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# The Bates Student

THE VOICE OF BATES COLLEGE SINCE 1873

WEDNESDAY January 25, 2017

**FORUM** 

Will Murray '20 takes a stand against critics of Canada Goose coats.



Vol. 147, Issue. 11

Matthew Winter '18 shines a light on Bates' Steel Pan Orchestra.



**SPORTS** 

Bates' ski teams kick off their carnival season.



See Page 7

# The new era of President School of Steel Pan **Donald Trump**

A recap of President Trump's inaugural address with commentary from Professor John Baughman.



### **MARIAM HAYRAPETYAN**

On Friday the 20th, while students were getting ready to jump into the freezing puddle as part of the Bates tradition, Donald Trump was inaugurated into office as the 45th President of the United States. His inaugural address was attended by 900,000 people, a rather small number when compared to President Obama's 2009 inauguration speech, which attracted 1.8 million peopl (though his second attracted a number closer to President Trump's with 1 million people).

He began the speech by saying thanks to President Barack Obama and Michelle Obama. The rest of the 17-minute speech outlined once more the changes he wants to bring to this nation and the people. President Donald Trump stated that he wants to "transfer power from

Washington. D.C. and [give] it back ing the country and providing hope to [us], the American people" (Inau- and vision for a new beginning." gural Address: Trump's full speech,

He went on to say that he strongly believes in buying American products and hiring American workers to complete the job. President Trump is open to seeking friendships with other nations and aligning with them; however, he believes that it is critical for America and other nations to put their interests firsts, for he does not want to impose the American ways on foreign countries. In the last part of his speech he emphasized the importance of fighting Radical Islamic

Listening to President Trump's speech inspired me to contact Politics Professor John Baughman who believed that the speech had "an unusually negative tone" because "ordinarily a new president places much greater rhetorical weight on unify-

Baughman believes that, "the specificity of his critiques in contrast to the vagueness of his vision expressed in the speech suggested to me that he still had much more sense of what he wanted to change than how he wanted to change it. Even where he did provide specificity, such as in a plan for robust rebuilding of our infrastructure, and undertaking that would take many billions of federal dollars, it is in contrast to the budget plan his team has articulated elsewhere."

On that point that President Trump is seeking friendship with other countries, Professor Baughman stated that, "a certain degree of nationalism is not uncommon for an inaugural speech. After all, it is one of the few shared civic ritu-

See THE NEW ERA, PAGE 4



### **MATTHEW WINTER** STAFF WRITER

Arguably Bates' most hidden gem, the Steel Pan Orchestra now features 16 students who come together for three hours on Thursday nights to give their hearts to the steel pan. After slowly building momentum and gaining popularity over the past few years, the Steel Pan Orchestra is ready to take over Bates College this semester.

Originating in Trinidad and Tobago (and standing as the national instrument of Trinidad and Tobago) steelpans are one of those easy-to-learn but hard-to-master instruments. For the Bates band, no previous experience is required. It is as if you are playing the drums, but the drum is made of steel and there are spots on the drums that make a specific note. And just like drums, there are different kinds that play different styles.

For steel pan, there is the tenor, double second, guitar, bass, tenor bass, cellos, and many others that big bands use. This semester the band has 16 members, more of the different kinds of steel drums will be used. The higher register drums, the tenors and the double seconds, are used for the melody while the lower

register drums, the guitars, cellos, and basses, are used more for background loops.

Imagine Paul Rudd mixed with Jack Black from School of Rock and you will get Duncan Hardy, the unflappable leader of the Bates Steel Pan Orchestra and a guru in the world of steel pans. Duncan took over the orchestra two years ago, completely changing the course of steel pan at Bates. Sure, playing steel pan is very fun, but playing steel pan for Duncan is next level. Duncan is a profession steel pannist, even traveling all the way to Trinidad and Tobago to compete in the World Steel Pan Festival! Currently, he is the band director of Sister Steel, a band he formed with friends from his high school. He is a pretty big deal in the steel pan world as he is the director of the New England Steel Pan Festival this year.

Steel pans can be used to play almost any song. A popular song is "Under the Sea," but Bates' band is not that basic. Even Nick Jonas has caught on to the steelpan trend, using steelpan in his song "Close." Last year, the band played "Africa," by Toto, to rave reviews. The band

See STEEL PAN, PAGE 6

## Women and men's track and field teams impress at Bates Invitational

The track and field team clobbered their Division III opponents in their only home meet of the season, as Allison Hill '17 and Sally Ceesay '18 made history.

### **GRIFFIN GOLDEN ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR**

A track and field meet is quite a hectic scene for any newcomer to the sport like me. Athletes of all different sizes and skill sets are constantly competing in a myriad of events. Long and skinny runners run the 5k, broad shouldered men and women compete in the hammer throw, and explosive sprinters run the 60 meter dash — just to name a few events. This spectacle is certainly overwhelming at first, but quickly becomes an incredible display of camaraderie, competition, and breath-

taking athleticism. Head coach of the men's track and field team Al Fereshetian echoed this sentiment. "It's basically a three ring circus out there," the 22 year

Bates veteran said in a phone call on Monday morning. "Track is unique, because there is so much diversity and variety in the sport. You have everything from the long distance runners to the throwers and vaulters. I enjoy every element of it, the hard part is trying to be present at all events!"

This past week's spectacle took place here on campus in the Merrill Gymnasium, as the Bates men's and women's track and field teams competed in the Bates Invitational over the weekend. The meet included Division III teams, Keene State, St. Joseph's, UMF, and Southern Maine, as well as two Division I teams, University of Maine and Bryant University. All athletes competed against

See TRACK AND FIELD, PAGE 8



### The Bates Student January 25, 2017

### Bates students share experiences from Women's March

**HANNAH TARDIE MARY SCHWALBE** MANAGING FORUM EDITORS

The day after they took office following an election cycle fraught with racist, sexist, homophobic rhetoric, millions of women and allies gathered around the nation to demonstrate their resistance against the new government. Among these demonstrators were numerous Bates students, who traveled to D.C, New York, Boston, and various towns around Maine to stand in solidarity with the women of our nation. Here are some snippets of their experiences:

It was empowering and beautiful to be surrounded by so many strong, loving and feisty woman after an incredibly bruising campaign. I hope that this marks the beginning of a movement and not a moment in time. The day was not only a rallying call for women, but an opportunity for everyone who believes in equality and democracy.

