

11-2-2016

The Bates Student - volume 147 number 6 - November 2, 2016

Bates College

Follow this and additional works at: https://scarab.bates.edu/bates_student

Recommended Citation

Bates College, "The Bates Student - volume 147 number 6 - November 2, 2016" (2016).

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the Archives and Special Collections at SCARAB. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Bates Student by an authorized administrator of SCARAB. For more information, please contact batesscarab@bates.edu.

The Bates Student

THE VOICE OF BATES COLLEGE SINCE 1873

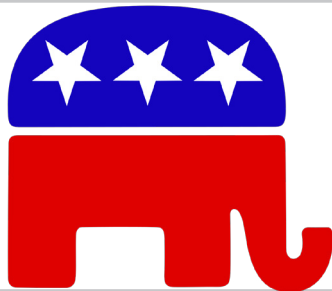
WEDNESDAY November 2, 2016

Vol. 147, Issue. 6

Lewiston, Maine

FORUM

Hannah Wilson '17 discusses the stigma of conservative views on campus.



See Page 2

ARTS & LEISURE

Ariel Abonizio '20 reviews the complexity of "Phantom Punch," and Riley Hopkins '18 describes his experience at Matt Hires' VCS performance.



See Pages 5-6

SPORTS

Four Bates football players protest racial injustice and police brutality during the national anthem.



See Page 8

The Student interviews Black Lives Matter activist Shaun King

King visited the Bates campus on October 11.

AMAR OJHA & NOAH LEVICK
EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

What do you think makes people uncomfortable with the phrase Black Lives Matter?

Issues of race can be very uncomfortable to talk about in general, in part because sometimes people have no idea what they're talking about. What you get is people are very uncomfortable because they don't know if they're saying the right thing, if they're being offensive, on a hundred different levels. Before Black Lives Matter made people uncomfortable, people have been uncomfortable talking about difficult issues around race, around racism, around bigotry. You can't be so easily irritated that if you do say the wrong thing and step on toes, that if you get blasted for it you never have a conversation again. I think there's also some people [who] are being obtuse about what Black Lives Matter means. People have defined and explained to people [that] in an ideal world, all people are treated equally. Anyone who says that's the reality in this country is kind of being willfully ignorant on that issue. When these three young women coined this phrase 'Black Lives Matter,' they coined it in response to black folk who were being treated like their lives didn't matter. That's the root of the phrase: even though society in a lot of different ways often treats black lives like they don't matter, it's a declaration, that yes they do. In this country, particularly if you are a black teenager, an unarmed black teenager, you're almost 20 times more likely to be shot and killed by police than an unarmed white teenager. [To] say Black Lives Matter is to say, hey, why does this disparity exist? Where does it come from? That phrase Black Lives Matter is a phrase that's also affirming for people who feel like they're under attack. Even if it requires an explanation, the phrase makes sense to me.

Unquestionably, Black Lives Matter has done a lot of work in elevating dialogue in our country. Can you offer some criticism to the movement, or what would you like to see change in the movement's approach?

All movements could be better. I regularly see people say things like,

'Dr. King would be turning over in his grave if he saw this or that.' [That's] really ahistorical. The Civil Rights Movement was messy as a movement... They sometimes disagreed widely on how to approach those problems... So the Black Lives Matter movement is no different than that in the sense that some of us hardly know each other. Some of us see problems very differently. And so, a lot of people say, 'Wow, I wish there was more unity in the Black Lives Matter movement.' That's never really been the case in any civil rights movement. There's always disagreements and wildly different approaches. Less than a criticism, I'll tell you where we're going. For the past two years, this movement has been focused on building awareness. And I think we've succeeded. Here we are at the campus of Bates College in Maine talking about it.... Most Americans are aware that there's police brutality. They were not aware of that just a couple years ago. We're pivoting away just from awareness, which we will have to continue to do, to solutions. You'll see in most movements, for a long time, you're just trying to make people know that there is a problem. Once you've almost completely saturated the market, you then say, well how do we solve it? I think you'll see more and more of us in the movement talking about what [the] solutions are and how we approach them. You'll continue to see many of us disagree on many of those approaches, and I'm okay with that. I think it's healthy that we approach the problem from many different angles.

What role, if any, do you think your religion and faith plays in your social justice work? Do you think that religious values are something that can unite people?

One of the reasons I was excited to come here to Bates is a hero of mine, Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays, graduated from Bates and I graduated from Morehouse College, where he was president for 29 years and even before he was president, he was a professor and a debate team coach at Morehouse. And he was a man who had faith at the center of a lot of what he did, but did work that went way outside of religious circles... One of Benjamin Mays' students was a man named Howard Thurman... He wrote this book

called Jesus and the Disinherited. And Dr. King actually had that book when he was assassinated. Dr. King, Howard Thurman [and] Benjamin Mays all believed that their version of Christianity was one that fought against injustice. And I believe in that as well. There's a huge evangelical Christian support of Donald Trump that I just can't make sense of. And I'm deeply disturbed by [it]. But Dr. King was disturbed in the same way. He wrote Letter from Birmingham Jail, and what it was really about was how he was confused and perplexed and bothered by his fellow white Christians in Birmingham, who seem[ed] to support segregation and worse... What bothered him the most was the silence of people who claimed to be Christian. So I don't speak a lot publicly about my faith, but privately, it guides me, and it keeps me encouraged as well.

What sort of advice would you give with regards to motivation, inspiration? Who do you look to, and how would you guide young college students on their quest to make a difference in the world of social justice?

Some of the most amazing leaders in this movement are in their early 20s... Particularly college students and young leaders who are functioning inside of systems that they feel are racist or oppressive... I spoke at University of Kentucky last week, and earlier that day several students had people drive by in trucks and yell at them, have people throw stuff at them... And I felt terrible because I left that campus and flew back to New York... I just want to encourage students to know that if you look and study any movement over the last 100 years, students have always been involved, in part because they have a healthy recklessness that adults who have bills and jobs and all those other things don't have. There's a bravery and a courage that students have that you need to use... Don't assume you're too young to make a difference. Don't assume you're too far away from discrimination. Like the country might talk about Charleston, or Charlotte, or Baltimore, but there are problems right here in Maine, right here on this campus that need to be addressed... Just use the time you have and use it well.

The Harvard Center encourages Bates students to register to vote

DYLAN METSCH-AMPEL
STAFF WRITER

In less than a week, on Tuesday, November 8th, citizens around the country will be heading to their local polling places to cast their vote for the next President of the United States of America.

If you're not registered, it is not too late to vote. Bates Students can register on election day at the polling place, which is the Lewiston Armory. The Lewiston Armory is down the street from the new dorms right off campus at 65 Central Avenue. If you live on campus all you need to do is bring your social security number and your Bates ID. If you live off campus you still need to bring your social security number and your Bates ID, but you must also bring a piece of mail you have received that has your Lewiston street address, such as a bill. If you are already registered in Maine, bring your social security number and a photo ID to insure that there will be no confusion about your registration. As Maine State Representative Peggy Rotundo said, "Every Bates student who is not voting somewhere else has the absolute right to vote!" Despite this right, in 2012 only 42% of Bates students voted, compared to the nationwide 57.5% voter turnout rating.

Maine is one of only two states (Nebraska is the other) that has the potential to split its electoral votes. According to the National Archives and Records Administration, two of Maine's electoral votes are awarded by Congressional District and the final two are distributed by the state's "at-large" vote. The Lewiston/Auburn area is a part of Maine's second Congressional District where there are regularly very thin margins of victory. In state and local elections there are often recounts resulting in the winner receiving less than 100 votes more than their opponent.

Maine's system of splitting the electoral vote increases the weight of each individual vote, especially in such a highly contested district. Furthermore, within this system there is the potential for three different



Bates voter turnout is low compared to the nationwide voter turnout.
MAX HUANG/THE BATES STUDENT

candidates to receive electoral votes. Therefore, regardless of whether you are voting for the Democratic or Republican nominee or a third party candidate, your voice will be heard.

In this election there is more at stake than just who the next President will be. If you are registered to vote in Maine you will also have the option to vote for Republican incumbent Bruce Poliquin or Democratic challenger Emily Cain in their race to represent the Maine's second Congressional District. The other elections included on the ballot are for Register of Probate, County Commissioner, State Senator, and Legislative Representative.

Finally, there are six referendum questions registered voters in Maine get to weigh in on. The first is over the legalization of Marijuana; the second is about taxing individual income of over \$200,000 a year to create a state fund for K-12 education; the third is about closing the gun-show loophole; the fourth is about raising the minimum wage; the fifth is about rank choice voting; and the sixth is about improving Maine infrastructure.

