, and of course, their characters' emotions and desires. It's understandable that the piece itself might not be initially appealing: it's quite long, set in quite an isolated space that non-Irish may not know anything about, and its plot has little to do with punch-packing action. But ‘Lughnasa’ is a refreshing piece that really requires the audience to pay attention.

We must pay attention to the relationship between Alex Chernin '15's plucky Chris and Rebecca Zipursky '15's steadfast Agnes to see how love and loss can make or break a family. We must pay attention to Uncle Jack, and we, like the sisters, must not judge his expressions based on our own preconceptions. Our attention is demanded by Sierra Fritz '17's outstanding Rose, who makes us wonder how our attitudes towards special-needs people have and have not changed since 1936.

So why bring ‘Lughnasa’ to life in 2014 New York—a different world from 1936 County Donegal? Today, religious people struggle to maintain traditions in a progressive world. Unwed parents must combat lingering stereotypes and expectations. Children question the adults in their lives, and adults wrestle to remember the details of their adolescence. Friel's piece may jump in time and chronology, but the questions he asks prove timeless.

'Dancing at Lughnasa,' by Brian Friel, plays at the Janet Kinghorn Bernhard black box theater, October 16-22 at 8pm (Sunday matinee at 2pm). Starring John Noble Barrack '15, David Bunce, Alex Chernin '15, Hallie Christine '15, Lily Donahue '15, Sierra Fritz '17, Patrick Stanny '15, and Rebecca Zipursky '15. Scenic design by Greer Duckworth '15 and lighting design by Noah Samors '15. Directed by Marie Glotzbach.

Editorial: On Pony Club's Downfall



By the Editorial Board

Pony Club—the mysterious Facebook profile that boasts 1,725 friends—works with locations in downtown Saratoga Springs to provide Skidmore students with discounts and drink specials. Scrolling back through Pony Club's past posts, one may notice a distinct shift in Pony Club's attitude and language, and in its reception among students. The Editorial Board believes that recently, Pony Club has lost its relevance among the Skidmore student body and lost sight of the purpose that it once served.

Rumors aside, we don't know who actually runs Pony Club, who is organizing their deals with bars downtown, or writing up their advertisements. This lack of transparency was not always the case. A post on their Facebook page from 2012 states: “We would like to open our Facebook page as a forum for anyone to ask questions about any aspect of Pony Club. We have nothing to hide and encourage everyone who is curious about Pony Club to ask us questions. We work hard to create fun weekend events for the school with only the best intentions.”

However, when an editor of the Skidmore News recently contacted Pony Club, inquiring as to who is in charge of Pony Club and if they have a mission statement they would like to share, the page responded with the message, “I am just a person who is helping students find drink specials downtown....No name needed and no other response.” What was once a group of students looking to create fun events for their peers has become an opaque operation, whose actions suggest its members hold ties with certain establishments downtown.

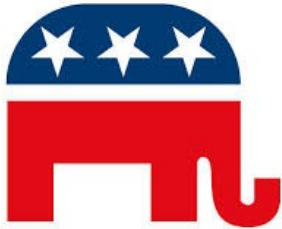
In the past, students had dialogues with Pony Club over Facebook. The Club made a post in 2012 stating: “PONY CLUB WANTS YOUR INPUT...” Pony club events were popular and well-attended, and their reception was overwhelmingly positive. Now, few people even feel comfortable with the events that Pony Club hosts, let alone attend them.

Out of the thirteen events on their page since September, eleven have been hosted at the Paddock Lounge. While past issues of underage drinking and false identification have caused bars to close their doors to Skidmore-related events, the lack of diversity of locations prompts suspicions that Pony Club is now directly tied to Paddock Lounge.

One of Pony Club's recent event descriptions on Facebook includes the line, “All you sexy ass girls come down to the Paddock.... we will be giving out gift cards to the Brightest and the Tightest of ladies!!!” The implications of offering gift cards for free drinks to women who are wearing the tightest, most revealing clothing is offensive, misogynistic and completely contrary to the values we hold as a campus community. If it is a student running the Pony Club Facebook page, it's unacceptable for them to address their female peers in this way.

Skidmore News Online: October 2014. Retrieved from <http://www.skidmorenews.com> on 3/15/2015.

Pony Club's recent promotions do not seem to have the students' interests in mind anymore. They are fostering a culture that does not align with the Skidmore values, and as students, we have the ability to support or oppose the group by choosing to attend or not attend these events. Pony Club's unwillingness to connect with students demonstrates it has lost sight of the purpose it once served. There are better options for students downtown, and it seems inconsistent with Skidmore's values to support a group that uses misogynistic language to promote events evidently aimed more at turning profits rather than providing fun nightlife for students.



The Red Side: Legalize It?

By Billy Kristol, Conservative Columnist

Marijuana legalization is coming to this country. It's hard to call that an opinion anymore. Every social movement designed to give more freedom to Americans has started in one or two states but eventually become national. The legalization of marijuana will have profound impacts on our country. Many innocent, casual users will be freed. Tax revenue combined with reduced enforcement costs will bolster our economy. But let us not forget why this drug was made illegal in the first place.

Study after study shows that marijuana is far from harmless, especially in adolescents. Regular marijuana use in adolescence is shown to [reduce cognitive functions](#). It can cause [abnormal brain structure](#). It can [induce short term paranoia](#) regardless of age. It is far from non-addictive: marijuana treatment programs report [withdrawal symptoms](#) in patients. And finally, teens who smoke daily are over [60% less likely](#) to complete high school or graduate college.

There is no question that alcohol is more destructive than marijuana. There is no question that tobacco products are inherently more deadly than marijuana. Prescription drugs are more addictive. You cannot overdose on marijuana; it is a subtly destructive drug. But it withdraws a user from society. It makes a user lethargic. It reduces productivity and increases social anxiety. You may respond that it does not affect you in this way. I concede that some heavy marijuana users are productive and intelligent members of society. But most are not. I worry that as more states begin to legalize the drug we will forget its negative affect on our society.