- Honor Moshay '17

I know that the march was not ever meant to be anti-Trump; rather an affirmation of belief in the worth of individuals who have been marginalized by patriarchal systemswomen, men, LGBTQ+, Latino/a, Muslim, Black, refugee etc. Even so, I was marching because it I needed to physically demonstrate my contempt and resistance against everything that he and the people that support him believe in. I truly believe that good has come out of this election, if only to make people feel the need to mobilize against hatred

on a scale I have never seen before in my lifetime. Do I think that it is enough? Absolutely not. However, I am hopeful after seeing the turnout at the march, and the love that I saw among protesters that had never met each other, that we could finally start seeing actual consistent activism from people that chose to be silent before.

- Anna Luiza Mendonça '18

I attended the Women's March in Boston. One of the things that struck me about the experience was the ages of the marchers. The college-aged marchers were alongside young parents with children in strollers, alongside elementary age children with their handmade signs, next to older women telling stories of all the marches they have been to throughout their lives, among college aged marchers and elderly marchers and every age in between. Nobody was too young or too old to get out there and stand in solidarity of their beliefs. The atmosphere was serious but joyful, with people laughing with delight at each others signs and pointing out unique ones to their friends. At points there was underlying tension due to the extreme crowdedness during the speeches, but people were respectful and made sure friends and families did not get separated in the moving throngs. We had been warned there would be poor cell service, but we were shocked by just how real that was. At the march there was almost no cell service: calls were impossible, and only about every hour or so would texts come through, with very limited ability to send texts out. When my group first arrived to Boston Commons my friend saw two women with maybe 6 or 7 signs.

She thought they might be selling them, so she went over and asked. They replied that they were not selling them, they had just made them for themselves and their friends, but they gave my friend one of their signs for free. It was such a powerful experience to be in the midst of the crowd on the backside of the hill in Boston Common, not even able to see the stage or the speakers but hearing Elizabeth Warren's voice ring out over the crowds, which responded to her words with cheers and claps. The older women around me would shout "YES" when they particularly agreed with her, though the crowds were surprisingly quiet, all straining our ears to listen to someone we could not see.

- Chandler Ryan '17

I felt completely safe and supported. There was no violence. An older woman who was trying to march fainted and a little boy gave her his jacket as a pillow and waited with her until an Ambulance arrived. The atmosphere was one of mutual support for many voices and campaigns for social justice. I felt very calm even though crowds usually make me uncomfortable.

- Kate McNally '17

I went to the march in Augusta. While it would have been awesome to attend a march in a bigger city, I thought that at least some representation from many smaller cities across the US was just as important as one huge one in DC. I also think it is important to allow people who do not have the means to get to DC the opportunity to be able to participate in the March. The one in Augusta was very safe, I felt, but somewhat exclusive to white cis-norm females;

"this pussy grabs back" signs, pictures of ovaries, and the pink pussy hats were dominating. I could not hear the speakers very well but I remember hearing many of their goals surrounded putting women in office and keeping abortions legal, which I very much believe in and respect, but these goals are not a priority for women of color or women of other marginalized groups. I think the speakers definitely knew they were speaking to a majority white community; however that could have altered what they chose their agenda to be. I would have liked to see and hear more signs and speeches that were POC, LGBTQ, immigrant, Trans/gender non-binary and (dis) abled inclusive (although I understand that is a lot to ask for). Protesting, I think, is important, not necessarily to change things but to evoke, energize, and encourage the desire for change. I know I at least felt stuck and helpless after election day and just knowing that this many women showed up made me feel less stuck. Although it is a tiny change, it is a change regardless.

- Monata Song '17

The Women's March in DC was amazing: being in a majority female crowd listening to politicians, activists, celebrities and feminist icons express their anger and determination was incredibly inspiring. It was kind of like a group therapy session, where hundreds of thousands of people came together to scream to the world (and especially at the White House) that we will not allow bigotry and ignorance to divide us. The march created a really strong sense of community and passion that I hope only gets stronger over the next four years.

- Haley Crim '20

I have never heard the words pussy, cunt, or bitch used with such pride and positivity as I did on Saturday. The women's march in D.C. was an experience like no other and demonstrated just how much strength and courage it takes to be a woman. My sisters and I were surrounded by women of all backgrounds and yet our message was the same. We were all honored to represent pussy power on Trump's first day in office. The crowds took up what seemed to be the entirety of D.C. and the message we spread was loud and clear, women want change.

- Julia Panepinto '20

The Women's March was more than just a seven or eight hour gathering in DC, it was also the travel to and from being surrounded with overwhelming positivity and love. On the drive down cars packed with people waved and honked at us with smiles plastered on everyone's faces and rest stops were packed with march-goers in pussy hats. One of the most amazing sights was the metro that morning packed with people holding signs high and waves of chants and cheering spreading through the crowd. The crowd on the streets above were beyond anything I (or the organizers) had ever expected. The entire experience was an outpouring of support of people of all races, religions, genders, abilities, sexual orientation, and ages and a motivational force for future action.

- Ella Livesay '17

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Forum 3

# What's inside a Canada Goose Jacket?

WILL MURRAY CONTRIBUTING WRITER

At any school, clothing trends come in tidal waves. Bates is no different; after the first snow hit campus this year, hordes of L.L. Bean boots dominated alumni walk. As the temperature continued to drop, however, a new item seemed to be on the rise: the Canada Goose jacket. Adorned with a fur-lined hood and its circular red emblem, the distinctive profile dotted the snowy campus landscape.

Trends can be controversial. Even the beloved Bean Boots received backlash in recent months after the company was allegedly revealed to be a beneficiary of the Trump campaign. Canada Goose jackets have proven to be no different; though notably stylish, their sleek profiles are shrouded in controversy. This controversy seems to originate from a variety of sources, such as the quantity of down in the jacket, or its reputation as a status symbol. The heat of the controversy, however, seems to emanate from the jacket's notorious, fur-lined hood.

The hood is lined with certifiably real, but "ethically sourced," coyote fur. As jacket sales began to conflagrate among communities, videos critiquing the company's practices followed suit. In one particular viral video, a coyote is shown suffering in a trap, allegedly set by

representatives of Canada Goose. These videos are viscerally startling; the coyote's suffering seems palpably helpless. A negative connotation with the brand's name began to seep into the public's perception, and rightfully so.