There are a wide variety of issues at stake in the election coming up on Tuesday, November 8th. Maine has made it very easy for Bates students to make their voices heard in this election. If you are not registered, it is not too late! If you have any questions, reach out to the Brenna Callahan '15 (bcallaha@bates.edu).

Against false equivalency: The Student endorses Hillary Clinton for President

THE BATES STUDENT
EDITORIAL BOARD

Although this Presidential Election includes two far from perfect candidates, The Bates Student Editorial Board has no hesitation in endorsing Hillary Clinton for President of the United States.

A lot has changed from eight years ago. We have seen some of the greatest strides in social progress in decades, from the legalization of same-sex marriages to protection of transgender rights to addressing gender disparities. President Obama has rescued a suffocating nation from the worst financial disaster since the Great Depression. With an increasingly globalized society and diversified American culture, we now realize that we must face unprecedented questions of racial tension. Now more than ever, we face

deep racial wounds and are coming to terms with questions involving police brutality, Native land rights, immigration, and Islamophobia. We are aware of the discomfort of far too many citizens who questioned our first African-American president's legitimacy with the overtly racist birther movement. We have witnessed the President face unprecedented obstructionism, from government shutdowns to a refusal to uphold Constitutional duties of voting on Supreme Court nominees. We find ourselves at a delicate crux, when decades of civil liberties will be determined by the next President and influence the social climate of our nation.

A deplorable man is the Republican Nominee for President of the United States. A man who has attacked Mexicans, Muslims, women, the disabled and countless other groups could be the Leader of the

Free World by the time we publish our next issue. How did we get here? It may not be pleasant to admit it, but large sects of the Republican Party have endorsed an ideology of aimless anger, racism, sexism, Islamophobia, and bizarre conspiracy in the last 15 years. When you add on top of that the absurd culture we live in, where entertainment and gratification trump basic values like respect and civility, you get Donald Trump. He is not the hero we deserve or the hero we need. He is not even a hero, but he is the man we must confront, the man we must acknowledge as a legitimate candidate to be the boss of the United States.

We are left to decide between two of the most unpopular major party candidates in American political history. We are left to decide between a candidate many Americans view as an untrustworthy politician with a history of hawkish tenden-

cies and a lecherous orange man enabling white power. This may help to explain why many are turning towards either Jill Stein or Gary Johnson, the nominees for the Green and Libertarian Parties, respectively. While holding distinct ideological views may appear sincere or attractive, both Stein and Johnson fail to make a legitimate impact in changing political dialogue or posing as practical alternatives. Though democracy encourages and, indeed, fosters a diversity of opinions, our current political system is run by two major parties with little if any hope for other candidates. As noble or sound as voters may feel giving their votes to third parties, they must also acknowledge that either Clinton or Trump will be our next president. And more importantly, the difference between Clinton and Trump is not one of degree, but one of kind. Saying that this election is

between the lesser of two evils, as it were, is to be willfully ignorant of the glaring differences between the candidates and their policies (or lack thereof).

Outside of salacious issues like Donald J. Trump's hair, or Donald J. Trump's attitude towards Rosie O'Donnell, or Donald J. Trump's latest tweet about a sex tape, we have to assess which candidate is best equipped to represent America on the world stage and make crucial decisions about the direction of our country. The most difficult part of doing this is separating the drama of wondering what ridiculous thing Trump might say next from his fitness to lead. The simplest way to make such a judgment is to ask which candidate has the best character. And the sad reality is that

See ENDORSEMENT, PAGE 4

The stigma of conservatism

HANNAH WILSON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Tonight at dinner, my friends and I were discussing how easy it is to be socially and politically liberal at Bates. Often times, I will find myself having passionate conversations about gender, the presidential campaign, and education reform. However, one thing that all of these conversations have in common is how unified and singular opinions on all of these issues are. Often times, there is no debate on the ideas we put forth. The liberal opinions that we all hold are stated as truth. If there is any disagreement, it is usually regarding the nuances of the issue rather than the issue itself. Sometimes, talking with friends about politics is about patting each other on the back for sharing the same opinion than anything else.

There is something comforting about being surrounded by people who share your world view. Working towards social and political

justice can be exhausting and it is important to have a support group with whom you can share your grievances and frustrations. However, I think that by having such a one-sided dialogue, there are things that we miss. Problems are usually better solved when people work together to solve them. I often write off conservative opinions without listening to the substance of them. When we graduate and leave this cozy liberal bubble, we are going to be living and working with people who have ideologies all across the spectrum. To make any sort of change, you have to compromise. In order to compromise, you have to be willing to hear and really understand the other side's argument. Now is the time to learn how to have conversations with people that see the world in different ways than you. Furthermore, learning how to have these sometimes uncomfortable conversations will help us become more compassionate towards people that we disagree with.

Another reason one-sided dia-

logue is limiting is because it does not challenge us to really think about why we hold the ideologies and values that we do. The other day, I was discussing the Maine ballot initiatives with a friend and I realized that I did not have a good explanation for my support. That is because I have not had any conversations with people who did not also support them. I want to have sound reasons for the having the ideas that I do and if I am never pushed to think about why I believe what I do, then my ideology will be nothing more than empty words.

We are doing ourselves a huge disservice by stigmatizing and silencing conservative voices at Bates. I think part of this stigma is due to the degree to which we tie people's political and social ideologies to their character. I am often guilty of attacking the person rather than the idea. As college students, we are supposed to be learning how to be critical thinkers, but how can we do this without hearing from the other side?

Why we should end slavery in America

AMAR OJHA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

During the early hours of September 9, 1971, nearly half of the Attica Correctional Facility's inmate population overtook control of the New York prison. They held 42 staff members hostage for a total of four days in attempts to negotiate better living conditions and protection of their rights, making it one of the largest Prisoners' Rights Movements. Tensions escalated after Governor Nelson Rockefeller refused to meet with the prisoners, resulting in 43 deaths, and very few tangible improvements, apart from raising awareness of the inmates' bleak situation.

45 years later in 2016, a labor strike emerged in prisons in at least 24 states at both the state and federal level, demanding "an end to "slave-like" working conditions, illegal reprisals, and inhumane living conditions," reports The Nation. Inmates can be paid as little as \$0.12 to \$0.40 per hour, significantly lower than the \$7.25 federal minimum wage, an amount that is highly contested as failing to amount to a living wage. Imprisoned individuals rarely, if ever, are able to raise their wages up to \$4 per hour.

This has two important implications. First, this severely diminishes one's ability for socioeconomic stability and mobility upon release, during a time when individuals are most vulnerable in living and employment prospects, possibly helping to explain why over two-thirds of released prisoners end up back in prison within three years of release. Second, this pitiful wage institutionalizes inhumanely cheap labor for the government and private companies to exploit. In fact, there exist states that hold the right not to pay their inmate workers anything at all for their labor, including Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia and Texas, essentially constituting forced unpaid labor.

If the federal/state governments and private corporations outsource jobs regularly for cheaper labor, why would they not do the same for America's most vulnerable population? While this certainly is not the only reason, it may help to explain why despite making up 5% of the world's population, the U.S. holds 25% of the world's prisoners. Of course, American prisoners are not representative of the American populace. Instead, black males are incarcerated at 6.5 times the rate of white males and black females at three times the rate of white females, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS).

The War on Drugs has granted incredible power to law enforcement agencies to target and maintain the status quo of racial injustice. While black and white marijuana use remains nearly identical, the former is 3.73 times more likely to be arrested for an alleged crime than their white counterpart. But it does not end with targeting drug possessors, users, or distributors. Drivers are more likely to be stopped on the road if they are Hispanic (7%) or black (6%) than if they are white (2%), according to the BJS, often leading to escalated interactions be-

tween law-abiding citizens and police officers, such as in the recorded executions of Philando Castile and countless others.

Upon arresting minority populations at a far greater rate than their white counterparts for similar crimes or lawful existence, private, state and federal prisons are allowed to have their inmates work long hours in miserable conditions and are often denied appropriate workers' compensation for any work-related injuries, refused medical care and attention when needed, and denied the ability to unionize, contest work conditions, or take time off work.