Occasional marijuana use, just like the occasional drink, is fine. Your brain will survive and your body will rid itself of the chemicals in a few days. Use it when stressed out, when you need a spark of creativity, or when you see an old friend. I rarely see discussions that promote moderate use, however. What I do see is a growing culture of pot where there is nothing wrong with waking up and smoking, smoking when you get home from work, and smoking when you go to bed.

I am not suggesting that marijuana stay criminalized. In fact, I wholly support the legalization movement: Americans should be free to treat their bodies as they like. Many Americans also require the drug for their healthcare treatment plans, and they should use as much as their doctors tell them to. But for the rest of us, too many have been incarcerated for victimless crimes associated with marijuana, and it is time to stop making criminals out of responsible citizens. But as marijuana becomes more common in our society, we must not forget that it is still a drug. Just like harmful prescription medications, just like alcohol, and just like tobacco. There are a vast number of resources that addicts of those mentioned drugs can turn to for help. Are there enough resources for marijuana addicts? We must handle legalization responsibly and not forget about the negative sides of drug use.



The Blue Side: Appeasing Assad

By Jeremy Ritter-Wiseman, Columnist

U.S. policy towards Syria thus far has been incoherent and reactionary. While the objective of seeing a Syria free of President Bashar al-Assad's regime remains clear, the strategy has inadvertently been one of appeasement. From the Russian-brokered chemical weapons "deal," to the U.S. campaign against ISIS in Syria, Assad has been basking in the inconsequential benefits of U.S. policy towards the conflict in Syria. Whether it is most practical to directly engage the Assad regime or not (the consensus seems to say "not"), the U.S. must stop taking measures that only seem to further insulate Assad's rule and invariably disrupt the rebel-cause.

Following President Obama's 'red-line' ultimatum [speech](#) in 2012 and the Syrian government's subsequent use of chemical weapons on its own people a year later, Russia helped facilitate a deal that would purportedly rid Syria of any and all chemical weapons. Occurring before a congressional vote that would have likely voiced opposition against retaliatory airstrikes in Syria and embarrassed the Obama administration, the deal has done little to hamper Assad's fight in the ongoing civil war. Instead, it has distracted from the reality that Assad continues to wreak havoc on his own people with perfectly lethal and effective conventional weapons.

Most importantly, the plan to eliminate Syria's chemical weapon cache is not working. Being routinely road-blocked by a reluctant Syrian government and by the fact that the massive undertaking is being conducted inside country in the midst of civil war, the project is severely [behind schedule](#). Because of the ongoing conflict, most of the weapons sites are too hazardous and therefore inaccessible to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the group tasked with supervising the removal and destruction of the weapons stockpile; this past May the group came under [attack](#) while trying to reach a weapons site. Furthermore, the scale and fragility of the project will mean a long road ahead in realizing its goal. In the meantime though, Assad can continue his cruel campaign against rebels and civilians, with the peace-of-mind that the West is busy trying to eliminate chemical weapons he does not even need. From its conception, the deal was flawed and proved unlikely to succeed. This is evidenced further in a [report](#) released this summer by the UN and OPCW showing that chemical weapons are still being used inside Syria.

For most of the three-year conflict, Assad has been fighting a war on essentially two fronts; first against the Western-backed Syrian opposition and second against Islamic extremist groups like ISIS and the al-Qaeda linked Khorasan group. However Assad now has help in the form of the U.S. Air Force in his battle against arguably the more formidable opponent. Having the U.S. taking on ISIS, the Syrian government can now focus its sole attention on battling the army being explicitly supported by the West. This hypocritical policy is not likely to lead to a cessation of hostilities in the near future as the prospects of a political resolution seems more distant now than ever.

Though arming rebels consistently remains the strategy in Syria against ISIS and Assad, the policy could very well prove fruitless. A recently released CIA report concludes that in its long history of arming rebels around the world, the strategy "rarely works." Considering the moderate Syrian opposition's apparent weakness and disunity, the CIA report may soon have more evidence to

support its hypothesis. Additionally, in attempts to supply Peshmerga (Kurdish) forces in their battle against ISIS militants, the U.S. unintentionally ended up arming the wrong side; ISIS militants received an airdropped [care package](#) full of American-made rocket-propelled grenade launchers, ammunition and medical supplies this past week. Although its supposedly a relatively insignificant amount of supplies, it is extremely unnerving knowing ISIS militants are using U.S.-grade weapons to carry out its barbaric crusade in the Middle East.

In the case of Syria, the “enemy of my enemy” is not my friend. Both enemies, in this instance, are equally despicable. Assad and ISIS have both shown equal disregard for human life by exacting brutal violence on civilians on the basis of religious or political intolerance. The indiscriminate killing of innocent people should be condemned equally for both Assad and ISIS. U.S. policy in Syria should thus be constituted by a “let them fight” mentality. While being vigilant to protect U.S. interests and allies in Syria, and alert to impending humanitarian crises, the U.S. should not be engaging with ISIS whatsoever in Syria as it is only advances Assad's cause and hurts the rebels'.

Throwing more money and weapons at a conflict as complex as Syria will not yield results until a clear and proven strategy is realized. Containment must be that strategy. Protection against spillover into Turkey is paramount, but the U.S. must wade carefully in its arming of rebels with full awareness of its potential and realistically negative consequences. No steps should be taken to make Assad's life any easier as his regime presents a much more tenable threat to civilians inside Syria than ISIS does. U.S. policy should start reflecting this reality.