But throughout this controversy, I was left with a lingering question: why is it that Canada Goose jackets are so particularly controversial? Human use of animals, of which Canada Goose is one example, is pervasive. The slaughterhouse practices behind commercial meat production, for instance, seem to match, if not exceed, the cruelty displayed in the coyote trapping videos. Pigs, chickens, and cattle are slit open and sawed apart in nauseating, deeply upsetting ways. Though meat consumption has been known to spark heated ethical debates, it seems notably less controversial than the practices behind Canada Goose jacket.

Unless all those who condemn Canada Goose also comprise this vegetarian/vegan minority, this conflict seems to bring nuance to the animal rights debate. When considering the Canada Goose controversy, I am still stuck with the same question: why is it that slaughtering a coyote for its fur is significantly more controversial than slaughtering a cow for its meat?

I think a strong counterargument to this claim is that the coyote fur is superfluous, an unnecessary

component of the jacket's design. Though Canada Goose claims that the fur is essential to the jacket's functionality, many of the company's counterparts-- The North Face, Patagonia, Burton, alike-- have opted for synthetic fur. But if this is the central argument against Canada Goose, it seems that this argument could just as easily be applied to the meat-eating example; a commonly held argument against meat eating is that it is unnecessary. It is clear by now that a variety of plant based proteins-- nuts, soy, among others-are more than enough to sustain the average person's protein needs. This counterargument in both cases revolves around the same argument-we have alternatives at hand that do not involve the use of animals. But still, the Canada Goose jacket seems bafflingly more controversial than the consumption of meat.

Though I have posed many questions throughout this article, one thing is for certain-- the Canada Goose jacket, like many fashion items, is no longer just clothing. It is kindling for heated conversations about our use of animals, and our ethical perspectives at large. And as we have these conversations, it is important to consider one takeaway from this debate-- just because something exists, does not mean it ought to. Perhaps, we should retire the jackets. But if we do, we might just have to give up meat too.

### learn.

# question.

grow.

### **BatesRates**

Always a festive occasion.

Post-90s sickness

Sharing dances, drinks, and germs.

Some classes cancelled/miserable weather

Snow, hail, rain, and for a lucky few, no class on Tuesday

Lewiston Parking Ban

Pricey tickets for students who don't quickly move their cars.

Juniors studying abroad

Some friends go, others return to less exotic confines.

Bates students get into good trouble at one of the largest US demonstrations ever.

with
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### A walk with a Russian

Borelli Ebert '17 interviews TA Lera Fedorova.



### **WILLIAM BORELLI EBERT STAFF WRITER**

Lera Fedorova is the devoted and deliberate Russian TA who graciously sat down with The Bates Student to give us her story.

Lera Fedorova: I'm from Russia, I live in a city called Orel, ah yes it is not far from Moscow. So I studied at the university and I got a bachelor's degree there, and now I am getting my master's.

William Ebert: What did you do for fun as a kid?

LF: First I went to puppet theater, I was participating there with all the puppets and all these things. And then I decided to go to art school and I studied there for 6 years and I finished it quite early since most people there were 2 or 3 years older than me, than I was. Me and my friends usually, we just, we just went out for walk. I noticed here, that people don't really walk, just to walk. So people usually go to some places to cinemas, to theaters, to park. But in Russia, it is a general thing, you always see kids outside, they are just walking, just in the streets. Once when I just arrived here in Lewiston, I decided to walk a little bit and I needed some stuff so I decided to go to Walmart, and I walked to Walmart. And I think 3 cars stopped and asked if everything is ok with me, do I need a ride or something? I was just walking! Yeah, so it was crazy a little bit for me.

WE: What was it like living in Russia? What was different than living here?

LF: I can't say that I feel much difference, because I am here as adult, I am an adult here. But I can say that we had lots of freedom from our parents. I think, well as far as I can judge, here it is not that freedom. If I may say so again, because they let me go to the city center to meet my friends especially in the summer; I just had to be home at certain time, but everything was fine. Yeah, I think these moments that they give you freedom to grow up or to be with your friends or to somehow understanding to behave yourself and yeah.

WE: What is one defining moment in your life?

LF: I think this was the mo-

ment when I moved out from my parents flat, because before that, the period before that was somehow defining and when I started living on my own was also one of those moments. So before that for five or six months, I was working hard, I was studying all the time, I almost didn't show up at my parents place just to sleep, and not even every night, so I was real busy. I almost didn't talk to my parents, they of course didn't like they, they didn't see their daughter in a while, she was supposed to be with them all the time. And there was one moment when I, some evening, I decided to talk to my father and he told me about his hunt, he's a hunter, yes and I asked about his friend, something like 'How is he?' And he looked at me strangely and said that he died two months before. And this was horrible for me because he was one of my parents, my father's best friends, and I didn't know about it. Yes, at this moment, I realized I needed to change everything somehow, and my parents probably realized that we need to do something. And I think a month after it, I moved out to my apartment and I don't know why, I separated from my parents and it was hard for all of us, but we became closer and uh, I realized the importance of talking to your close people to spending time with your close people, and finding this time. Because before I thought, come on I live with them, they see me; isn't that enough? Haha, they sometimes see me. Yes, but after that, all this period, I realized this importance. I always talk with my mother, I call my father maybe once a week probably and we talk a few hours, so yes. This is very important thing.

WE: What do you think of the States?

LF: I like it a lot. I didn't think that, States um, were going to be much different from Russia. Of course they are different, but I mean the mentality and all the things. But it is. It is very different, it very interesting to see how people here behave how people here communicate. And I really enjoyed being here while the elections. Yes, I realize that for you guys it is not that fun, but for me it was just interesting to see how everyone reacted to everything because in Russia for the last few years people don't really care about the elections and just political things they don't care. They like to discuss something,

but they never understand anything and it can only be a couple of words. But here people are really into politics and people understand what it is, I don't understand what politics at all or anything, it is just impossible for me to talk about it, so I was quite fascinated by this moment and I don't know, just general mentalities of things.

**WE:** What is the best thing and the worst thing about America?

LE: I really like that it is possible to bring your dog to every place. It is so amazing! And seeing dogs everywhere and even in planes, and during studies, some teachers bring their dogs, Roger Williams where I work, there is one teacher who bring her dog all the time. And this is amazing. It could never happen in Russia, I don't think. I never saw this, and it is really hard to bring your dog to a restaurant or some place. To shop no, everywhere is no dogs, no dogs. And the worst thing. I had some moments, I dislike this American smile. Yeah, not the smile, the smile itself. It is very curious how people, when you're just some person walking and the person smiles. But this is not the thing. The smile is in their face but then you never know what they really mean, what they really say, what is really on their mind. Yeah, we are cool, and you are cool, and everything is cool, but in reality they have something in their mind, something different.