The Federal Bureau of Prisons requires all prisoners to work if they are medically capable. And of course, the several cents an hour prisoners make is subject to taxes, taxes that will help pay for the mass incarceration that effectively enslaves over 2.3 million people, people who lose their rights not only in prison, but afterwards, as well. While each state varies on the rights that felons permanently lose, these often include the right to vote, the Second Amendment right to bear arms, the ability to travel abroad, employment in many fields, and public social benefits, including food stamps and public housing.

While the loss of certain rights may be justified on the potential threat convicted felons may pose to the public, it must be acknowledged that most of these attempt to extend punishments past prison sentences in an effort to make life more difficult for this population. The recovery of released prisoners and the well-being of those currently imprisoned, 1% of our population, has never been our priority. In the allegedly most free and progressive nation to exist in human history, we still allow up to 23 hours in solitary confinement, a punishment that had included juvenile offenders until very recently.

This is why the September 9 inmate worker protest was monumental. Although largely ignored by the media, over 24,000 inmates refused to work in grossly inhumane instances of forced labor. They are trying to shed light on the fact that the 13th Amendment quite literally constitutionalized slavery and indentured servitude "as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted," while ending slavery and indentured servitude for non-imprisoned populations but establishing it for inmates.

It is time we admit that America runs many of its private corporations through private, state, and federal prisons on cheap or unpaid forced labor in working conditions that would be declared abhorrent in any other setting. It is time we afford proper medical, educational, and rehabilitative care to our inmate population, one that is discriminatorily comprised of certain groups of people over others. It is time we reform a law enforcement system that enables extrajudicial executions of its citizenry. It is time we rethink our nonviolent crime laws that mandate minimum sentences without opportunities for parole. It is about time we end slavery in America.

My friend, a Trump supporter

A true narrative of a real Trump supporter

WILLIAM BORELLI EBERT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This is the story of an American. Some would say an average American, others would not. This is the true story of James Richardson, who is not a man but a mirror. A mirror for someone and a portrait for many, but a reflection of a real person. So this is his story. The story of James Richardson, a Patriots fan, a lover of the series Ray Donovan but also the movie How to Kill A Mockingbird; a Harley motorist, and a habitual reader; a boater, and a gunowner; an American and a Trump supporter.

Let's be clear what this is not: this is not an apology for Trump or even Trump supporters. This story doesn't have a right-side or a wrong-side; it isn't promoting a specific agenda or even advocating for a specific position. This story isn't supposed to give you the facts or the objective truth. It is just a story and

that's all it can be. If you chose to not listen then you are no worse for it, and if you do that doesn't mean that you are any better as a result. Take away whatever you want from James's story. My job isn't to tell you what to think, only to tell you the story as best I can.

James was born in Lowell, Massachusetts to a father that he never got to know and a mother who provided as best she could for him. He grew up in the kind of neighborhood that few want to stay in, but even fewer manage to get out of. He got thrown out of high school for punching a teacher who verbally abused him during gym class. Life went on and James went on to get his G.E.D, attend community college, and later trained to become a fireman. All his life he had wanted to be a fireman. He passed his physical test, and got a perfect score on the written exam. But James did not become a firefighter. He lost his place to another man. He was black.

He did not have a perfect score.

There was a minority support quota, in essence an affirmative action program, for the Lowell firefighters, which helped minority groups join the force. Does that mean it was the right thing to do? Probably. But it was different for James. He never had a problem with the color of your skin. He never was a racist or committed a hate crime. So why was he paying for a crime he didn't commit? Arguably a crime even his ancestors, being Irish immigrants never committed? To James, it isn't that it wasn't right, it's that it wasn't fair.

James made it out of Lowell after joining the airforce, and made a life for himself. He got a fair job, married and started a family. He always was intensely aware of the world around him and, of course, that includes politics. He was a Republican and Reagan was a hero.

See TRUMP PAGE 3

@thebatesstudent

The Bates Student

Editors-in-Chief: Amar Ojha and Noah Levick

Copy Editor: Sophie Mortman
Copy Editor: Zaynab Tawil

NEWS
Managing Editor: Nico Bardin
Assistant Editor: Mariam Hayrapetyan

FORUM
Managing Editor: Hannah Tardie
Managing Editor: Mary Schwalbe

ARTS AND LEISURE
Managing Editor: Riley Hopkins
Assistant Editor: Tory Dobbin

SPORTS
Managing Editor: Jamo Karsten
Assistant Editor: Griffin Golden

PHOTO
Sports: John Neufeld
Arts: Drew Perlmutter
News: Max Huang

LAYOUT
Layout Editor: Kate Bouchard
Layout Editor: Jeanne Hua

Business Manager: Shelby Rader
Ad Manager: Hyewon Shin
Webmaster: Will Sheehan

Delivery Manager: Tristan Brossy de Dios

About Us

The Student is published weekly by the students of Bates College when college is in session. The Student reserves the right not to print any article and to edit for clarity and length.

Staff editorials represent the majority of, but not necessarily all, the views of the editorial board. Views expressed in Letters to the Editor, Columns, and Features in the Forum section are the opinions of the writers and may or may not reflect the opinions of the staff. Letters to the Editor must be received by 6 p.m. on Sunday for Wednesday's publication. Letters should be under 500 words. Please email them to the Managing Forum Editors at htardie@bates.edu and mschwalb@bates.edu.

Copies of The Student are available at locations around campus.
Subscriptions may be purchased for \$20 for one semester and \$30 for the year.

Connect with The Student



The Bates Student
5300 Bates College
Lewiston, ME 04240



www.batesstudent.com
Follow @BatesStudent
"Like" The Bates Student



Email us!
Content: aojha@bates.edu
nlevick@bates.edu
Business: srader@bates.edu

READ.THINK.SHARE.

The Bates Student

Mood swings end study on male birth control

MARY SCHWALBE
MANAGING FORUM EDITOR

This past Friday, a study on an injectable male birth control was released. What’s good about it? It has a 96% success rate of preventing pregnancy. What’s bad? The study had to end early because twenty participants dropped out due to side effects. Mood swings, acne, panic attacks, decline in sex drive—all uncomfortable, worrisome issues. However, let us look at the side effects for the female contraceptive pill: “nausea, breast tenderness, headaches, weight gain, mood changes, missed periods, decreased libido, vaginal discharge and visual changes.” The pill also comes with a higher risk of life threatening blood clots, which occur in about one in one thousand women taking hormonal contraception.

Yet, women have endured these side effects for decades because the responsibility of avoiding unwanted pregnancy is culturally placed on the woman. This can raise issues when a woman can’t tolerate added hormones, or does not have reliable access to healthcare. Male birth control would be a first step in making this responsibility a shared one—both in personal relationships and in the overall cultural association between birth control and gender. There is a stigma attached to birth control, and its cultural ties to women. Employers have refused to cover costs for workers, citing religious objections; this same view has been shared by conservative politicians. Because people with biologically female reproductive systems are currently the only ones able to take hormonal birth control, these views target them specifically. Perhaps by

expanding hormonal contraception accessibility to all genders, this stigma would be alleviated. The presence of inconvenient side effects will not halt the progress of the development of male birth control (representatives say that the study is a “great step forward” and proves promising) but it is an opportunity to remind ourselves of the historical burden of sexuality women have had to face medically and culturally. Ideally, hormonal birth control would not have uncomfortable side effects, but it does and women have been obligated to weather them for decades. Not everyone experiences these side effects with birth control, and the advent of a male option would be convenient if one partner could not tolerate side effects while the other experienced few or none.

Are you voting in Maine or in your home state (if it is not Maine), and why?

“I’m voting in Nevada because it’s a swing state.”
-Austin Lee ‘17

“I’m voting in Maine because I was too lazy to figure out how to get an absentee ballot, but if my mom asks it’s because Maine is going to be a much tighter race than VT.”
-Danny Stames ‘17

“I’m voting in Maine to make sure we build a wall on the RIGHT border.”
-Henry Baird ‘17

“I’m voting in Connecticut, using an absentee ballot and technically (physically) voting in Maine because I go to school in Maine but pay my taxes in CT.”
-Ned Thunem ‘18

“I voted in Mass. because I was already registered there and didn’t want jury duty in Maine.”
-Charlie Colony ‘17

TRUMP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

But in 1992, Bill Clinton ran for president and won. Four years later, James, a Republican, walked into a voting booth, closed the curtain and voted. This time he had decide to vote down ballot for Republicans in Mass., except for one candidate, a William Jefferson Clinton. The economy was good, and James felt Clinton had done a fair job as president, so without prejudice he voted for him, no questions. James had done well for himself. He raised two daughters on his own. He got a good job and started saving up money. He never got into financial trouble and always kept a tidy house. He never had a run in with the law and had a great credit score. He got a license to carry and often would head over to a gun range to go out shooting with his buddies. He got a girlfriend and when his kids had grown up, he helped to raise hers, no question asked whatsoever. He never stopped listening though, even as the world around him changed. But during that time, he lost something. Faith. He lost faith in America.