Field hockey set to close out conference schedule

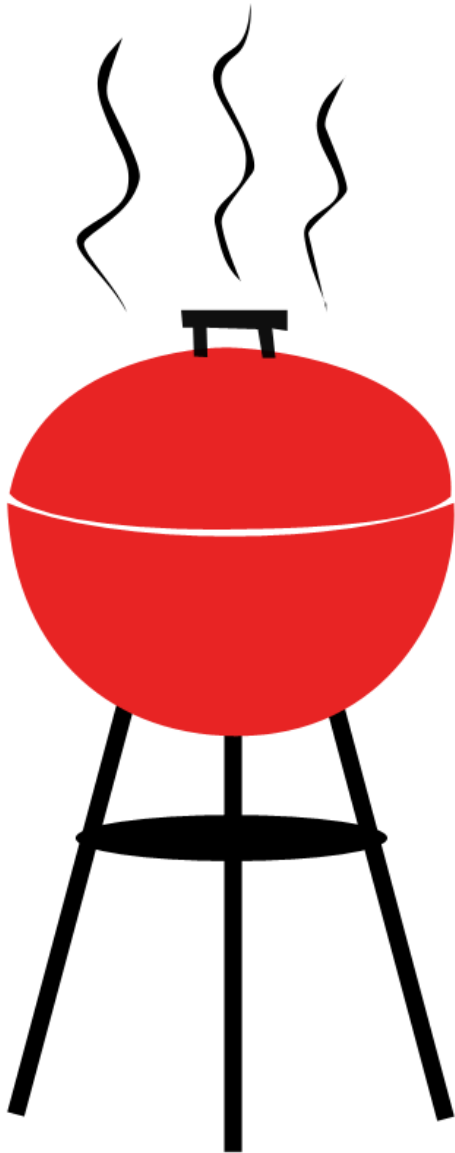


The 13th-ranked Skidmore College field team will look to clinch its spot in the postseason this weekend when it hosts Union and Vassar. Skidmore will host the match against Union on Friday, October 24th at 4 p.m. If you can't make it in person, check out the [Live Stats](#).

The field team scored four second-half goals in a 4-1 win at Oneonta on Saturday, extending its winning streak to four games. Melanie Webb, Krista Lamoreaux, Dani DeGregory and Kalya Rose all tallied in the win. DeGregory has nine points in the last five games and currently ranks fourth in Division III in goals per game (1.57) and points per game (3.71). Melanie Webb has produced seven points (3G, 1A) in the last four games and is third on the team nine goals, six assists and 24 points. Senior goalkeeper Amy Beck has started all 14 games and ranks third in the conference with a 1.69 goals against average.

Skidmore has outscored its opponents 17-3 over the last four games. The Thoroughbreds have held opponents to one goal or fewer in eight of their last 10 contests. Skidmore ranks seventh in the country in scoring average (4.77) and goals per game (4.79) and ninth in assists per game (2.79), points per game (12.36) and scoring margin (3.35).

SAAC tailgates for field hockey and volleyball



The Skidmore College Student-Athlete Advisory Committee is sponsoring tailgates for Friday's home field hockey game and Saturday's home volleyball match.

On Friday, SAAC will be offering free hot dogs and hamburgers for free with a student ID during field hockey's 4 p.m. game against Union. On Saturday, students will be able to get free popcorn and drinks during volleyball's 12 p.m. match against RIT.

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Thoughts on the State of the World, and Our Responsibility to Read the News



By Ryan Davis, Contributing Writer

I often find myself facing a problem when staring at the page of apps on my phone, and it is one that centers on a red button labeled “BBC News.” I’ve been regularly reading the global news put out for free by the British Broadcasting Company since my junior year of high school, with the hope of becoming more informed about the political and economic dynamics of the world that I am growing up in. What I wasn’t expecting however, was a sense of pessimism that slowly came over me as the headlines reflected a world where life is described best by the famous phrase coined by Thomas Hobbes four hundred years ago: “nasty, brutish, and short.”

As Americans we often do not feel the aftershocks of global catastrophes and upsets here at home. Even when it comes to our own domestic news and politics, the general population is at times astoundingly under informed. Our general public has a history of ignorance in which we have failed to understand cultures we go to war with, drugs we continue to demonize, countries we embargo and shun, or even the inner workings of our own government.

This isn’t to say that Americans are uninformed as a whole. However, Americans are stigmatized as more ignorant than our peers in other countries. Jon Stewart recently aired a report on how India’s youth voter turnout rates are much higher than those in the U.S. Politics and world issues are often shunned from conversation in the U.S., and I have been wondering why that might be.

Life in America is fantastic by global standards. Yet to read the news each day, and learn of government corruption and global conflict, seems like an exercise in masochism as opposed to simply going on with your day. Why would we choose to poison our morning by reading the worst things that are happening around the globe? It reinforces a feeling of hopelessness in a broken global system that always seems to be on the brink of catastrophe.

Sometimes one needs a break from the news. Rather than waking up each morning and reading up on such topics as how Ebola is seemingly unstoppable and about to expand to pandemic, I take a break from the news and try to enjoy my day a bit more. I feel that Americans often feel uncomfortable discussing the state of the world, simply because it depresses us, and as such, we want nothing to do with it. Why would young people want to vote when the system seems irreparably broken? Even someone whose news-watching extends no further than the occasional episode of *The Daily Show* with Jon Stewart or *The Colbert Report* is still left with a sour taste in his or her mouth regarding the state of the world. Yet, to combat this bitterness, I feel we must grit and bear the mental weight of understanding the world in which we reside.

We should read the news, not only because it is the responsibility of a citizen of any nation with a free press, but also to better understand those issues that depress us, even if the seemingly hopeless nature of the world is often what keeps people away. Yet understanding is what I believe will lead to change. If Americans do more to understand their own government, and the world in which that government is representing them, than we might be more inclined to exercise that tiny semblance of control we possess in our ability to vote. Though it often seems that corporate interests have more of a say in government than we do, if the American people banded together and told the government that corporations are not actually people, then maybe we could turn back the tide. Maybe, with a bit of hope in the system, we might eliminate corruption and lobbying. Perhaps we could fix some of the domestic and foreign problems that we have mindlessly left Congress to babble over and do nothing. Better still, with progress on our own shores, perhaps the rest of the world might respect us a little more, not for the power of our military, but for the strength of our leadership as a democracy. Despite all the mistakes we have made as a people, perhaps it isn't too late to change the trajectory of our nation, and the world that we lead with waning authority. Why not lead by example? We won't always be leaders in the world, but maybe at least, we could establish a precedent of change for the betterment of the human race. That process starts with understanding. So maybe instead of thinking how the news depresses us, we should think on it as our right to know what is happening, and through our knowledge have the power to change it.