WE: How did you end up at

LF: My university has some kind of collaboration with Bates. So every year or two uh teacher assistants from my university come to Bates, and students from Bates, sometimes, once in a few years, come to my city to study Russian studies, Russian culture and Ecology a little bit also so, yes two years ago was the last time they came, and I helped with the organization of everything with their coming and after that yes, the previous spring, my professor asked me if I want to go here. And I agree. Yes, I really like being here. Just the organization, and the students, I really love my students you know, choosing to study Russian. Is a very difficult decision to make since it is difficult, but I really enjoy it a lot.

## Now you have pissed off Grandma

Batesies participate in Women's March nationwide.

### **CHRISTINA PERRONE** CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Protests of the Inauguration of a president are common in American history. Over a century ago, on March 3, 1913, the day before Woodrow Wilson became president, women gathered on Pennsylvania Avenue to advocate for their right to vote. The Woman Suffrage Parade, as it was later known, became one of the most effective protests in American history. Its legacy lives on today: the urge for universal equality echoed in Philadelphia's Million Woman March in 1997, and most recently in The Women's March on

Washington on January 21, 2017. Last Friday, Donald Trump became the 45th president of the United States. His inauguration brought severe backlash in the form of violent protests, arrests and arson all over the country. Americans were left with little hint of what to expect the following day for the widely anticipated Women's March on Washington, as well as its 673 sister marches in major cities across the world, including Bates College's neighbor Augusta, Maine.

In preparation, artists such as Shepard Fairey and Jessica Sabogal circulated their artwork on the internet as free downloads for signs. The Pussyhat Project, created in response to Trump's sexual assault allegations in November, brought pink cat-eared hats to the marchers on Saturday in over 100 drop-off lo-

This weekend, many students from Bates College sought near and far to participate in the historic march for women's equality. It is estimated that in Washington D.C. alone half a million marchers showed up to protest — a sum hard to ignore. For those who could not attend, the event was livestreamed on social media platforms and broadcasted on all major television

Jesse Saffeir '20, who attended the march on Saturday in Washington D.C. reflects that, "it felt totally safe. The atmosphere was positive and supportive. Strangers would start conversations with each other, and whenever a mom with a stroller, or a person in a wheelchair, or an emergency vehicle was trying to get by, the whole crowd would make way for them." Indeed not one of the protestors was arrested on Saturday, concluding a peaceful and effective protest.

The Women's March was started by Teresa Shook, a resident of Hawaii, after she created an event on Facebook to protest Trump's election win. She later invited Linda Sarsour, Tamika Mallory and Carmen Perez as co-chairs for the event. Partners of the Women's March included Planned Parenthood, The

Natural Resources Defense Council, the NAACP and Amnesty International USA. The name "Women's March" alludes to 1963's March on Washington, in which Dr. Martin Luther King delivered the "I Have a Dream" speech.

In Dr. King's footsteps, speeches during the Women's March delivered by Gloria Steinem, Ashley Judd, Scarlett Johansson and Michael Moore — to name a few — all promoted the change that needs to take place in this country.

In address to the major criticism that the March has received in having too many issues, actress America Ferrera responded, "[I]f we fall into the trap by separating ourselves by our causes and our labels, then we will weaken our fight and we will lose. But if we commit to what aligns us, if we stand together steadfast and determined, then we stand a chance of saving the soul of our country."

This brings attention to the intersectionality of the movement: that there are many causes under the umbrella of feminism including equal pay, access to healthcare, the #BlackLivesMatter movement and many other issues that affect women's rights.

Saffeir said that her favorite speech was delivered by Senator Kamala Harris from California: "[She] gave a speech about how 'women's issues' are more than just access to Planned Parenthood; they also involve the economy, foreign policy, gun control, and so many other contemporary issues, because first and foremost women are citizens". When asked what the most memorable sign was, Saffeir said she had seen an elderly woman holding up a sign saying, "Now you've pissed off grandma".

The Women's March on Washington may have ended on Saturday, but it is our responsibility to keep the flame burning. There are many things students at Bates College can do to participate in politics both locally and nationally. Perhaps the easiest form of political participation is to donate to causes that directly support women's rights. Other ways to participate include conducting petitions, attending other protests, posting on social media and writing letters to your Federal, State and Municipal officials expressing your opinions and concerns. That this country was designed by the people and for the people, and that government is to be governed by the people's consent. It is important for Bates students to be aware of consenting to officials who promote rhetoric that undermine rights, and remember to march on. After all, Bates has long been a place that recognizes the value of equal opportunity for men and women in fostering an elite education.

### THE NEW ERA

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 

als we have, celebrating a peaceful transfer of power, and that comes with a healthy dose of national pride. What makes his speech stand out is its full-throated endorsement of a protectionist foreign policy, such as when he says, 'Protection will lead to great prosperity and strength.' The position he takes seems to be that other countries need us more than we need them, and that we can use that bargaining leverage to obtain better deals, whether it's our contributions to NATO and the UN or trade deals like NAFTA. To

an extent that is true, but in my view he has not fully accounted for the unintended consequences of using the heavy bargaining leverage of the US in this way. '

The idea that President Trump can eradicate Radical Islamic Terrorism seemed impossible to Professor Baughman who does not believe that "there is anyone actually involved with the issue who would ever claim that it is something which could be "eradicated," and especially not in the relatively short time horizon of a presidential term. There are several

worrying aspects to the fact that this is such a point of focus for him, but I will name only one here. The dangers we face as a country and as individuals do not reduce to this thing he calls "Radical Islamic Terrorism," and a single-minded focus on that will leave us vulnerable to others."

It is important to educate ourselves on President Trump's agenda, so as to form a coherent understanding and opinion of his policies, whether you support him or not.



### Arts & Leisure

The Bates Student January 25, 2017

## Behind the scenes of book building with Professor Robert Strong



### HALLEY POSNER MANAGING ARTS&LEISURE EDITOR

I love books. I know that makes me a geek but here is a secret for you: I could not give two hoots. One of my favorite parts about reading a book is knowing that the author spent hours, days, months, and even years picking out the right words or making sure the plot fits together just so. Seeing an author's dedication printed on the page is utterly heartwarming. Giving me insight on the author's perspective when building a book is Professor Robert Strong, Bates' very own English lecturer, fellowship advisor, and author of recently published novel, Bright Advent.