He felt that America, over the course of the last couple of decades, had failed. We had a War on Poverty; there is still poverty. We had a War on Drugs; there is still drugs. We had a War on Crime; there is still crime. And the War on Terror seems to be going no better. He had gone through a lifetime of politicians saying “Yes, we can” with the “we” ending the day after an election. He was frustrated with politics and even more with politicians. James does not understand why the last few decades have been solely a fight about more rights for minorities or less rights for minorities, when he sees roads, bridges, airports, and communities that need to be rebuilt. What about his home? How can a politician stand and be praised for his successful and progressive agenda when he has neglected the very people who elected him? Everyday James is told that his privilege being white makes his voice louder than others, so why does he still feel like he is never being heard?

James looks at the election cycle today and is skeptical. Trump isn’t his first choice, but after decades of the living with the ‘evil you do know’, he believes that the ‘evil you don’t know’, may just be the change we need. He has seen what the other

side has to offer: a decline of manufacturing, trade that is disproportionately affecting Americans, increased spending and deficits, welfare programs that do not end poverty, and unaccountability between a leader and their electorate. James still isn’t sure if he’ll vote for Trump, but all he knows for certain is that he can’t vote for the system that has let him down after so many years. That is James’ story. You may disagree, as do I, with the way he sees certain parts, but that is not the point. James is a person. James is human. He is not the vilified or ignorant caricature of a Trump supporter that is constantly portrayed. No doubt these people exist. But if on November 9, Trump is the new president elect of the United States, he will not have won from bigots or racists, but from Americans who lost faith in our country not so long ago. At the end of the Civil War after Lee surrendered to Grant, Grant famously quieted his celebrating soldiers remarking: “The war is over. The Rebels are our countrymen again.” After November 8 and the next president is chosen, that is what we will have to be “countrymen” or else we will cease to be a country altogether.

@TheBatesStudent
facebook-instagram-twitter

WRITE FOR US!

FOLLOW US!

JOIN US!

The Bates Student

BatesRates

- ▲ Forage’s bagels named among country’s best
- Not breaking news to Batesies
- ▼ Leaves are disappearing
- What do we use for Insta content now?!
- ▲▼ Course registration
- The semester is nearing an end, but refreshing Garnet Gateway is nerve-wracking
- ▼ FBI meddling in Presidential Election
- Federal agencies playing partisan politics
- ▲ The Den has regular hours again
- Less disappointment, more mozz sticks
- ▲▼ Daylight Savings
- Hello darkness, my old friend

Bates searches for a new Athletics Director

A search committee of Bates community members with help from a nationally ranked search firm begins the long process.

LUCIA BROWN
STAFF WRITER

At the end of this academic year, the Bates Director of Athletics, Kevin McHugh, will resign after ten years of holding this position. This necessitates the need for a new director, for which the search has just begun.

During McHugh's decade of service, the women's rowing team won their first NCAA team championship. Players from the Track and Field, Squash and Tennis teams have secured individual national titles. Also, Bates athletes have received more than 200 All-America honors since 2007.

Under McHugh's tutelage, Bates also joined the "You Can Play" initiative in 2013 to support LGBTQ inclusion and Garcelon Field and Bates' rowing boathouse have been renovated.

On October 25, the President's Office sent an email to the Bates community announcing the formation of a search committee. In addition to the college's president, Clayton Spencer, this varied group consists of students, professors, coaches, the assistant Athletic Director, the Dean of Admissions and the Dean of Financial Aid. The committee is led by Matt Auer, the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty, and Josh McIntosh, the Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students.

However, members of the committee will not be the ones traveling the country or tracking down and interviewing candidates. Bates has

enlisted the help of Parker Executive Search, which according to Bates' President's Office, is "one of the leading college athletic search terms in the country."

Bates' use of this searching service is part of a recent trend of colleges enlisting the assistance of search firms to help them select athletic directors, coaches, and administrators.

ESPN senior writer, Dana O'Neil, wrote in her article "Need a Coach? There's a firm for that," that this rise coincides with "an increase in salaries, [and] a change in the profile of the typical athletic director -- fewer are ex-coaches; more are coming from the business sector." Laurie Wilder, executive vice president and managing director at Parker, even says that many Athletic Directors are now CPAs or MBAs, certified public accountants or masters of business administration, respectively.

At the click of a button, a Parker Executive Search employee can access profiles of any coach or director one may want to hire. This includes educational and coaching background, win/loss records, salaries and bonuses, shoe contracts or country club memberships, videos at news conferences or on the court during games and news stories referencing any "black marks" during one's career.

Each profile is "complete with a prospective coach's mug shot in the top left corner of the screen." Parker has a wealth of information on "more than 1,000 basketball coaches and 2,000 football coaches" and has countless profiles of athletic directors.

When a school such as Bates signs up for a search service, at a fee "that typically runs between \$60,000 and \$90,000, plus expenses," according to O'Neil, they gain much more than just access to a database of profiles.

Included in the fee is "handling all calls inquiring about coaching vacancy, reviewing its database with search committee members [...] contacting coaches or agents to request interviews, arranging for travel and accommodations for candidates who will be interviewed, conducting public records searches [...], confirming academic degrees, and negotiating a contract on behalf of the university."

Also essential to the search process is feedback from any and all Bates community members, which is welcomed throughout the process.

At any time, one can email athletics_director_search@bates.edu with thoughts on the following questions: What are the important opportunities and challenges facing the next Athletics Director at Bates? What are the most important qualities to seek in candidates for the Athletics Director position? And are there any potential candidates that you would like to refer, or other in the field whom we should consult about this search?

Members from Parker Executive Search will be visiting campus on November 16th to talk to members of the Bates Community and there will be more details on the event to come.

Bates' search committee, alongside Parker Executive Search, will be hard at work throughout the next few months.

The full spread

An overview of Sex Week 2016

NICO BARDIN
MANAGING NEWS EDITOR

This week marks the second annual installment of the on-campus, student-operated, sexual education week at Bates. Sex Week was introduced to the student body last year as Maddy Ekey '17 felt the need to create a sort of forum in which a dialogue surrounding safe and healthy sex could be fostered. Similar to last year's events, Sex Week 2016, organized by Maddy Ekey '17 and Jessica Garson '17, is an opportunity for students on campus to attend lectures, workshops, and events that work to educate the Bates public about how to enjoy sexual interactions in a safe and healthy way.

In coordination with various groups and organizations across campus, such as the Bates Public Health Initiative, Sex Week contains a week's worth of events that are meant to "sex, sex positivity and sexual health with the hope of fostering an inclusionary dialogue across Bates' campus", according to Ekey.

Both Ekey and Garson both believe that including a sexual education week on campus is pertinent to solving problems stemming from unsafe or unhealthy sex that are inevitable on a college campus. Issues surrounding safe sex, such as the use of contraceptives and practicing responsible sexual relations are only the beginning of what Sex Week aims to address.

"We don't talk enough about sex on campus in a positive way" and that the ultimate goal of Sex Week is to "educate students on ways to have healthy sex both mentally and physically", says Garson.

This being the case, Sex Week 2016 does not only provide workshops and lectures surrounding how to have safe sex physically, but also provides opportunities for students to understand how they can have healthy sexual relationships mentally. Both Ekey and Garson believe that this is something heavily overlooked on college campuses where hook-up culture constitutes a majority of sexual activity between students.

Clubs and organizations are contributing to this year's week of events. For example, the Multifaith Chaplaincy is addressing the issue of spirituality in practicing healthy sex, which is something that may be overlooked by students on a college campus. Ekey and Garson recognize the need to facilitate an engaging conversation surrounding safe and healthy sex, and as a result, many of the events that comprise this year's Sex Week work to appeal to more students. For example, on Friday there will be a "sex trivia" event in 280 Basement which offers alcohol for students 21 or over. In addition, Sex Week will address the deeply ingrained issue of sexual consent with a lecture taking place at Commons 222 on Thursday at 1 PM, titled "Communication, Consent, & Power".

As Ekey and Garson will be passing the torch regarding the organizing of Sex Week to other students next year, they hope to inspire students on campus to engage each other in conversations surrounding healthy and safe sex not only during this week, but during students' careers at Bates. For more information about this year's Sex Week, please refer to Bates Sex Week 2016 Facebook page, or the Bates Today announcements throughout the week.