The Hunt is Here



Photo by Jacob Reiskin, Arts Director

By Billie Kanfer '16, Features Editor

As Oct. 24 nears, many students are more occupied with the rumors of The Hunt rather than the study day that classes are cancelled for. Students are aware of this longstanding tradition that is not affiliated with Skidmore and look forward to participating in or hearing about the crazy antics performed by students on this particular day.

Much controversy has been raised about The Hunt, so much so that Joshua Nelson, Director of Leadership Activities, felt obligated to send out an email to Club Leaders urging them to think twice about supporting the event. He asks these leaders to speak out against it in the “fight to create a better Skidmore—one where students don't have to participate in sexual acts, get tattoos, or drink alcohol to feel a part of something.” Unfortunately, it appears that more students aspire to engage in this event rather than speak out against the masses and discourage their fellow students from partaking in this so-called “tradition.”

The Hunt is run by undisclosed members who gather their friends and put together this creative scavenger hunt that entices students to band together in teams of five to participate in acts that remain secrets forever. The Hunt was on sabbatical last year and has returned in full force for this semester, encouraging students to find teammates and submit their team name in order to participate this Friday. The Hunt definitely cares about the safety of the students, as they require a designated driver to be a member of said team.

Despite the variety of opinion on campus, The Hunt is all-inclusive and allows anyone to participate. They do not force students to do anything they are uncomfortable with. The Hunt is declared as a tradition, and traditions do not necessarily need to be followed by everyone.

Wired: A Breakdown of Caffeine

By Brittany Dingler '15, PHE



39% of college students drink coffee on a regular basis, a statistic likely inflated at Skidmore College, especially with the new renovation at our new “Burgbucks.” Additionally, for those Skidmore students who have countless commitments, caffeine often appears to be the only way to get through an average day, let alone, week. Indeed, this time of year is particularly trying for the caffeine lovers of the world, who are so tempted to substitute these stimulants for sleep .

Although caffeine can claim a few long-term benefits, such as decreased risk of dementia and depression (NPR), and obvious short-term effects like increased energy levels, some effects are concerning when it comes to higher intakes of caffeine. Energy drinks, for example, that often contain over 200 mg of caffeine have been indicted for inducing fast heart rate, high blood pressure, and palpitations (Brown University, Health Promotion) not to mention irritability and to no surprise, insomnia.

So how much perk is passable? According to Mayo clinic, healthy adults should limit themselves to 400 mg (about 4 cups of coffee) per day. Although it is certainly nice that Burgess stays open until 2 am during the week, keep in mind that it takes nearly 10 hours to fully breakdown an 8 oz cup of coffee (95 mg of caffeine). This means that even if you are somehow able to fall asleep, your still-wired brain is less likely to slip into REM sleep (NPR) which means poorer quality sleep—a serious con for those of us relying on proper memory consolidation to get through mid-terms. Good luck with midterms, but remember that although coffee is a solution to a present problem, there are other factors to consider before drinking that fifth cup.

Blurbs Overheard



Just a few blurbs overheard

"Gin up some enthusiasm." -Overheard in Palamountain

"Buy a quarter, get a kitten." -Overheard in the Library

"If you're not enthusiastic about prolapsed anuses, you're not American." -Overheard in Case

Skidmore Administration Takes On Sexual Assault



This year, the Skidmore College administration is prioritizing sexual assault. “We should have zero tolerance for sexual assault on campuses,” said President Glotzbach in a meeting with The Skidmore News, “just like we should have it in society, particularly in a small community where we are supposed to care for and respect one another.” In the state of college address, Addison Bennett stated SGA's support for the nation-wide “It's-On-Us” campaign, intended to broadcast awareness of sexual assault. “For SGA's part,” said Addison, “we have committed ourselves to fighting the causes of sexual assault.” He continued extensively on this point, illustrating the issue's significance, which he relayed as an “epidemic.”

One might ask what practical actions are being taken, considering Addison's explanation that “SGA is taking up the awareness side of this problem.” This “awareness side” includes several campus initiatives, including “a speaker series, a video series, and some campus dialogue.”

Dean of Student Affairs Rochelle Calhoun called for “Students talking to other students—that's where the change will happen.” President Glotzbach agreed, echoing both the It's-On-Us Campaign and Calhoun: “Everybody needs to take responsibility for this issue.” The administration has been very vocal regarding the issue of sexual assault on campus. Glotzbach concluded the discussion with a summation, “We're imperfect. But as a team, as a community, we can be perfect.”

Searching for some hard data (and to understand the procedures being taken), I reached out to Senior Class President Soraya Attia, who then referred me to the Clery Reports (The Clery Act, a policy requiring colleges to keep and disclose campus crime information, showed that 23 reports (12 of which were anonymous) were made last year, and 8 formal reports, which are incidents that extend to an investigation and hearing. A violation was found in 5 out of 8 of those reports.

Unfortunately, by nature of sexual misconduct, the data does not fully reflect the situation. According to a report prepared by the White House Council on Women and Girls and the Office of the Vice President, “Reporting rates for campus sexual assault are also very low; on average, only 12% of student victims report the assault to law enforcement.” While some students may choose criticize our administration for relying on policy changes to combat sexual assault, in truth, if an evident solution was in sight, then it would be taken. Skidmore College is far from the worst perpetrator of campus sexual assault, but in the words of Addison Bennett, “it would be very naïve of us to say we are immune from it.”

Dani DeGregory '16 Named to Liberty League Weekly Honor Roll

By Skidmore Athletics

The Liberty League



Dani DeGregory '16 / Photo by Skidmore Athletics

Conference named women's field hockey forward Dani DeGregory '16 to the Liberty League weekly honor roll on Monday, Oct. 20.

DeGregory scored in both of the Thoroughbreds' games last week, netting the game-winning goal in Tuesday's 3-1 win over Williams and adding a goal in Saturday's 4-1 victory against Oneonta. She leads the league with twenty-two goals, eight assists, and fifty-two points. She ranks fourth in the nation in goals per game (1.57) and in points per game (3.71).