For many people, poetry is a daunting, aloof genre of literature that they are only subject to in high school English classes. But Strong has a new take on the genre. Instead of painstakingly cramming syllables together in a forced rhyme and meter scheme he let the words direct his writing.

Strong explains in an interview that "[t]he poetry movements in Bright Advent are chasing things in and around language, spirit, and violence that are beyond my reach with regular ol' prose sentences. The prose chunks come when action breaks out or explication is needed. Poetry drills down; prose moves forward—at least for this book."

His tone meets at the intersection between prose and poetry. He can accomplish different moods or pose different questions in his varied forms of writing. Switching between those two also serves to keep the readers on their toes; they never know what the next page will look like.

Finding the inspiration for putting those lyrical works on the page is not always easy and can come from the strangest of places. While researching his book at the Massachusetts Historical Society, he stumbled across an interesting col-

See BOOK BUILDING, PAGE 6

# Mission IMPROVable saves the day



**ARIEL ABONIZIO**ASSISTANT ARTS&LEISURE EDITOR

Last Friday January 20, Bates College was filled with the unexpected. The comedy team Mission IMPROVable presented their Always Original show in Memorial Commons. The show is constantly new because it is created on the spot based on audience participation the audience gives ideas for places, objects, and characters and the "mission" starts. The show was created by four actors: Agent Pepperjack, Agent Sugarbear, Agent Binary, and Agent X. Mission IMPROVable had the incredible capacity of creating laughter out of anything, from "riding a miniature giraffe" to having a fictitious breakfast with Zac Efron.

There is one thing Mission IM-PROVable did impressively well: creating comedy out of participation. It is typical of improvisation comedy to call on their audience, simultaneously drawing inspiration and laughter out of embarrassment. Different from typical comedy, the spectator is far from passive. Mission IMPROVable drew constantly from audience participation, soliciting input and choosing assistant "agents." The audience could provide any setting, characters, and imaginary props of a scene, and then the actors would create the scene impromptu. As good improvisation often does, Mission IMPROVable also drew from the specifics of the place that they presented. In this case, the team mentioned severeal Bates traditions, such as Newman's Day and Puddle Jump. Personally, I felt always on the verge of being called on stage (and I was, at one point). It is this excitement and surprise that makes improvisation comedy a unique ex-



When I was called to a surprise "mission," I realized that I was not supposed to be the passive spectator I usually am. In the "mission" I was called onto stage for, the agents were speaking statues. They developed the scene as they performed, but their bodies remained still unless my other audience partner or I decided to move the actors. We were free to move them however we wished, challenging the "agents" to create meaning out of the unexpected poses. Improvisation comedy involves a sense of wonder: how to make sense out of their nearly random poses? How to create everything out of nothing? More often than not, I found that there is always something profound behind laughter – and improvisation comedy has a unique way to make something wonderful out of playfulness.

Mission IMPROVable was able to turn randomness into humor. From experience, I have noted that comedy is often overlooked as an art form, despite being one of the hardest and most complex genres: transforming what is seemingly absurd into something meaningful

seems easy when watching a show by experienced performers – Agent Pepperjack has been performing for over ten years!

Comedy has a relaxed atmosphere that can overshadow copious amounts of practice. The perfect example is the last "mission" of the show. These last short performances involved creating complex, coordinated scenes using only gibberish words and body language. Three actors had to explain to the fourth actor an entire scene in gibberish. I cannot describe how convincing their gibberish was. It is not easy to explain someone that they are "wearing Donald J. Trump" without using actual words! Now imagine explaining "you are having breakfast with Zac Éfron, but your eggs are rocks and your toast is cyanide." Believe it or not, they did it near perfectly.

On my way out of the performance, a friend told me: "I have never seen anyone speaking gibberish that well; there is no way!" I remember leaving the show trying to mimic gibberish to come to one conclusion – fluently speaking gibberish is more than child's play.

# VCS in pictures



HALLEY POSNER
MANAGING ARTS&LEISURE EDITOR

It is easy to forget how lucky we are to go to school here at Bates. Keep in mind that our community is made up of a myriad of different types of people. We have mathematicians and economists, actors and singers all working together in classes and in extracurricular activities. A great example of the Bates community coming together to share ideas, ambitions, and talents is the Village Club Series, Community Night. Happening a couple times per year, anybody and everybody from the community is invited onto the VCS stage to perform. Here are some of the highlights of the night showcased in beautiful pictures.















# Cafe LA: The best tasting hole-in-the-wall

Not only was the atmosphere contemporary and inviting, but the food was good too.

### RILEY HOPKINS STAFF WRITER

Over winter break, I had the pleasure of experiencing a quaint, hidden cafe in Auburn. As an avid cafe lover, and lover of all things food, finding this cute small restaurant was the best thing that could have happened to me that Wednesday. Located on the bottom floor of the public library along Spring St., down a small ramp and (on that particular day) a few steps past a sheet of ice, the doors to Cafe LA invite you with an implication of hot roasted coffee and homemade bread just inside.

For some reason, I never know how to behave when walking into a new building - especially a restaurant. Do we seat ourselves? Where is the bathroom? Can we ask for a table by the window? These are the things I worry about. Since the cafe is so small, there was only one or two people working, and the waitress who approached us was very

welcoming (and yeah, we got the window table). If I were to compare it to Bates' favorite cafe, Forage, I would say Cafe LA has less of a homey, crunchy vibe to it but maintains the same great service. There were no homemade bagels or board games, but it was still a success. The exposed brick walls seemed to absorb the tables and countertops into one, giving the true sense of being almost underground while still keeping it contemporary.

Another stressor I endure in a new restaurant is the menu. I get so overwhelmed by menus that require me to flip multiple pages just to get to the section that offers entrees with fries on the side (because let us be real, it is not a meal unless there are some sort of fried potatoes on the side). Although Cafe LA's menu was simple, it offered a diverse array of options. Everything from breakfast sandwiches and vegan wraps to grilled sandwiches and homemade soup was available; it was clear that this place cared about what they are putting on the tables and took the

time to do it the right way.

I settled on the grilled chicken sandwich on homemade sourdough bread. The sandwich was made up of pulled chicken, mozzarella cheese, red onions, tomato, pesto, and chipotle mayo that ended up being a little too spicy for my sensitive taste buds. It was the perfect size for my brunch/early lunch appetite. That is probably what I liked most about my experience — I left feeling totally content, not too full, not still hungry and with no complaints. And the bathroom was super nice with a cool hand dryer but a pretty complicated door handle and lock.