Bad hombre

Bates responds to Trump's Lisbon rally.

FRANCES SNELLINGS
STAFF WRITER

"Hey Hey Ho Ho, Donald Trump has got to go" was one of the chants employed by Bates protesters who attended Donald Trump's rally in the neighboring town of Lisbon this past Friday. While the rain and blustery wind may have stalled some from engaging with the protest, it certainly did not halt concerned Bates students. For an hour, huddled in raincoats, students challenged Trump through chants, signs, and solidarity.

This rally in Lisbon marks Trump's fifth visit to Maine since March. In the rowdy crowd of about 1,200 people packed inside a small gymnasium, there was a noticeable contingency of women wearing

"Women for Trump" shirts, smiling proudly at the Republican nominee.

Bates Student Action, a club on campus that aims to fight for change on the local, state and national level through intentional and deliberate leadership building, co-lead by Cash Huynh '18 and Emily Manter '18, was largely responsible for this large mobilization of students. They organized rides and sent out mass emails to garner support. The message for the peaceful protest was clear: denounce the sexually violent language Trump has promoted, especially his recent locker room comment. Huynh explains, "By engaging in this rhetoric, Trump invites others to participate as well. And as a club we stand in direct opposition to his violence." The students attending the protest made it clear that Trump's discourse is not ac-

ceptable. In addition to the catchy chants, students made witty signs. "My favorite sign was definitely one that read, 'Hands off my cunt-re,'" Alexandra Gwillim '18, says, whom attended Friday's rally.

While there was minimal aggressive heckling from Trump supporters, Bates students still received verbal pushback. Echoing similar rhetoric that circled during the Ben Chin election last November, local Trump supporters attending the rally were angered by the Bates' liberal and peaceful presence: "For a while, there was one woman denouncing us. Telling us that we are too young to understand politics. That we are just privileged Bates students" Alexandra Gwillim says. "But we are so much more than that, we belong to this community too. We want change and we are going to fight for that change."

ENDORSEMENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Donald Trump's character is disqualifying: Giving a volatile, sensitive buffoon like Trump control over the nuclear codes would, quite literally, be a disaster. Giving a man who thinks it's acceptable to sexually assault women because of his stardom reign over America would be, to put it mildly, morally repugnant. Even with her numerous faults, Hillary Clinton has proven herself to be, even to her worst skeptics, a mature, reasonable, and principled person during her 30+ years in the public spotlight.

We disagree with Donald Trump when he says all of Clinton's years in public service are "bad experience." Hillary Clinton has a long, consistent history of advocating for women and children's rights, from her early years working for the Children's Defense Fund and fighting for children's healthcare, to her support for educating young women across the world as Secretary of State. This record is especially important to consider in the context of appointing our next Supreme Court Justices, as Clinton has proven that she will select Justices who will protect women's reproductive rights. After an intense primary battle with Bernie Sanders, Clinton has embraced a more progressive platform, taking an aggressive stance on urgent issues such as climate change, removing money from politics, and providing tuition-free college education for any family making less than \$125,000 per year.

That said, Hillary Clinton is far from a perfect candidate. A part of the untrustworthiness surrounding

her comes from radical changes of her stances, from opposing marriage equality to coming around a few years ago, to considering the Trans-Pacific Partnership the "gold standard" of trade to eventually opposing it. Even today some of her stances remain problematic, such as not yet taking a staunch stance on the North Dakota Access Pipeline, both for environmental reasons and for Native rights' sake. From once calling black children "superpredators" to now understanding Black Lives Matter, Secretary Clinton has changed her views on a number of issues in a drastic manner that leaves some unnerved. There are serious questions to be raised regarding her view on America's role abroad. Was her vote for the War in Iraq a precursor of military interventionism? Will the United States send troops into Syria to overthrow Assad? What role, if any, ought the country play in defeating ISIS? These are tough foreign policy questions that require a seasoned, rational adult to answer, and given Clinton's history of changing her publically stated stances, it's understandable why some would doubt her ability to stay true to her word on these matters.

It's important to recognize these deficiencies while also acknowledging that Clinton's flaws are in no way comparable to those of Trump. Our nation does face some grave problems, and one of these is Donald Trump. It may be typical for the media to treat the two major candidates as equals, but we feel it would simply be false and irresponsible to do so this election. Only one candidate in this race is capable of competently addressing the pressing issues of our country, and her name is Hillary Clinton.

Spoon University comes to Bates

Isabella Del Priore '19 co-founded a chapter of the national food publication.

MARIAM HAYRAPETYAN
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Bates welcomed a chapter of Spoon University—a "national food publication with the goal of uniting college students around food and food-related topics"—which was co-founded by Isabella Del Priore '19. The Bates Student sat down with Del Priore to gain a better understanding of Spoon University and the goals of the chapter at Bates.

This interview was edited for brevity and grammatical errors.

Mariam Hayrapetyan: What are the goals of Spoon University? What are some things the chapter is trying to achieve?

Isabella Del Priore: The goals for Spoon University are to give college students an everyday food resource through an online blog-style website. As a chapter here at Bates, we will be running our own website specific to Bates and our unique culture with respect to food and food-related topics. It is a way to unite students around a common passion for food, whether that's writing about food, eating food, sharing recipes, or photographing food. It gives students experience in journalism and teaches valuable marketing and social media skills, as well as how to effectively run, and maintain an online publication.

MH: Why did you decide to open a chapter at Bates?

IDP: I decided to start a chapter of Spoon University at Bates because I have always been passionate about cooking and baking as well as food photography as a way of sharing recipes. I also love to write, so Spoon University was the perfect platform to unite those two passions. I feel that this type of online, easily accessible food publication is something that would appeal to a Bates audience.

MH: What are the leadership roles, and how was the decision as to who should fill the roles made?

IDP: The leadership roles have been filled. The roles are as follows:

Editorial Director- responsible for approving content of articles proposed by the writers; editing drafts of the articles and giving suggestions to writers before publication on the site; making sure the quality of the site is up to certain standards; this position is held by Isabella Del Priore '19.

Marketing Director- responsible for organizing club activities, events

on campus, collaborations with local food stores and restaurants, and posting on social media such as Instagram and Facebook to share with the Bates community and beyond what our chapter is doing; this position is held by Amy Turtz '19.

Photo Director- responsible for coordinating the photographers and writers so that there are photos that accompany each of the published articles as well as photos that can be used for event flyers and posters and to be posted on our chapter's social media; this position is held by Emily Lufburrow '19.

Video Director- responsible for creating video content to be put up on our chapter's website; videos are often "How To" videos demonstrating a certain simple recipe; this position is likely to be held by Jack Doyle '18 (he is in the process of being interviewed).

The leaders are selected by the national chapter of Spoon University which is an organization run out of New York City. Each applicant was selected based on an extended application process that involved personal questions about leadership qualities and experiences, a test of skills necessary for the desired position, and an over the phone interview with Spoon University headquarters in NYC. In the future, the Bates chapter of the club, and not the national chapter will select leaders.

MH: Do you have anything specific planned for this year?

IDP: As of right now, we are still trying to get the online publication up and running, so we do not have an extensive list of planned events yet, but we will soon, as we are having our first meeting this week. We plan to have new articles posted to the site each week and roughly one event every month or two. Some event ideas include hot chocolate on the Quad, simple cooking classes, and trips to Portland to sample foods from different restaurants and then write reviews.

MH: Given that members will be writing articles, what will be content of the articles?

IDP: The articles will all be related to food in some way, but beyond that, the writer can choose any topic of interest to them. Generally the articles have a fun and easy-to-read tone. They are meant to be easily accessible and the topics have to be presented in a way that is clear and concise and gets to the point fast with a lot of pictures.

Matt Hires delivers songs of love and life at VCS



Matt Hires brought several original songs to Bates for VCS. ALL EYES MEDIA/COURTESY PHOTO

The musician visits campus for the second year in a row to entertain with his original songs.

RILEY HOPKINS
MANAGING ARTS&LEISURE EDITOR

By the time I got to VCS this week - which was at 9:10, approximately - I was disappointed by an empty chai dispenser; however, Matt Hires’s music quickly refocused my attention to the main event on stage. Returning for his second year in a row, Hires wasted none of his time in the Mays Center. He played song after song, all of which were originals, and took the occasional break to connect with the audience. Needless to say, I forgot about the chai almost immediately.