Skidmore hosts a pair of Liberty League opponents this weekend, facing Union on Friday, Oct. 24 at 4 p.m. before taking on Vassar on Saturday, Oct. 25 at 2 p.m.

What is The Dream Share Project? This is a program about chasing your dreams...

By The Career Development Center



I'm told there is hope for the English major.

The Dream Share Project is an inspirational documentary film and workshop that will be right here on Skidmore's campus on Tuesday, Nov. 11, at 7 p.m. in the Spa.

In the film, two recent college graduates, Chip and Alexis, will take students on a road trip across America, as they seek information on how individuals have successfully chased their dreams. In their search they wanted to learn how others have discovered their passion, committed to a dream, and how they faced the inevitable challenges that occurred along the way. In their journey Chip and Alexis wanted to explore and find out exactly how they might redefine success for the Millennial generation.

According to CBS News, 55% of Americans are unsatisfied with their jobs with 18 to 24-year-olds being the most highly dissatisfied; plus it has been reported that 33% of the work force shows signs of depression (Families and Work Institute), so Chip and Alexis decided that they would learn ways about how others have followed their passion and then pass that information on to college students across America.

In their experience they were able to get advice from an Olympic skier, a slam poet, one of the original Latin Kings of Comedy, a Project Runway fashion designer, the CEO of a sustainable flip flop company, the founder of South by Southwest Festival, plus many, many more.

The Dream Share Project is an uplifting film that hopes to encourage people to live up to their fullest potential and reject societal pressures that keep telling us all to just "play it safe."

First 20 attendees will also receive a free copy of Chip's book, "Build Your Dreams: How to Make a Living Doing What You Love."

Ladd Recital Hall Hosts a Stunning Performance by the Finger Lakes Guitar Quartet



The Finger Lakes Guitar Quartet (Joel Brown, Brett Grigsby, Sten Isachsen, Paul Quigley) played a sonorous series of compositions to a home crowd in the beautiful Helen Filene Ladd Concert Hall on Thursday, October 23rd 2014. The concert began with “Guitar Quartet”, a delightful original piece by Joel Brown, Distinguished Artist in Residence at Skidmore College. A three movement suite in the style of bossa nova (Suite Amazonas by Celso Machado, b. 1953) brought the feeling of autumn into the warmly lit hall and lead gracefully into “Pavane op. 50” (Gabriel Faure, 1845-1924), the lilting notes of which resounded from a joyous, confident rendition. The quartet proceeded to lead the captivated audience to an emotional plateau with the harrowing, haunting movements of the *Five Miniatures for Guitar Quartet*, composed by Anthony Holland. One of the pieces entitled “The Devil’s Throat” was inspired by “a labyrinth of underwater tunnels off the Island of Cozumel, Mexico”, one of the most dangerous scuba diving destinations in the world.

After the intermission, the quartet resumed with the vibrant “Ponticello Tango”, composed by Patrick Roux (b. 1962). The modern composer Leo Brouwer (b. 1939) and his visions of an ever-changing Cuba were honored by the group’s performance of “Cuban Landscape with Rumba”. Flowing into a series of works originally composed for the piano by Enrique Granados (1867-1915), the Finger Lakes Guitar Quartet truly brought new life into the long-aged “Minueto”, “Villanesca”, and “Rondalla Aragonesa”. The crowd went wild, and the group returned to play a snazzy, jazzy encore – “Take Five” by Dave Brubeck.

Brown initially founded the musical group over a decade ago with fellow player Isachsen when they were both located in Ithaca, New York. The bounty of this region’s natural waterscapes inspired Brown and Isachsen to name their group after the Finger Lakes. About two years ago, the quartet was completed with the joining of two more talented members, Quigley and Grigsby. In addition to holding several teaching positions at colleges and universities across the state, Brown, Isachsen, Quigley, and Grigsby have been busily touring the eastern and central United States since the formation of the quartet. In recent times they have performed for Keuka College, the Great Lakes Guitar Society, and the Cleveland Guitar Society. Such rigorous schedules require a strong bond between group members, a key quality that Brown confirmed is the most important component and reward of being involved in the Finger Lakes Guitar Quartet. Brown commented that “the dynamic between us, first of all, is that we’re all really good friends.” This talented group of musicians, composers, and friends is in the process of recording an album, which is tentatively set to be released next year.

First half surge leads men's soccer past Bard, 3-0



The Skidmore College men's soccer team scored three first-half goals en route to a 3-0 conference win over Bard College, Tuesday evening at Wachenheim Field. The Thoroughbreds improve to 9-5-1 overall and 3-3-1 in the Liberty League, while the Raptors go to 5-11 overall and 1-6 in conference play.

Skidmore controlled play in the opening stages of the first half and pushed ahead in the 16th minute, as Adam Beek converted a penalty kick for his team-leading eighth tally of the season. Tim Sullivan doubled the Thoroughbreds lead with a rebound goal in the 21st minute. Brock Bakewell cut in from the left wing and ripped a shot that was parried away by Bard goalkeeper Daniel Gagne, but Sullivan was waiting on the doorstep and smashed home a strike from eight yards. Augustine Okoye netted Skidmore's third and

final goal just over 10 minutes later, chasing down a Beek through ball and pushing past his defender before slotting a strike into the bottom left corner on the breakaway. The Raptors nearly pulled one back in the second half, but Nick Schenberger's headed attempt dropped over the crossbar after he rose to meet an Austin Higgins free kick.

The Thoroughbreds held Bard to three shots over the final 20 minutes, recording their fourth shutout of the season and their third in the last four games. Skidmore outshot Bard 18-5 and had an 8-1 advantage in corners.

Eli Kisselbach and Derrick Yam split time in goal for the Thoroughbreds, making one and two saves, respectively. Gagne tied a season-high with nine saves for the Raptors. Skidmore, which currently sits tied for fourth in the Liberty League standings, closes out its regular season at 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, hosting crosstown rival Union.