Overall, I was very satisfied with my visit to Cafe LA and I know it will not be the last. The Lewiston-Auburn community has so many hidden treasures that offer culture, conversation, and experience. It is only a five-minute drive from campus if you hit all the red lights, so do not be a fool - go there. You will not regret it. Oh, they also cater.

### **STEEL PAN**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



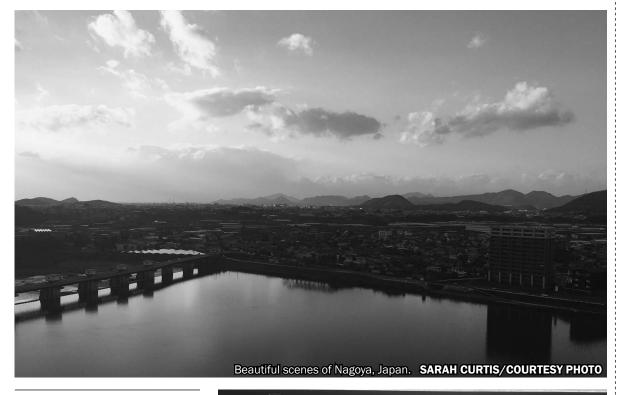
also regularly plays a song known as "AFC" (it has a real name, but is solely referred to as "AFC" because of the first three notes to the song) and more traditional steelpan songs from Trinidad and Tobago.

The next concert will be on February 3rd for the Bates Art Crawl. That performance will feature the smaller group of students who were in the band last semester. The end of the semester performance will be on April 7th, featuring all 16 band members. It will be unlike anything at Bates – or anything anywhere.

The students in the band range from musicians who love music so

much they need more of it in their lives to those eager to try something new and unique. The three-hour rehearsals can be tough; it is a lot of standing, but it is a great bonding experience. The rewarding feeling of putting on the Hawaiian shirt right before going on stage makes it all worth it. The band might even participate in the New England Steel Pan Festival this year. With all the talent that the band holds, there is no limit to where they can go. Not all superheroes wear capes, but all steel pannists wear Hawaiian shirts and are superheroes.

# Experiences abroad in Japan



### SARAH CURTIS STAFF WRITER

When I was younger, I saw my first Hayao Miyazaki movie, *Spirited Away*. Ever since then, I knew that I someday wanted to travel to Japan. For the past two weeks, I have been living in Nagoya, Japan with a wonderful host family. Each day has been full of experiences, both terrifying and exciting, which have allowed me to explore the beauty and the depth of Japanese culture.

Japan is filled with many unique opportunities. Within the first four days, I went on an orientation trip to the prefecture of Nagoya, called Inuyama. Inuyama is most known for the Inuyama Castle, once inhabited by samurai. The castle is placed on a hill, overlooking the city, surrounded by mountains and a beautiful river. While in Inuyama, I had access to an *onsen*, also known as a hot spring. People go to the *onsen* to relax and reflect; the only catch is that you must go in naked, quite the liberating experience!

After leaving Inuyama, I met my host family and they have been the highlight of my experience in Japan. Going to sing karaoke is something that is a huge activity in Japan. On a snowy weekend day, my host parents brought me to karaoke and it was a ton of fun! It was a great way to bond and we shared a lot of laughs.

Nagoya is not a city one usually hears about, but there always seems to be a wide variety of things to do and places to see. One place in particular is called Sakae. Sakae is a large subway station filled with various unique places to buy *omiyage* 



(souvenirs) and an assortment of delicious food stores. The most incredible store there, in my opinion, is the Studio Ghibli store where I was able to fan-girl and appreciate the movies that initially sparked my interest in Japan. There is also a Pokémon center a few minutes away from the station, for all of you Pokémon fans out there. As a Pokémon fan myself, I thoroughly enjoyed my visit.

Overall, the first two weeks of my semester abroad in Japan have been very enriching and I am extremely grateful to be here. Although I am finding communicating in Japanese pretty difficult, I am viewing it as an opportunity to get to know myself when put in interesting situations.

I have been noticing that often when someone asks me a question in Japanese, I tend to respond with "arigatou," which means "thank you" instead of answering the question just out of the mere panic of not being able to understand what was asked. I have been learning that it is okay to not always have the answer. Despite feeling somewhat lost most of the time, looking at the bright side of things has really helped me overcome the challenges of living in a foreign country. I look forward to what the rest of the semester will bring and continuing my quest for knowledge about both the Japanese language and the Japanese culture.



### **BOOK BUILDING**

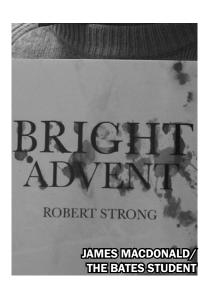
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lection of letters by the Puritan minister, John Eliot. Strong remarks that though Eliot was, "[w]riting from the cold muck of 17th-century Massachusetts and essentially abetting a campaign of genocide against the local Native Americans, Eliot was nonetheless writing stunning, heartfelt letters pleading for aid in saving the lives and, he believed, souls of these people. . . Language problems, people slogging hard, souls writhing and lifting, blood on everythingyes, I found this inspiring". Finding light in the darkness - in this case, Eliot's perseverance in the face of a genocide scale near-extinction of the Native American population provides excellent fodder for writing compelling pieces.

But being an author with his heart set on publishing is not all epiphanies and breakthroughs. There are challenges that come with the territory. Having support and pushing the envelop of a genre is exciting, but Strong remarks that it can get a bit overwhelming. Strong had many people helping him think about his book: two editors, a publisher, a historian, and some very helpful readers. However with each new layer of support and guidance there also came opinions. From the onset, Strong and his helpers knew he was generating a completely new concept because, as the author notes, "Bright Advent directly samples a good deal of 17th-century archival material, imagines its way across the archive's many gaps, and

wears a trans-genre wardrobe."

Strong had to navigate these new waters, testing what worked in



an *avant garde* way and what simply did not belong. To that end Strong reflects that "[n]egotiating the wide variety of opinions about what a poet is 'allowed' to do with history, imagination, and genre was an unexpected challenge." Though it was a new experience, that didn't preclude Strong from enjoying every moment.

Writing is hard. I know that was not the most eloquent sentence, but it is a true one. Writing and especially putting yourself out there into the world of publishing is daunting and arduous. But Strong has a remedy that may help the burgeoning writer along. He says, "[w]rite every day, even if only for 15 minutes. Send your work out endlessly. Learn to be spurred onward by rejection. (Bright Advent was rejected at many places, including once previously at the press that finally published it.) And, of course, meet [him] in the Den for coffee to talk about it!"