The Nashville-based singer-

songwriter was accompanied by three other band members, one of whom was a drummer - something we do not see very often at VCS. Unlike his last visit where he was an acoustic soloist, the band vibe was energetic, electronic, and passionate. Many of the songs they performed that night were from his new album “American Wilderness,” and addressed songs of personal contemplation and self-reflection. The messages he illustrated through his music lingered throughout the venue, creating an intimate atmosphere.

Hires said, “It’s the most cohesive body of work that I’ve put out, and I didn’t intend it to be that way

- it just happened. One of the first songs I wrote for the album was the first track, ‘Fighting a Ghost.’ The second verse contains the line that the title of the album came from. A lot of the ideas behind a lot of the other songs came from that - feeling a little lost amidst all the noise and commotion of culture and society.”

One song entitled “A to B” urged the audience to live life to the fullest with the chorus lyric, “You can live your life walking in a straight line, but it’s more than just A to B.” The song had a relieving sense of uncertainty, following the theme of the album; the motions of each individual going through life is never set, but there is still comfort



Hires just released a new album, “American Wilderness.” ALL EYES MEDIA/COURTESY PHOTO

in that. Hires delivered this motto especially in “A to B” implying that as long as we take advantage of the journey, the rest will fall into place.

The oldest song he sang at VCS was written 10 years ago for his fiancée at the time (and now wife of eight years) entitled “Honey Let Me Sing You a Song.” Right before he sang this, he shared a story of when he was asked by a fan to sing this song as he was proposing to his girlfriend in a restaurant. After many unforeseen issues, Hires was interrupted mid-song by the restaurant manager telling him he cannot sing

in the restaurant. This story certainly elicited a chuckle from the Bates students and the song itself was quite beautiful too. After that, he sang a song about two people who fall in love on an airplane as it starts to crash, entitled “Red Eye.”

Hires released two previous albums: “Take Us to the Start” in 2009 and “This World Won’t Last Forever, But Tonight We Can Pretend” in 2013. Hires brought quality music to VCS this year, and I can only hope Bates brings him back again.

Sherlock Holmes: A Preview

A senior thesis directional debut for Katherine Van Patten opens in Gannett Theater this weekend.

TORY DOBBIN
ASSISTANT ARTS&LEISURE EDITOR

In a dark and stormy theatre, a group of performers are rehearsing for the opening of *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure*, under the direction of Katherine Van Patten ’17. Van Patten is directing the play in conjunction with her senior thesis work in theatre, and has been in charge of each aspect of production since September. The play revisits the character of Sherlock Holmes, master detective, in the context of saving the King of Bohemia before encountering age-old adversaries Irene Adler and Professor Moriarty.

Describing the play as “classic adventure fun,” Van Patten indicates that the drama will please all audiences.

Amanda San Roman ’17, playing the supporting role of Madge Larrabee, believes that the play emphasizes identity. Citing Holmes’ various disguises throughout the play, San Roman states that “it’s not until he lets his true colors show that he can truly be happy.” Describing the show as “complicated” and “exciting,” it seems as though audiences are in for a night of contemplation as well as entertainment.

With regards to her experience, San Roman struggled to portray the “wicked” Larrabee. San Roman notes that Larrabee “has lots of sass and pent up anger and frustration” due to her lack of agency. However, the character also demonstrates the behaviors of a “volatile criminal.” To overcome these challenges and access her character, San Roman drew inspiration from her peers.

Van Patten was intentional with her casting, crafting a specific group of performers who she thought would augment the play

and emphasize her unique desires. The cast is warm and supportive of one another through the stresses of putting on this show. San Roman is “constantly surprised and impressed by [her] cast mates” and their capacity to work hard. For her, acting in *Sherlock Holmes* has been a lucky chance to engage with an interesting story and dedicated craftspeople.

Van Patten expressed her excitement for working with her cast and production team, “I’m super proud and thankful for all the work that everyone has put into this production. Without such a brilliant cast and brilliant designers I don’t think this play would be what it is today!”

Participating in a thesis performance brings its own challenges and rewards; of these, San Roman is inspired by her classmate of four years taking on a huge project with gusto and success. With many theses, the performers become integral to the creative process and production. In this regard, San Roman again noted the support system the cast has provided for Van Patten, indicating both a safe creative environment and a close-knit cast. As Van Patten mentions above, her designers and cast have helped her out immensely. Clearly, this group of artists created a healthy environment for exploration.

One last item of note is the role of gender in this play: both Van Patten and San Roman indicated how playwright Steven Dietz devalued the role of women on the stage and off through “sexist” and misogynistic dialogue. Van Patten hopes that her play will “get people to think about ideas of women’s representation and opportunities in theater.”

Look out for *Sherlock Holmes* in Gannett theater on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. This compelling play is one you will not want to miss.



Hanna Bayer '17 rehearses for *Sherlock Holmes*. DREW PERLMUTTER/THE BATES STUDENT



Nora Dahlberg '18 gazes at other cast members. DREW PERLMUTTER/THE BATES STUDENT

Jeff Rosenstock-Worry

A review of an honest album filled with shouting, distress and glimpses of synthesizing patterns

NICO LEMUS
STAFF WRITER

Jeff Rosenstock is a goon. He drinks forties with his friends and smashes the bottles and never gets to work on time. He is a slacker's greatest hero and he makes great music. Rosenstock follows up on his last work *We Cool?* (an excellent indie/punk rock record) with *Worry*, an album in which Rosenstock wheels through the various incarnations of punk rock and works through his own trauma, baggage and fear.

The front half of the album demonstrates some real expertise in the discipline of pop punk. "Wave Goodnight" is an especially exemplary track, having all of the sentimental energy and shout-y choral sing-along of, say, a Blink-182 song. But what sets Rosenstock apart from the rest of his competitors is his lyricism and his presence on the album. All of his songs are very dense and stacked to the brim. Sometimes when he is singing, it just sounds like Rosenstock cannot keep up with his own thoughts and he ends up tripping on his teeth and then shouting about it. He sings about the messed up things he has done and seen and he does so very well, with great imagery and sad little hooks. It is endearing the amount of honesty he is

channeled into the album.

The second half of the record becomes a sort of punk montage consisting of eleven songs (or vignettes or movements) in nineteen minutes, each song slipping into the next one, forming one enormous protean anthem. Within that nineteen-minute stretch there are some very real standouts such as the pretty punk waltz "Blast Damage Days," the coherent and kicking "I Did Something Weird Last Night" and "Rainbow," a ska-punk imitation. If there is one song to certainly pay attention to I would suggest "Blast Damage Days;" it is incredibly rich, full of electric fuzz and feedback and aggressive melody. As mentioned before, it is a punk waltz, which is sometimes a cheesy thing to attempt, but very successfully done. Rosenstock's sonic smorgasbord reminds me of the Clash's attempts at the punk catalog. Unlike the Clash's *Sandinista!* (the behemoth thirty-six song triple album), *Worry* is a digestible and rational attempt at a bouquet of punk sound, however nobody beats the Clash.

The album as a whole is very cogent. It all makes sense and it all sounds like Rosenstock and there is never a moment where the album tries to be something it's not. It is very humble and honest and real, which is commendable. Nothing

on the album is untouchable or sacred, it is all there for you to interact with, in whatever pitiful way you choose. Let us take a look at what this album has: shouting, distrust of technology, adult uncertainty, alcohol-induced regret, fear for the future, head-smashing anxiety, pitiful masculinity, the occasional horn blast, less than subtle weltschmerz all around. This album is one for the real young adult, failing and scared. Plenty of us, I imagine.

In all sincerity, it is a really great album. There is so much I enjoy about it and I am a little giddy about it, so much so that I cannot very well punctualize my enthusiasm for the record. It is got everything a good emo album needs, like shouting and distress and cute little synthesizer patterns and the sad blinks of a wurlitzer or a xylophone or whatever malleted instrument he's swatting at. It is not even a real emo album but there is so much there for you that it can be whatever you want it to be. It can be an album of defeat or victory, regret or congratulations. It all depends on you, whoever you are.

Subjectively best tracks: "I Did Something Weird Last Night," "Blast Damage Days," "Festival Song," "Helllllhooolle."

Last Gas: Liberation, desire, and ambitions in Northern Maine

John Cariani's play illustrates the struggles and drama of a rural family.