The Blue Side: Midterm Predictions and Their Implications for the Obama Administration

By Noah Tananbaum, Staff Writer

The Democrats will lose their majority in the Senate in the upcoming midterm elections. Conventional wisdom has made the case for some time now that the Republicans will gain a majority and, in recent weeks, [these predictions](#) favoring a Republican victory have intensified. As history has shown us, time is often a politician's worst enemy. In my view, the concept of the “[6-year itch](#)” is a very real phenomenon. In virtually all of the modern two-term presidencies, the opposition party has gained Congressional seats. The [parallels](#) between 2014 and 2006 are striking. As was the case with Republicans in 2006, many of the current Democratic incumbents come from swing states, their President remains unpopular with the country, and elected officials are doing everything they can to distance themselves from the President. This pattern seems to hold even if the President is popular.

1986 was a perfect example. President Reagan was immensely popular at the time and the GOP still lost seats in Congress. Ironically, the only recent midterm in a President's sixth year where major gains were not made by the opposition was 1998, the year the Monica Lewinsky scandal broke.

It is also worth pointing out that the demographics generally do not support the Democrats in midterm years. Two of the major [demographic](#) forces that Democrats consistently rely on in presidential elections are young people and minorities. In presidential years, there is always a much higher turnout among voters as a whole but particularly among minority voters and young voters. In midterm election years, these cohorts show a sharp decrease in voter turnout. The voters who steadily show up are the older, whiter, and wealthier voters; these demographic groups usually vote Republican. Historical precedent tells us that, unless something irregular occurs in this election, this will not be a good year for the Democrats.

Regardless of midterm outcomes, Obama's position will not change drastically. Public approval has consistently [dropped](#) for Obama ever since he gained reelection and it's hard to envision circumstances that would impel a turn of events for him. Even with a majority in the Senate, Obama's major domestic achievements (the bailout and the Affordable Care Act) were signed into law before the Republicans gained a majority in the House in 2010. The past several years have ushered in a climate of divisiveness and polarization in Washington. Arguably, a [GOP takeover](#) of the Senate in the current climate will not significantly affect the balance of power in Washington. An unwillingness to work across the aisle has dominated national politics since Obama took office and this is not a pattern that will change, regardless of the outcome of the midterms. One of the changes that will most likely take place if the Republicans gain a majority in the Senate is an increase in Obama's use of veto power. Although the Republicans will have majorities in both chambers of Congress, the Democrats will still be able to easily muster a third of their party to prevent the Republicans from blocking Obama's veto attempts.

[Ezra Klein](#) recently wrote that “elections are about stakes.” The stakes were high in 2006 when Democrats finally regained power and intended to defund the Iraq War and derail President Bush's agenda. The stakes were high in 2010 when the Republicans took the House and threatened to block Obama at every turn. The stakes are not high now. All the evidence points to a continuation of the gridlock and ineptitude that has embroiled American politics for the last several years.

Women's Field Hockey extends win streak to seven



[Skidmore goals](#) by seven different players were highlighted in a 9-0 non-league field hockey win over Hartwick College, Wednesday afternoon at Wagner Park.

The 12th ranked Thoroughbreds have won seven straight games to move to 14-3 and will close out the regular season on Sunday at St. John Fisher. The Hawks are 4-13.

Dani DeGregory was the lone multi-goal scorer for Skidmore, with three straight goals in a 4:13 span of the first half to break the game open. Krista Lamoreaux had a goal and three assists for four points. Jenn Hanks and Shannon Sebor each had a goal and an assist.

DeGregory has 29 goals this season, three off the Skidmore record set last season by Kelly Blackhurst.

Sam Skott, Sofia San Marco, and Leigh FitzGerald had solo goals. It was the first career collegiate goal for FitzGerald.

Skidmore outshot Hartwick 42-1 and had a 22-0 corner advantage.

The lone Hawk shot came late in the game when Emily Marcotte got loose in front, but had her shot stuffed by Thoroughbred goalie Zoe McGuire.

Amy Beck played the first 46:33 in goal for Skidmore, while McGuire came on for the final 23:37. For Hartwick, Jillian Sabatino had 13 saves in 40:23 and Laura Downey had eight saves in 29:48.

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In Response to Lemay & LeRay



Childish Immigration Politics: It's Time to Call a Refugee a Refugee



Photo by Meredith Simonds '15 / The Skidmore News

By James Rider '16

Although the immigration problem has fallen out of the news with the advent of ISIS and Ebola, the problem has not gone away. The United States' handling of the child immigration crisis has failed to address the root causes that are compelling immigrants to leave their native countries.

This past summer, American politicians (primarily Republicans) unethically and irresponsibly failed to identify people fleeing Central America as refugees. When people feel forced to flee violence and extortion in their home countries, it is the duty of neighboring countries to take them in and provide safety. By denying many Central American children and adults amnesty, the United States demonstrated not only heartlessness but also a continued disregard for the United Nations' definition of refugees.

[The United Nations](#) defines a refugee as someone who, “owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country.” However, in American politics, refugee status has adopted a different meaning.

Historically, the United States has chosen to give refugee status only to those who provide a political advantage. This is why for the vast majority of the Cold War it recognized only those fleeing Communist regimes as refugees. For example, in the 1980s, the United States took extreme efforts to bring 125,000 Cubans to Florida in the Mariel Boatlift and at the same time refused refugee status to Haitians, Salvadorians, and Guatemalans fleeing from similar conditions.

Strangely enough, El Salvador and Guatemala were both [on the list](#) of the top three countries from which child immigrants fled last summer. Furthermore, they were fleeing their countries for largely the same reasons as they did in the 1980s: violence, extreme poverty, and fear for their lives. Once again, they were refused amnesty by the United States.

Why is this? Immigration has become such a divisive issue in the United States, that rather than face the facts, many politicians prefer to claim that Central Americans are flooding the United States in order to leech off of our social welfare and take away jobs from hard-working Americans. However, the driving force motivating Central Americans to leave their countries isn't the “pulling” economic advantage of the United States, but the “pushing” fear of violence, particularly that of well-connected gangs which can bribe government officials and police officers.