# An alphabetical journey into the English Premier League: E

Staff writer John Neufeld '17 continues his examination of this year's Premier League teams. This week features the lone team that starts with the letter E: Everton.

### JOHN NEUFELD STAFF WRITER

### Everton (The Toffees)

Overview: Everton was founded in 1878 and was one of the founding members of the Football League in 1888. They have won the League Championship nine times and the FA Cup five. They won the European Cup Winner's Cup in 1985, their only European Trophy. They were also one of the founding members of the Premier League in 1992. Liverpool is their biggest rival, and they compete in the Merseyside Derby. Their last trophy was the FA Cup in 1995. Their current manager is Ronald Koeman.

Stadium: Goodison Park

**Notable players:** Romelu Lukaku, F (Present) Neville Southall, GK (1981-

Brian Labone, D (1958-1971) Bob Latchford, F (1974-1981) Dixie Dean, F (1925-1937)

### Fun facts:

Competed in the top English division for a record 114 seasons

Record transfer fee: 28mil euros Romelu Lukaku (2014)

They are known as the Toffees because of a local toffee shop called Mother Noblett's, leading to the Toffee Lady tradition where a girl walks around the field throwing candy before a home game

Club's badge has a reproduction of Prince Rupert's Tower, located in Everton district.

The final fight season from Creed (2015) was filmed in Goodison Park.

Their club motto, "Nil Satis Nisi Optimum," means "Nothing but the best is good enough."

# An alphabetical journey into the English Premier League: H

Editor-In-Chief Noah Levick, perhaps the die-hardest Hull City supporter this side of the Atlantic, writes a special piece on his club for our introductory series on the current English Premier League teams.

### NOAH LEVICK EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

### Hull City (The Tigers)

Overview: From September 27, 2008, the day I happened to flip to Hull City vs. Arsenal and was transfixed by an improbable, epic, life-affirming 2-1 away win by the Tigers, I have supported Hull City. Since then, I have watched two relegations, two promotions, and one nearly miraculous FA Cup Final performance. I have been fortunate enough to be a fan during some of the club's best years since their founding in 1904. The 2008-2009 season was the club's very first in the Premier League, after a run of three promotions in the past five seasons. As you might expect, Hull City has a few less major trophies than most teams in the Premier League. That FA Cup Final appearance (a heartbreaking 3-2 loss in extra time after seizing a 2-0 lead within the first eight minutes) is the only time the club has been in a major cup final, and a semifinal showing in this year's League Cup (Hull City need to overcome a 2-0 deficit in the second leg to beat Manchester United) is the best they have ever performed in that competition. Hull City currently sits 19th in the Premier

League, three points from safety. I am praying that new Portuguese manager Marco Silva can save us from relegation.

Stadium: The KCOM Stadium. I actually was fortunate enough to visit in 2009 with my mom, back in the old days when it was known as the KC Stadium. Back then, the capacity was a little under 20,000; now, with the attraction of Premier League football, the club has added around 6,000 seats. It's no Old Trafford or Anfield (Manchester United and Liverpool's famous homes, respectively), but it's a nice home for Hull City.

### Notable players:

George Maddison, GK (1924-1938)

Billy Bly, GK (1938-1960) Andy Davidson, D (1952-968)

Chris Chilton, F (1960-1972) Ian Ashbee, MF (2002-2011) Andy Dawson, D (2003-2013) Dean Windass (1991-1995, 07-2009)

Michael Dawson, D (Andy's brother) (2014-present)

### Fun facts:

Andy Davidson leads the club with 579 appearances. He broke his leg three times during his 16 years

with the Tigers.

It is an annual tradition for Hull City to play local non-league club North Ferriby United in their first pre-season fixture of the season, to contest the Billy Bly Memorial Trophy, named in honor of the club's legendary former goalkeeper. The match is played at North Ferriby's home ground, which only holds about 2,000 people, so it's a great opportunity to get an intimate look at Premier League players. I was lucky to have that privilege, and to snag a couple autographs, on my 2009 visit

Dean Windass, a Hull City native, returned to the club after a 12-year hiatus in 2007. He nailed a sumptuous volley to score the only goal of the 2007-2008 Playoff Final at Wembley Stadium, sending his hometown team to the Premier League for the first time.

Though it is not exactly "fun," it is worth noting that the club's ownership situation is messy at the moment. Assem and Ehab Allam have angered many fans for a number of reasons, the most egregious being their (failed) attempt to change the club's name to "Hull Tigers." There have been rumors that they are looking to sell, but at the time of writing they are still in charge.

# UPCOMING HOME GAMES

### Men's Basketball

vs Tufts

Saturday, 1/28 @ 3:00 pm

### Women's Squash

vs Wellesley

Saturday, 1/28 @ 4:00 pm

### Men's Squash

vs MIT

Saturday, 1/28 @ 4:00 pm

### Women's Squash

vs Tufts

Sunday, 1/29 @ 6:00 pm

### Men's Squash

vs Tufts

Sunday, 1/29 @ 6:00 pm

# Alpine, Nordic ski teams place 7th in St. Lawrence Carnival

Sierra Ryder '18, Laurel Fiddler '17, and Sadie James '17 led Bates' cohort of skiers in their first carnival of the season.

### JAMO KARSTEN MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

Bates' Alpine and Nordic ski teams officially inaugurated their 16-17 season at the St. Lawrence Carnival in Lake Placid, New York, this past weekend, finishing in seventh place collectively out of 17 competing schools. Together, Bates' ski teams tallied 438 points, while the carnival winners, Dartmouth, scored 965

scored 965. Lake Placid is known by many as the site of the 1980 Winter Olympics and the famous U.S.A. upset of the Soviet Union in men's hockey, remembered as the 'miracle on ice.' "The town of Lake Placid is full of life with many of the 1980 Olympic structures still up and in use," commented Sierra Ryder '18, who competed in the women's alpine events for Bates over the weekend. "It does not appear that much architecture has changed since the Olympics so it is really easy to imagine what it was like when the Olympics were actually there." Even before its Olympic spotlight, however, the small hamlet in northeast New York played host to the St. Lawrence Carnival, as far back as 1967 according to the Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Association's (EISA) website.