LUIS DAVID MOLINA RUEDA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It's one of those days in which I seem to have been teleported back home. I see Nat Paradis, the main character of this unconventional love story, and I'm flown back home, to my village. I am not in Spain, though. The people I see through the theatre stage's frame are not speaking Spanish and the scene I am watching is not set in Andalusia, but in Northern Maine. I am in the U.S. and yet I feel home. I look at Nat Paradis, interpreted in a somehow appropriate monotonous and heartbroken style by Augustus Kelley, and I see what has been the struggle of many people an ocean away. Premiered in Portland in 2010 and, in the past few weeks of October, brought to life again in Lewiston, this play seems to feel somewhat significant and maybe universal for the folks with ambitions raised in rural environments.

Moving rather slowly to convey the slow-paced lives of its characters, "Last Gas" starts off monotonous yet ludicrous, soon becoming troubled, and then bursting in the personal liberation of Nat towards its second act. This play, written by John Cariani and directed by Janet Mitchko in this year's season of Lewiston's Public Theatre productions, is set in "the Last Convenient Store before Canada" which is run by Nat Paradis and his father Dwight, wittily and actively played by Kurt Zischke.

As soon as the play starts, we are introduced to the character of Nat Paradis, lead role of a comedy that gets serious, who far from achieving his goals in life has been stuck for the 41 years of his existence in the remote northern area of Maine. Father to a teenager named Troy Paradis, playfully interpreted by Brandon Tyler Harris, and divorced from the forest ranger Cherry-Tracy Pulsifer, played by Katharine McLeod, Nat is nothing less than utterly unhappy.

The action does not kick in until, on his 41st birthday's eve, Guy

Gagnon (acted by Ben Loving) offers to take Nat to Boston for a Red Sox vs. Yankees game. Shortly after this, he finds out that his teenage girlfriend - Lureen Legasse (Mary Mossberg) - is back in town. This could be his chance to bring his happiness back, acting on his second chance to resolve what lingered in his mind since he finished high school some 20 years ago, when Lureen left to go to college and he did not follow her steps.

Trouble emerges out of Nat's decision between trying on his second chances with Lureen the Sunday of his birthday and going with Guy to the game in Boston. We think Nat and Lureen will get back together and second chances will work on them; Nat is confused nonetheless and (like in real life) the decisions he makes change the course of his life. From then on, love is lost and found, in different forms, in an intertwined play where sexuality seems to tremble and will not unravel all the truth about the characters until the very end.

Generally simple in language, albeit witty and sparkingly funny in nature, this play is no common "romantic comedy." There is no clear boy meets a girl, no clear prediction of what will happen next, but rather a certain sense of surprise for a "wait until the end so you see what's actually going on in here."

Through a group of somewhat ludicrous characters, we are introduced to the world of insecurities, fear, monotony and lack of ambition that sucks some people's blood in certain rural communities all over the state. This hilarious yet serious account of life in Northern Maine may universally speak for people raised in rural places who struggled to get out and never made it or who actually made it yet left behind certain things.

Already known for writing about his home-state, Cariani brings up the somewhat universal message that being oneself, regardless of your location, renders essential to finding happiness; something that the cast of this production has managed to convey very neatly.

When you least expect it, it will hit you: It is the Phantom Punch

The new arts exhibit in the Bates Museum of Art addresses several misconceptions of Saudi Arabian culture.

ARIEL ABONIZIO
STAFF WRITER

Last Friday, October 18, the Bates Museum of Art inaugurated its new exhibition: "Phantom Punch: Contemporary art from Saudi Arabia in Lewiston." Words nearly fail to explain how powerful and intriguing this exhibition is.

Before attending the opening, I decided to gather everything I knew about Saudi Arabia. I can honestly say I did not know a lot - if anything at all. Of course I had heard of the big words: terrorism, censorship, absolutist monarchy, gender inequality and human rights. I was aware that I would be writing about this exhibition for The Bates Student, but what could I possibly know about Saudi Arabian Conceptual Art?

As I entered the exhibition, I was amazed to see that my stereotypes of Saudi Arabia were reflected in the artworks. I saw figures that resembled airplanes, mosques that resembled cages and depictions of the restrictions women endure. At first glance, conceptual art can look simple. I thought I had it. All of a sudden I was hit by the phantom punch: maybe things are not as simple as they seem.

"Paradise Has Many Gates," by Ajlan Gharem, is the perfect example. In the museum, you will see

photographs of a steel mosque that resembles, in my subjective opinion, a cage. The first interpretation comes easily: the cage symbolizes repression and censorship and the mosque represents Islam, which traps Muslims and restricts their freedom. I believe I was not the only person to have that interpretation. It seems intuitive.

All of a sudden, I was struck by the idea that the cage may symbolize protection. What if people are not locked in a cage, but rather secure from the dangers of the world? What if the cage is not inside, but rather outside? Who is trapped, is it the people in the mosque or everyone else? One symbol is changed and the entire interpretation of the artwork is changed with it. In "Paradise has Many Gates," there is no way to say what is inside and outside: are Muslims trapped in a cage, or protected by their genuine beliefs?

The Museum catalog for the exhibition raises yet another interpretation. It calls the fences that build the cage "reminiscent of the fences built along the borders of Europe or the prison cells in Guantanamo Bay." It raises the possibility that maybe it is not about how religion itself traps believers, but about how they are trapped by misconceptions (think of immigration, refugee "crisis" and other important issues). In some sense, it shows that "Paradise

has Many Gates" extrapolates Saudi Arabia - it can be about cross-cultural global issues.

This was the phantom punch. When I least expected, I realized that the exhibition is not only about Saudi Arabia or about Saudi Arabian Conceptual Art. It is also about broader, more complex issues. Conceptual art has the value of being open ended and ambiguous, in many cases. It can be about humanity, religion, desire; you name it. "Paradise has Many Gates" is only a single example of an exhibition with dozens of works that challenges our ideas and personal identities.

As I said in the beginning, words fail to describe this exhibition. Even when using the first person singular, I cannot fully describe my subjective impressions of the artworks I saw. There is something inevitably missed in transcribing conceptual art in words. They use different mediums and different ambiances. My words will never be able to explain ambiguity, texture, social pressure, culture and identity in the same manner as the artworks did. The only way one can possibly experience the "Phantom Punch" in all its complexity is to attend the Bates Museum of Art. Enter the museum and embrace the phantom punch. Keep your minds as open as your eyes. There is a lot to see.

we're
on
social media

Instagram
Facebook

@TheBatesStudent

NBA preview

One of our sports editors drops his hot takes on the upcoming 2016-17 NBA season.

Note: This article was written before the start of the season.

GRIFFIN GOLDEN
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

It was early morning on Monday July 4th, hours before any fireworks would light up the sky. As everyone took their first sips of iced coffee, news broke that would put the sports world (and twitter) into hysteria: “Kevin Durant signs with the Golden State Warriors.”

Basketball fans shared a collective scream of WTF?! Are we talking about the same Warriors team that just won a record 73 games and was a Draymond Green suspension away from winning back to back championships? How could they possibly add one of the best players of the generation to their already loaded roster?! A freakish athlete, who stands nearly seven feet tall, but handles and shoots the ball with the dexterity of a guard. A former MVP, and four time scoring champ.

Naturally, over the next couple of days people flocked to both sides of the historic move. Some expressed sympathy for Durant’s decision. Durant had the opportunity to move to a better city, with better teammates, and more money; it was a no brainer. Others, like ESPN’s Stephen A. Smith, did not show the same compassion. Smith, a notoriously bombastic sports pundit, called it the weakest move he has ever seen from a superstar.

As this new super team reality has set in over the last couple of months, it seems as though there are now only two true championship contenders. The Warriors and the defending champion Cleveland Cavaliers lead by LeBron James: the same teams that have met in the finals for two consecutive seasons.

Although this matchup certainly feels inevitable, keep in mind that the same two teams have never met in three straight finals in NBA history. Indeed, this year’s finals may not be as set in stone as we believe.

As Bill Simmons aptly pointed out in his latest column, the last time everyone said, “Oh, this is going to be boring...” We already know the finals” was 1986, when Larry Bird’s Celtics and Magic Johnson’s Lakers were supposedly destined to meet. But then something weird happened: the Rockets young big men proved to be too much for the Lakers in the Western Conference Finals, and all of a sudden the Celtics vs. Lakers never came to be. The NBA has a habit of surprising us when we least expect it.

Warriors vs. Cavaliers round three will undoubtedly dominate headlines and conversation, but do not let that distract you from the rest of the NBA. As the 2016-2017 NBA season begins, I urge you to not take it for granted. Trust me, I am annoyed as many of you are about Durant’s decision. But do not forget about all the other storylines that make this league great.