Studies of the countries from which the immigrants are fleeing show the severity of this violent “push” factor. According to the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime, Honduras, Belize, El Salvador, and Guatemala all rank among the top five countries with the highest murder rates in the world. In fact, Honduras has the [highest homicide rate per capita](#) with an average of 90.4 homicides per

every 100,000 people.

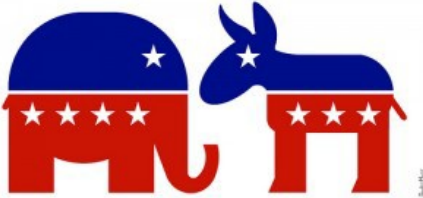
This kind of danger has motivated many citizens to apply for asylum through the United Nations. The UN [reports](#) that from 2008 to 2013, there was a 712% increase in asylum applications to Central American countries like Mexico, Panama, Belize, and Costa Rica, which border the more dangerous countries. However, many people cannot wait for these applications to be processed while their lives and the lives of their children are on the line. It is clear that for the majority of Central Americans, crossing the border was not an act of selfishness, but an act of desperation.

Interviews conducted by the United Nations with children staying at temporary detention centers emphasize that fear of violence, not the promise of economic opportunity, was the driving force causing children to cross the border. When the [UN High Commissioner on Refugees interviewed](#) 404 Central American children immigrants staying in temporary detention centers, 58% of them mentioned threats of violence from gangs in their home countries as their primary cause for leaving their countries.

Although the United States is quick to grant refugee status to those in Syria, Pakistan, and Afghanistan, where it has more vested political interest, it is slower to recognize the crisis just next-door. It is time for the United States to take responsibility for those fleeing Central America, and recognize that a refugee is a refugee, no matter where they come from.

The inscription on the Statue of Liberty reads: “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses, yearning to breathe free.” However, many Congress members seem to prefer that immigrants suffocate from the violence below the border, rather than “breathe free” above it. Politicians need to stop calling those who fled Central America last summer poll-tested, politically palatable names like “undocumented immigrants” and “illegal aliens,” and recognize them as what they are: refugees. Only once this occurs will America truly begin to live up to its ideals.

Guest Columnist Professor Seyb: Midterm Election Miasma



By Ronald Seyb, Associate Professor of Government and Joseph C. Palamountain, Jr. Chair in Government

“Midterm elections” is the worst brand since Harley Davidson cologne. Recent surveys show that almost 50% of Americans are unaware that midterm elections will be held in less than a week. Even those Americans who are aware of the midterm brand are not bothering to do much product research. The Pew Research Center reports that only 15% of Americans are following the midterms “very closely,” a sharp drop from 2010 when 25% of Americans followed those midterm elections, which, for perspective, is just slightly higher than the number of Americans who believe that they can become a princess.

Such aggregate numbers can be, of course, misleading. What makes midterm elections midterm elections is that they fall in the middle of a president's term, with the consequence that there is no national election capable of galvanizing the entire electorate. But voters in competitive states or districts this year are getting more attention from candidates and their surrogates than Lorde gets from aggrieved Kansas City Royals fans.

Senate elections in a number of states have taken on increased importance this year because a shift of six seats from the Democrats to the Republicans would make Mitch McConnell, Jon Stewart's favorite live action turtle, the Senate majority leader. There are also, according to The Cook Political Report, 65 competitive House races that are capable of getting voters in those swing districts thinking about something other than whether it is appropriate for their 6 year old to dress up as a brain-splattered Daryl Dixon for Halloween. Ask voters in any of these states or districts if they are following the midterms, and they are likely to suggest that your question is akin to asking them if they are “following” that stump grinder squealing outside of their bedroom window. The Wesleyan Media Project reports that voters in six states—North Carolina, Iowa, Colorado, Georgia, Louisiana, and Kentucky—have seen more than 10,000 ads in the past two weeks. Less well known is that many voters in North Carolina volunteered as tribute during this span in order to escape from a dystopian political landscape that had been overrun by 20,389 ads that cost their sponsors \$13.7 million.

Many political scientists claim that this conspicuous and exorbitant investment by campaigns and outside groups in political advertising is sound and fury signifying...well, maybe not nothing, but not as much as many media trackers would like to think. The new paradigm—a tired phrase that signals just how transitory this phenomenon promises to be—in campaigning is so-called “microtargeting” strategies that allow campaigns to tailor their appeals to voters based on not merely their political views or interests, but also on their consumer preferences and their social affiliations. While campaigns continue their past practice of slicing the electorate into demographic groups, they are also trying to identify what one Republican consultant has called “social precincts” such as homeschooling parents or community garden activists or middle-aged rugby players on the cusp of divorce (which is a category that includes all middle-aged rugby players). The Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, for example, has invested \$60 million in “The Bannock Street Project,” which is using data analytics to inform its efforts to employ techniques lifted from social psychology and behavioral economics to “nudge” to the polls, in particular, African Americans, unmarried women, and young people, all groups who both lean Democratic and have historically turned out at considerably higher rates in presidential elections than in midterm elections.

The perspective propelling Bannock Street's effort is what Cass Sunstein calls in his book *Nudge* “libertarian paternalism,” which Skidmore News Online: October 2014. Retrieved from <http://www.skidmorenews.com> on 3/15/2015.

encourages so-called “choice architects” to take advantage of familiar decision-making biases such as the planning fallacy (i.e., people's tendency to underestimate the amount of time it will take them to complete a task) and norm compliance (i.e., people's propensity to adjust their behavior to match what they think their peers will do) to “influence people's behavior in order to make their lives longer, healthier, and better.”

Perhaps it is too much to expect that campaigns can be more than efforts to prod one's unwilling partisans to the polls, particularly in this polarized era when voters have sorted themselves into partisan camps whose walls are as unbreachable as those of Troy. This election cycle certainly suggests that, as Sasha Issenberg, the author of *The Victory Lab*, notes, campaigns have concluded that “the smartest way to win the next vote is by mobilizing a nonvoter instead of trying to win over a voter.” But, as Jeremy Waldron recently observed in *The New York Review of Books*, efforts to nudge nonvoters to the polls “take advantage of [their] deficiencies in the way one indulges a child.”