An EISA ski carnival includes two alpine events, giant slalom and slalom, and two Nordic races, the classic sprint and the freestyle (five kilometer race for women, 10 kilometer race for the men). Points are awarded proportionately to the fastest skiers, and total points are tallied for each school to determine the carnival winner.

Bates' alpiner Kelsey Chenoweth '17 was stellar in the women's giant slalom. Her two runs totaled a time of 2:13.75, good enough for 5th place and just .66 seconds out of second. Ryder led the Bobcats in the slalom race, finishing in 14th place overall with a total time of 1:44.31. Her second run was among the best on the day, weaving down the hill in just 50.43 seconds. While conditions were ideal for the giant slalom races during day one of the carnival, day two was a different story. "It was rainy and warm, resulting in pretty bad snow conditions, especially on the steep parts of the hill," said Ryder. "Many racers were having significant trouble due to slushy soft snow; it felt like you were skiing through mud at some points."

Bates' Nordic skiers enjoyed the good weather during the classic sprints on Friday, but had to battle soft, wet snow on Saturday during the freestyle races. The five kilometer loop, the same course used for the Olympic Nordic events in 1980, is particularly challenging for skiers, as it climbs steadily uphill over the first four kilometers, before descending during the final stretch. Parker McDonald '18 was the highest scoring male skier for Bates over the weekend, finishing a career best 19th in the freestyle race with a time of 29:49.9, earning the Bobcats 26 points. Meanwhile, Laurel Fiddler '17 and Sadie James '17 paced the women's side, finishing in 13th and 26th place respectively in the five kilometer freestyle race on Saturday.

With their solid showing, the Bobcat skiers feel they have started the season on the right foot. "I am very happy with the team's performance at this stage of the season," said McDonald. "We are in a really good place and there is a lot of positive energy amongst the team. I think this past weekend was a good starting point and we are only going to get faster as the season progresses." Both ski teams continue their season at the UNH carnival this upcoming weekend.

### @thebatesstudent

Men's Basketball

# Men's basketball continues to skid, drop two NESCAC games

After hosting a pair of tough conference foes including Wesleyan, ranked 24th nationally, the team is now 3-3 in the NESCAC.



### GERALD NELSON STAFF WRITER

It was a tough weekend for the men's basketball team. Currently on a three-game losing streak, the men lost to Connecticut College this past Friday and Wesleyan the day after.

The Bobcats fell to the Camels 73-58. Malcolm Delpeche '17 led the team with 18 points and 14 rebounds. Jeff Spellman '20 tallied nine points, four assists, and five rebounds and fellow first-year Tom Coyne '20 also added 10 points, both coming off the bench. Tyler Rowe led all Camels with 19 points, Lee Messier added 17 points off the bench, and Zuri Pavlin pulled in nine rebounds to give Connecticut College the edge. Pavlin, a Connecticut senior, also knocked down a jumper in the second half to score his 1,000th point.

The game started out tight, but the Camels went on an 11-0 run to end the half. This gave the Camels a lot of momentum going into the second half, but Bates answered with a 11-2 run including eight consecutive points from Coyne '20 to cut the deficit 48-45 with 12:45 in the second half. However, the Camels would not be fazed, going on a 10-0 run over three long minutes. This sucked the momentum from Bates, who could only cut the deficit to nine.

Free throws also plagued the Bobcats, only making 44% while the Camels shot 84% from the stripe.

The next day the Bobcats took on Wesleyan University, where they would lose a tight one 67-64. Marcus Delpeche '17 lead the team with



16 points and added another double-double to the season tally with 11 rebounds. Jerome Darling '17 had a productive game, dropping 11 points and a team high five assists. Malcolm Delpeche '17 put up similar numbers to his brother, dropping 15 points, grabbing five boards and adding six blocks to his stats. Wesleyan's Nathan Krill lead the way for the Cardinals, leading the team in points and rebounds with 20 and 10 respectively.

Bates came out swinging in the first half, going ahead by as much as 10. Darling and Marcus Delpeche led the way in the first half, both scoring eight points. Bates led by four at the half after Wesleyan

mounted a comeback and hit a buzzer-beating three at the half.

In the second half both teams went back and forth taking the lead and going on runs. The game went down to the wire until the end. Malcolm put up a layup with 1:20 left to tie the game at 62, but the next play Wesleyan's Harry Rafferty pulled up a three at the top of the key to put the Cardinals up 65-62. It would be too late as Rafferty made both his free throws after getting intentionally fouled to put the lead back to three.

The Bobcats look to stop their skid when they visit Salem State for a non-conference game this Wednesday.



### TRACK AND FIELD

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 



each other, but scoring was broken up according to division.

In both men's and women's competition, Bates easily won the team scoring for Division III. The women's team scored 252 points, effectively distancing themselves from runner up Husson, who tallied 119. On the men's side, the Bobcats scored 264 points, while Keene State came in second place with just 74 points.

A testament to the talent of Bates' athletes and the NESCAC as a whole, many Bobcats finished near the top of their respective events even while facing Division I foes.

Allison Hill '17 was a particularly impressive performer. She left the competition in her dust in the 60 meter hurdles with a season best time of 8.90 and a first place finish. It was not even close. She also ran a career best time of 8.08 seconds in the 60 meter dash, which is third all time in Bates history, according to the Sports and Information Office.

Sally Ceesay '18 placed first in the triple jump, and was 0.01 seconds behind Allison Hill in the 60 meter dash, which puts her 4th all time in the event in Bates history, marking Saturday as an historic meet for Bates' female sprinters.

In addition, Jessica Wilson '17

won the 1,000 meter run, Olivia LaMarche '20 won the 5,000 meter run, Claire Markonic '17 won the 400-meter dash, and Katie Barker '19 won the mile.

For the men, Adedire "Dire" Fakorede '18 dominated the weight throw, beating out the runner-up by six feet. Although this was one of the best throws in the country so far this season, Coach Fereshetian believes Dire is just getting started. "He's still got a lot more in him as he works out his timing. This was a great way to start, but his ultimate goal is to be the best in the country," the Bates coach said proudly.

Fereshetian was also very happy with the milers. Joe Doyle '17 won the event with a time of 4:24.84. Meanwhile, Olin Carty '17 battled from fourth place to second in the last lap and finished in 4:25.31.

In other events, Michael Somma '19 won the 400-meter dash, and Frank Fusco '19 won the 600 meter run.

This was the lone home meet of the season for the Bobcats as they hit the road for the remainder of the season. Next week, the team will be split between a meet at Boston University and a meet at USM in Gorham Maine







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