The Timberwolves, lead by Karl-Anthony Towns Anthony Wiggins, and their new coach Tom Thibodeau look poised to join the NBA’s elite. A fully unleashed Russell Westbrook may become the first player to average a triple double since Oscar Robertson; as well as the first player to average 50 turnovers a game (well, maybe a slight exaggeration). Without Kobe hogging the ball, the young Lakers may actually be able to show their talent. And do not forget about Anthony Davis and James Harden who, despite disappointing performances last season, still have all the tools to compete for MVP. Dwyane Wade will be wearing a uniform that does not say Heat on it. After key off-season signings, the Celtics will once again be contenders in the east. Heck, even the Knicks might actually be competitive this season.

And remember if the season does turn out to be a bust, at least we don’t have to watch baseball anymore.

Women’s Volleyball

Women’s Volleyball clinches playoff berth

McGrath ‘17 shines once again, as Bates sweeps their weekend Conference slate.

JOHN NEUFELD
STAFF WRITER

This past weekend, Bates Volleyball competed in two NESCAC home games in Alumni Gym. On Friday, they swept past Hamilton 3-0 to improve to 4-5 overall in conference. With the win, they clinched a berth in NESCAC playoffs for the second year in a row. Captain Chandler McGrath ‘17 led the team with 20 kills, reaching her career 1000 kill along the way. McGrath has led the team in kills all of her four years at Bates.

The next day, Bates faced off against second place Middlebury and rolled to a 3-1 upset win over the Panthers for the first time since 2003. The win improved their NESCAC record to 5-5, their best regular season record since 2003 as well. The team has been performing at an extremely high level the past few weeks. They have currently won three in a row and have improved their home record to an astounding 7-1. Cassidy Martin ‘19 commented, “I think the end of our season has been the best part, we’ve come

so far since preseason and it’s such an amazing thing to be a part of. In our last two home games everything just clicked. It was such a fun game.”

The win pushed the Bobcats past Conn College, and secured the seventh seed in the Conference tournament.

Bates will challenge Middlebury again this Friday in the NESCAC quarterfinals held at Tufts.

In response to the success the team has had so far and the win over Middlebury, Hannah Tardie ‘17 had this to say about her team: “It felt like everything that we have been working for this season fell into place this weekend. All of the emotional and physical energy we have spent was rewarded with our wins this weekend, not only making playoffs but also beating the number two team in our conference. The long rallies, teamwork, grit, and overall discipline I saw in our team this weekend made me proud and honored at the same time. It’s even sweeter knowing we get to play Midd. again first round of NESCAC’s. We’re coming for them.”

Best of luck to the volleyball team as they hope to top the Panthers for the second time in a row.

Men’s Cross Country

Men’s Cross Country places seventh at NESCAC championships, bright future ahead for coming regional meet

Men’s Cross Country battle tough conditions in their Conference Championship meet.

SARAH ROTHMANN
STAFF WRITER

Despite the ominous weather forecast and slick terrain, the Bates men toughened out a grueling 8,000 kilometer course at the NESCAC Championships this year. The meet was hosted by Colby College at the Quarry Road Recreation Area on Saturday October 29. The NESCAC Conference is one of the most competitive in New England, including nationally ranked teams such as Williams, Amherst, and Middlebury. The men finished 7th out of 11 competing schools, ousting Connecticut College, Hamilton, Wesleyan, and Trinity.

“The NESCAC meet is always really exciting because all the schools in the conference are excellent competitors,” says captain Evan Ferguson-Hull ‘17. “This meet is a

great time to demonstrate to our peer institutions what our program is about, and what we can do.”

James Jones ‘20 led the men, running a blistering time of 26:03.7 on the challenging course. His stellar performance placed him fourth out of a field of 123 runners, earning him First Team All-NESCAC Honors. All-NESCAC Honors is a prestigious achievement awarded to student-athletes who both place amongst the top fourteen runners in the conference meet and are in good academic standing. The fact that Jones is able to achieve such an accomplishment as a first-year illuminates an exciting future for him.

Jones was followed by Ferguson-Hull who placed 27th with a time of 26:51.6. The next three Bates runners, Zach Magin ‘18 and Jack Kiely ‘18, and captain Joe Doyle ‘17, finished within 20 seconds of each other, showcasing the driven

pack mentality this team has. Magin finished in 34th place, followed by Doyle in 47th and Kiely in 51st.

Although the men had hoped to place higher in their conference meet, they feel ready and confident going into the remainder of the championship season. They will next compete at the NCAA Regional Championships at Westfield State University in Westfield, Massachusetts on November 12.

“While the result may not have been the one we were looking for, our main goal is to perform well at the nationals qualifying meet (NE Regionals)” says Jones. “I feel that we’re in a good position to be competitive on that day.”

“It isn’t a lack of preparation or skill,” added Ferguson-Hull. “Hopefully we can use this meet as a learning experience and perform like we know we can at Regionals in two weeks.”

UPCOMING BATES EVENTS

Women’s Volleyball vs Middlebury
Friday, 11/4 @ 5:00 pm (@ Tufts)

Football @ Bowdoin
Saturday, 11/5 @ 12:30 pm

Women’s Cross-Country NCAA Regionals
Saturday, 11/12 @ 11:00 am

Men’s Cross-Country NCAA Regionals
Saturday, 11/12 @ 11:00 am

Four Bates football players join national anthem protests

Bates football players take a knee to stand up to racial injustice and police brutality in America.



From left to right, Bates football players Walter Washington '19, Marquise Scott '20, Mickoy Nichol '18 and Andrew Segal '17 kneel during the national anthem in their game against Colby last week. **JOHN NEUFELD/THE BATES STUDENT**

JAMO KARSTEN
MANAGING SPORTS EDITOR

Bates Football players Mickoy Nichol '18, Andrew Segal '17, Walter Washington '19 and Marquise Scott '20 have joined hundreds of other athletes around the country in kneeling during the National Anthem before athletic contests to protest racial injustice and police brutality in America.

This wave of protests, that has ranged from high profile athletes like Megan Rapinoe of the U.S. women's national team to pee-wee football teams, first started when NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick of the San Francisco 49ers began sitting, and then kneeling, during the national anthem of his team's preseason games this past August. Kaepernick has continued his protest through the season thus far, and many other athletes have joined him.

For Nichol, who originally organized this protest with his teammates, taking a knee for racial injustice was not always a sure thing.

"I initially wasn't going to do it, but then I saw a picture on the internet of three Eagles players standing with their fists raised... and across the picture was 'get these n*****s off the TV.' I was like whoa, this is really a problem."

Nichol is referencing the Week Two NFL game in which three Eagles players raised a fist, a symbol of black power and another common form of protest, along with the taking a knee, during the national anthem. After seeing a racist caption appended to a photo of these three players in the week leading up to Bates' opening game against Trinity, Nichol could not remain passive any longer.

"Okay I definitely have to stand up for this now," he recalls thinking. "I had talked to the team in our Friday meetings before the Trinity game, and a few guys said they were in. I told them if you support this it is totally fine. If you don't for your personal reasons that is totally fine as well."

"One thing I made clear to my teammates and my coach is I'm not protesting America as a whole,



Colby and Bates captains await the coin toss from the referees. **JOHN NEUFELD/THE BATES STUDENT**

I'm protesting the America that is blind to these racial injustices and discrimination that is going on in this country."

Nichols says that when he approached his coaching staff with his decision to kneel, they told him they had already discussed the several occasions that had already occurred nationally and as broadcasted on the news. They gave him their full support to carry out the protest.

Kaepernick and other protesters have been met with mixed responses to their peaceful demonstrations, garnering outpourings of support and affirmation, as well as accusations of being anti-American and anti-Military.

For Nichol and his teammates, the response has largely been positive.

"One of my goals was to create conversation," he said. "A lot of my white friends who don't play a sport came to the game [vs. Williams] and they see me taking a knee, and they're asking me why I'm doing it and that's exactly what I wanted to bring from this, to create conversations."

Nichol hopes that he and his teammates can not only raise aware-



The Bobcat football team comes together in excitement before their game Saturday. Bates beat Colby 21-19. **JOHN NEUFELD/THE BATES STUDENT**

ness around racial injustice and police brutality, but also be an example of how a team can be at once united and different.

"That's what I want this to turn into, people seeing us unifying, not just through the sport but because we love each other. We are all hu-

man beings at the end of the day."

The Bates Student

facebook.com/thebatesstudent

www.thebatesstudent.com