Those currently indulging voters are, of course, not interested in buttressing human dignity or even constructing a more participatory democracy. They are interested in winning. And if Willie Stark, Robert Penn Warren's avatar for Huey Long in *All the King's Men*, was right that “Man is conceived in sin and born in corruption,” then perhaps we can only expect elections that are as good as human nature. But the framers of our Constitution—who were not exactly Panglossian about humans' ability to resist the urgings of their passions and interests—showed us that the proper institutional setting and political culture can breed a politics capable of transcending our base natures. To forget this lesson, that politics can inspire transcendence as readily as it prompts machinations to determine who gets what, when, and how, is to concede that we are merely sheep to be herded by the data analytic dogs rather than voters capable of making informed and autonomous choices.

Alpine Sport Shop: A Saratoga Native

By Billie Kanfer '16, Features Editor



Many students around campus know the name Alpine, but not for the ski shop that sits at the bottom of Clinton Street hill right next to Skidmore. Down the big hill, at the first left is a wooden building with a retro sign out front that reads, “Alpine Sport Shop.”

The shop has been around since 1941 when Ed Taylor founded the store on Spring Street, by Skidmore's old campus in town. In 1966, Thurlow Woodcock bought the store and moved it to its current location to accommodate Skidmore students, who once consumed most of the ski shops customer base. When Skidmore was all-women, Alpine Sport Shop made sure that they carried ladies apparel and catered to that demographic. Over the years, they have morphed their shop to adjust to the now co-ed college while still remaining a family-owned-and-run business since Woodcock purchased the store in 1966.

After opening the large wooden door, you step in to the ski-chalet-esque interior, greeted by their dog, Gilda, and a wood-burning fireplace accompanied by a large leather couch. Julia Lee, the granddaughter of Woodcock, said that, “we want people, especially Skidmore students, to know that our shop isn't just for tuning, ski/snowboarding, but also for your winter apparel needs.” The shop is filled with clothing, aside from your typical skiing and snowboarding essentials. Their selection is vast and definitely caters towards the Northeast weather. Julia also reminded me that much of their collection is considered, “lifestyle.” Men, women and children would find all their winter needs in the Alpine Sport Shop—or if you're a Skidmore student who has brought their own skiing and snowboarding equipment, you will be glad to know that they offer tuning in the downstairs portion of the shop.

If you are not one who brings their boards with them, then the shop offers daily rentals for only \$39.95. Alpine Sport Shop caters to Skidmore students as well with their 10% discount and their bus services to various mountains including Okemo and Bromley. For an all-inclusive price, you receive a lift ticket and a bus ride to and from the mountain. More events are also listed on their website, www.alpinesportshop.com.

Alpine Sport Shop has also partnered with Skidmore's Outing Club for a fundraising event taking place Sat., Nov. 8th in Ganett Auditorium at 7 pm where a Warren Miller movie called “No Turning Back” will be screened. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door and proceeds will go to Double H Ranch, a local organization for young kids.

To learn more about the event, visit the shop's website, or look for posters around. If you attend, you also receive a free lift ticket to Sugarbush mountain!

Professor Profile: Yelena Biberman-Ocakli

By Janine Kritschgau, Staff Writer



Professor Yelena Biberman-Ocakli has had a journalistic instinct since she was nine years old. Reporting came naturally for this Belorussian native, who by this young age she was already making observations about mafia members in her neighborhood, assuming that some day Soviet Officials would come knocking for information. “If I hadn’t left, I probably wouldn’t be alive right now,” she explains, reflecting on various close encounters with kidnapping and child predators. The former Soviet world of respect and equality had disintegrated into an unsafe community rampant with alcoholism and violence. It had come time for her family to leave.

They traveled from Moscow to Albany, New York, where Biberman-Ocakli began the fifth grade. Biberman-Ocakli hurled herself into her academics. “School became my refuge,” she says as she reflects on her transition to American culture.

Considering her extensive résumé, her commitment to scholarship is not at all that surprising. Biberman-Ocakli’s early endeavors were mostly centered around journalism. After graduating from Wellesley College and Harvard University, she spent a year as a Fulbright research scholar in Russia, and then stayed on as a journalist for a Russian publication.

“I had such a nostalgia for Russian culture,” she explains, noting a curiosity for the region where she spent her childhood.

Although she had the opportunity to continue working in Moscow, she declined the offer due to her accurate prediction that her work might eventually be censored in the Russian media. Instead, she returned to America to complete a Doctoral Program at Brown University, while simultaneously being a Teaching Assistant.

Currently, her research focuses on unorthodox militant groups used by governments in South Asia. She has begun crafting her first book, after years of fieldwork, explaining when and why governments make the unusual decisions to hire groups of rebels or civilians to fight. She is simultaneously teaching three courses at Skidmore; *States, Rebels, and Warlords*, *Politics of Modern South Asia*, and *Intro to International and Comparative Politics*.

Despite being immersed in both research and teaching, she emphasizes that working with students is her priority. Teaching makes her feel “energetic and happy,” she explains, because for her, teaching is an experience one “gets addicted to.” Although she is relatively new to the Skidmore College community, her enthusiasm for teaching has already garnered positive feedback from students, who note how valuable her energy is in the classroom.

As I interviewed Biberman-Ocakli, it dawned on me that not only is she an accomplished researcher and professor, but also something akin to a life coach. She urges students to use their undergraduate years to develop fundamental skills such as writing and quantitative reasoning. She also encourages students to step outside of their comfort zones, a skill she was forced to acquire while traveling for research as this research often required interviewing dangerous people.

The hallmark skill that she attributes a great deal of her own success to is the ability to adapt and be self-sufficient. One must learn new skills quickly, and “become [one’s] own best teacher” while tackling weaknesses. Only through this uncomfortable process, she believes, will students grow past their barriers and be successful in an unpredictable world.

Biberman-Ocakli will be teaching a 200 level International Politics course centered around the rise of the BRICS, as well as a 300 level Modern Warfare course next semester.